Community Foundation for Southern Arizona's
NONPROFIT SOLAR PROJECT

As part of CFSA’s Environmental Sustainability Impact Fund, the Nonprofit Solar Project offers local nonprofits the opportunity to meet a significant portion of their energy needs through solar power.

Through the switch to solar, nonprofits will be able to reduce their carbon footprint and energy costs, freeing up resources for programming or other infrastructure needs.

Funding for NSP comes from CFSA donors and Tucson Electric Power.
Solar United Neighbors

- A vendor neutral, national 501c3 nonprofit established in 2007
- Works throughout the country, helping communities go solar, join together, and fight for energy rights.
Solar United Neighbors

1.7 BILLION
pounds in lifetime carbon dioxide offsets

$240 million
in lifetime energy savings

332
solar co-ops established in twelve states

$142 million
in solar purchases

971
solar jobs created through SUN

55.8 MW
of solar installed since 2007

TEN
state programs: AZ, CO, DC, FL, IN, MD, MN, OH, PA, TX, VA, WV

6,621
households with solar
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona

Our Purpose

To create an equitable and vibrant community for all Southern Arizonans by connecting donors to the causes they care about.

Our Impact

Founded in 1980, the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona has supported Southern Arizona with over $215 million in grants and scholarships, stewarding the philanthropic legacy of our community's generous donors and increasing the breadth and depth of resources available to nonprofit organizations in our region.

The impact we make is a collective one, with funds held by individuals, families, and businesses with unique interests, ideas, and passions. Our work touches every aspect of daily life, including animal welfare, arts and culture, community development, education, environment, health and human services, and more.
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona

24,000 square feet of solar-powered nonprofit office, meeting, and event space at the Community Foundation Campus

$215+ million in grants & scholarships awarded since 1980

500+ Home to more than 500 funds benefiting a wide range of causes

$200+ million in total assets

218+ hours of organizational development support offered through CFSA’s Center for Healthy Nonprofits in 2021

$15+ million grants & scholarships awarded in 2021

seven Southern Arizona counties served: Pima, Santa Cruz, Cochise, Yuma, Graham, Greenlee, and Pinal

$26+ million contributions received in 2021
Project Goals
Nonprofit Solar Project Goals

- Expand access to solar for nonprofits in Pima County, Arizona.
- Redirect resources from cost savings into participating nonprofit communities.
- Empower local communities and support them in leading the way to a just energy transition.
Solar 101
Basics of Solar

- Solar photovoltaic (PV) cells convert solar energy into electricity
- Solar panels form a solar array
- Rooftop solar can reduce energy use and lower utility bills
Basics of Solar

1. Solar panels absorb energy from the sun
2. Inverter converts the energy from the sun (DC) to AC electricity to use
3. Energy is used in your home, school, or office
4. Bi-directional utility meter measures energy used...
5. ...then excess energy from solar panels goes back to the grid
Who's Eligible?
Eligibility

Applicant requirements:

- A registered 501c3 organization in good standing
- Located in Pima County, AZ
- Local leadership, local financial support, local program management & accountability
- Proposed installation must benefit people living in Pima County
Eligibility (continued)

- Churches with secular programming that meet a community need are eligible to apply
- Schools with 501c3 status may apply
- Proposed installation cannot already be in progress or completed at the time of the award
Technical Requirements

- Must be the property owner
- Minimum of 200 sq. ft. of unobstructed roof or ground space
- Roof with a remaining lifespan of at least 15 years
- Not covered by slate or Spanish clay tile
Application Process

- Applications are completed and submitted on Common Grant Application.
- Applications are reviewed for installation eligibility and selection criteria.
- CFSA & SUN will conduct virtual site visits with applicants.
- Community Review Committee will then make final recommendations for participant selection.
- Selected participants will then work with SUN to select their preferred solar installer.
Required Documents

- 501c3 Determination Letter
- List of Current Board of Directors
- List of Current Key Staff
- Balance Sheet (Assets and Liabilities) for the most recently completed fiscal year
- Profit and Loss Statement (Income and Expense) for the most recently completed fiscal year
- Applicant’s approved organizational budget for the current fiscal year
- Last 12 months of your electric bills if available (in one document)
Important Deadlines

April 22 – Application Opens

May 27 @ 5:00 PM MST – Application Closes

May/June - Application Review & Site Visits

June 30 (subject to change) – Participants Selected
Questions?
Thank You!
cfsaz.org/solar