

JCF Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What does JCF do?

JCF is a national nonprofit that mobilizes capital and resources to strengthen under-resourced communities, investing in projects that deliver clean energy, support cleaner air and water, promote healthier communities, and build economic and environmental resilience so all communities can thrive. Our work drives transformative investments in communities nationwide—from rural areas to urban cities to the Midwest, Southeast, and beyond.

Is there a demand for clean energy in communities?

Yes — now is the moment. Recent rollbacks in federal clean energy policies and funding, and the elimination or reduction in programs designed to help under-resourced communities access clean energy solutions have increased both the demand and need for JCF's work.

More than 100 million Americans live in under-resourced communities. Access to clean energy builds energy independence, strengthens economic resilience, and greater reliability during the extreme weather events we're increasingly seeing across the country. It's also an important part of climate solutions that will keep us moving in the right direction.

JCF's work is designed to meet the moment—leveraging catalytic investments, partnerships, and expertise to meet growing market demand and provide clean energy and climate solutions where they're needed most.

How can we provide clean energy and climate solutions in places that have been historically underserved?

JCF works with a network of more than 400 green banks, Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) loan funds, CDFI banks, Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs), and state and local stakeholders—all with decades of experience working in communities across the country. These partnerships ensure that projects and programs are tailored to the specific needs of individual communities. By empowering our partners, JCF creates a sustainable and scalable model that builds market capacity and meets market demand. JCF's strong framework measures the environmental, economic, and social impact of our work, helping us refine our model and effectively share our story so that communities across the country can benefit.

What are the benefits, and will it reduce energy bills?

Americans living in under-resourced communities spend a disproportionate share of their income on utility costs and often face difficult choices between basic needs — such as food or transportation — or paying their utility bills. Greater access to clean energy can lower utility costs and build resilience to weather extremes. JCF drives investments in clean energy and climate solutions that protect our environment, improve air and water quality, and create healthier communities. These projects and programs deliver powerful, long-term economic benefits, including good-paying jobs and building stronger local economies.

What makes JCF's approach different?

We've built the right financing framework—national in scope and rooted in community. We are an organization that was created to do more than just fund projects; we build sustainable solutions, bridge financing gaps, and connect with the right partners to strengthen the broader ecosystem of climate and clean energy financing.

Our strategy—invest, empower, amplify—mobilizes funding to solve urgent climate challenges. We empower community lenders and local stakeholders to deliver climate solutions in communities that have been historically left behind. And we amplify our impact through powerful storytelling, data, and shared learnings.

JCF is also developing partnerships with philanthropic and mission-aligned investors to meet market demand in high-need areas, and to build innovative, equitable, and sustainable climate financing models in communities across the country.

How can I apply for funding for a clean energy or climate project?

JCF is in the process of raising additional private capital to expand our work, so stay tuned. You can get the latest news and updates by [signing up for our e-newsletter](#). If you have additional questions, you can also email us at info@justiceclimatefund.org.

How can I support JCF's work and vision?

Everyone can contribute to clean energy and climate solutions by supporting projects that make access to clean energy easier, affordable, and more equitable. We invite you to connect with us. You can [sign up](#) for our e-newsletter or [donate](#) to support JCF's work. Together, we can build stronger, more resilient, climate-smart communities.