



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY CLIMATE
COLLABORATIVE



A CLEANER PLANET STARTS RIGHT HERE AT HOME



OUR MISSION

C3 catalyzes climate action at the community level through evidence-based planning, collaboration, programs, and advocacy which directly reduce climate pollution and elevate the climate leadership of communities.



2020 BY THE NUMBERS

55
climate action
kits delivered
to elementary
school students

75 businesses
participated in the
Better Business
Challenge


1,000+
signers to our policy
advocacy letters

4 years
serving the
Charlottesville
community


ALL 3
of our recommendations were
included in Albemarle County's
Climate Action Plan


12+

C3 supporters spoke
at a Charlottesville
City Council Meeting
last fall

policy
reports
published
4


8 families
participated in
our electrification
pilot with LEAP



CONTENTS

03.
A Letter from Our
Executive Director

04.
Engaging Our
Communities

06.
Understanding the
Issues

07.
Enacting Policy
Solutions

08.
Celebrating Victories

09.
Community Matters

10.
Financial Report and
Donor List

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

A letter from Our Executive Director



The Community Climate Collaborative believes the power to fight climate change resides within our communities. Our lives are touched by every sector in our community (businesses, schools, neighborhoods, and local government) and, **because climate also touches every sector, community issues are climate issues.** Whether the issue is affordable housing, transit, or economic development, climate is impacted by every decision we make. It is up to all of us to ensure that we are meeting the needs of everyone in our community while making the right choices on climate.

To help guide our decisions, we often look to our leaders, especially in challenging times. The past year has challenged us like no other. Yet our communities came together and persevered. Our leaders stepped forward to build critical networks of support across all sectors, which ultimately aided teachers and students learning at home, fed medical workers while supporting local restaurants, and advocated for the systemic change necessary to build better and more just communities going forward.

Addressing climate change will require a similar level of community collaboration. We all must work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our homes, our businesses, our schools, and our transportation systems. We also know that systemic change will be necessary to ensure that all members of our community are protected from the increasing impacts of climate change. Making decisions with climate in mind will require new ways of thinking.

With your support, we are continuing to build an impressive community-based network of leaders who are demonstrating these new ways of thinking and will continue to make sound choices for climate even when C3 isn't in the room. Every day our network is growing and our impact is deepening!

In community,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Susan Kruse

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES

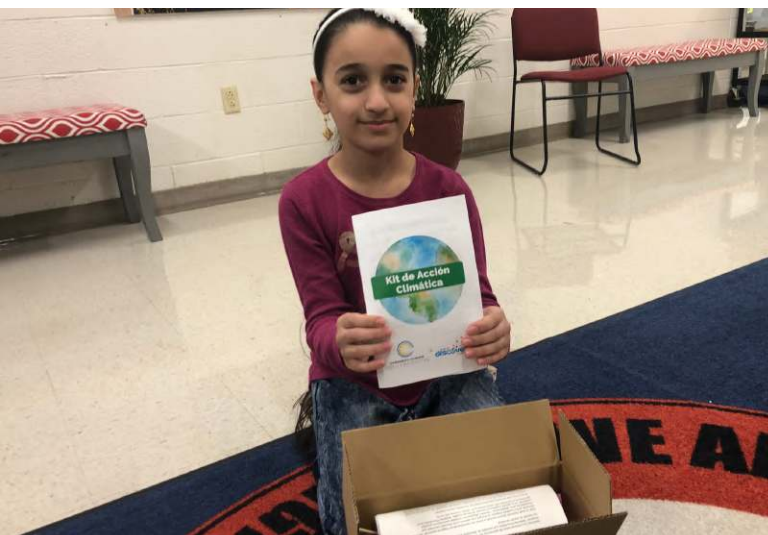
While staying home to protect our community from the spread of COVID-19, our team transitioned to remote work without missing a beat. We researched climate action strategies, continued our engagement programs, and found new opportunities to be a trusted resource for the community. In what could have been a year where C3's influence retreated, we flourished - acting with the agility, compassion, and fervor needed to respond to both a global pandemic and the climate crisis.

The Youth is the Hope for our Future

Children of all ages across the globe are now being recognized as climate leaders. C3 encourages young people in our community and equips them with the tools to be successful advocates for climate action.

In response to the pandemic, our team pivoted to support students, families, and teachers at home. **In April 2020, we transformed our Classroom Climate Challenge curriculum and launched our first Virtual Climate Camp.** Over five weeks, C3 staff provided campers with quality educational content that encouraged students to take real-world actions on climate (and stave off boredom)!

Last December, we partnered with the Virginia Discovery Museum to **deliver 35 Climate Action Kits to 4th graders at Agnor-Hurt Elementary School.** This launched our pilot program to help local elementary school students gain a better understanding of home energy use and greenhouse gas emissions while connecting families to local energy-efficient solutions like the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) and the Albemarle Housing Improvement Program (AHIP). This initiative has continued into 2021 and, since starting the program, **we have delivered 1,200 kits to elementary school students across Charlottesville City and Albemarle County.**



“These kits have meaningful and applicable activities that encourage students to save energy in their homes and at school. These activities will make such a positive impact in our students and their environment this school year and beyond!”

- Chris Snyder, Walker Upper Elementary
Math/Science Teacher

Reducing Emissions for Households and Businesses

C3 believes in “meeting people where they are”, and that proved especially important last year. In 2020, we expanded our Home Energy Challenge to local businesses to reduce emissions for employees suddenly working from home, and hosted virtual lunch and learns for our Better Business Challenge participants. Even during a global pandemic, we were able to expand our reach. **We now have worked with over 500 households and 150 businesses to reduce more than 5,000 metric tons of carbon from our community!**

In collaboration with LEAP, we partnered with eight income-qualifying homeowners in Charlottesville City and Albemarle County. The Fuel-Switching Program replaced fossil fuel furnaces, water heaters, and ranges with more efficient, electric infrastructure at no cost to the residents. This program is essential in making electrification and renewable energy accessible across our entire community and meeting our net-zero climate goals by 2050.

“We had no idea how we were going to pay for a new system since we are both retired, living on a fixed income, with four people to care for.”

- Charlotte Terrell, Charlottesville resident and recipient of fuel switching upgrades

In 2020, we launched the fourth round of our Better Business Challenge, with 75 participating area businesses and organizations. The 16-month initiative culminated with an online awards night celebrating those who took the most action to reduce emissions.

We also laid much of the groundwork for our Green Business Alliance (GBA), solidifying the membership, analyzing their data, and working as a team to set ambitious climate goals. **The GBA launched in May of 2021 and consists of 16 Virginia-based businesses that have committed to reducing their collective emissions by 45% by 2025!**



“We need all hands on deck, and it is an honor to highlight these successful home-grown businesses who are working to ensure a sustainable future for all Virginians.”

- Virginia Governor Ralph Northam

UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUES

Uncovering Energy Inequity

Energy burden has been a prevalent topic of discussion in light of the past year's racial injustices, public health crisis, and economic downturn. Advancing the conversation here at home, the C3 team examined which Charlottesville neighborhoods are most at risk of bearing unsustainable energy costs, and what are the barriers and opportunities to advancing energy equity in the City. Our in-depth report, *Uncovering Energy Inequity: An Analysis of Distributed Energy Burden in Charlottesville, VA*, revealed **1 in 4 Charlottesville households experience an unsustainable energy burden, spending more than 6% of annual income on energy costs, and 1 in 5 households pay more than 10% of their income on energy.** The unfortunate reality is that most of these households are lower-income and people of color.



Gaining widespread attention from City government officials, we presented the report's findings at a Charlottesville City Council meeting last fall. Together with our partners, the Charlottesville Low-Income Housing Coalition and Sin Barreras, we held two webinars, with over 120 attendees, to share the key data and reactions to this report.

Thanks to the advocacy of C3 and our community partners, Charlottesville has confirmed its intention to address energy inequality by setting leadership-level climate goals and committing to achieving an equitable housing market. The Uncovering Energy Inequity report is a roadmap to help the City achieve these goals. C3 will continue to engage with stakeholders to develop comprehensive and targeted solutions in conjunction with our climate action efforts.

“In mapping energy burden across our city, C3 has given a moral imperative to craft targeted policy that simultaneously lowers emissions, improves affordability, and delivers climate justice to our most vulnerable populations.”

- Laure Goldblatt, Commissioner for the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority

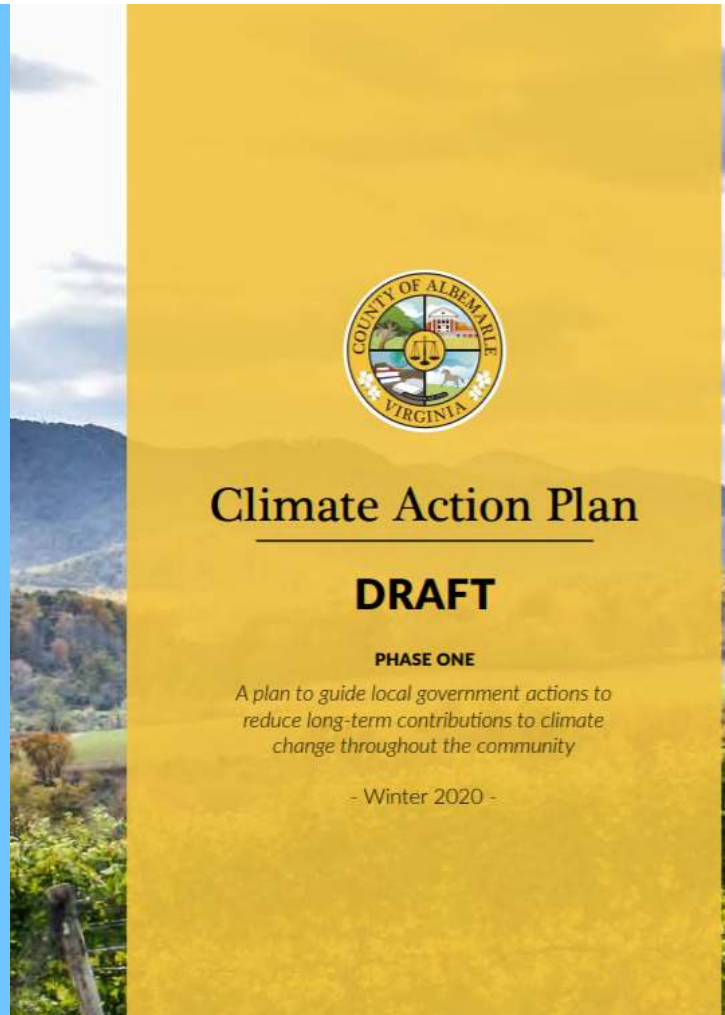
ENACTING POLICY SOLUTIONS

Progress in Albemarle County

In March 2020, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors published the first draft of its Climate Action Plan (CAP) - Phase 1. Following its release, C3 organized a County Resident Sign-On Letter, energizing our base, and requesting improvements to the Plan through the addition of SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-bound) targets, biennial greenhouse gas inventories, and a greater commitment to equity.

When the final version of the CAP - Phase 1 was approved last year, we were elated to see all three of our recommendations included. Thanks to our supporters, Albemarle County's plan is now much stronger and equitable.

While the County works on Phase 2, C3 will continue to engage with key decision-makers to ensure that the right actions are taken for both our community and climate.



We are in a defining decade for climate action. Two years ago, the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County set ambitious goals to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 45% by 2030, and reach carbon neutrality by 2050. In doing so, these two localities set the first twin City/County net-zero goals in the Commonwealth.

We have the leadership-level targets in place. By harnessing the power of community, we can achieve our vision for climate solutions and ensure an equitable transition to a greener future.

"Thank you Susan et al. for the push for more specific targets and less planning...We have been stuck in the planning...for a decade."

- Ann Mallek, Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

CELEBRATING VICTORIES

Inspiring Action and Identifying Connections

The connection between climate and community cannot be understated. Climate touches every aspect of our lives - our homes, health, food systems, jobs - and impacts every part of our community.

At C3, we are focused on identifying the thread that connects all of us to the climate movement, elevating climate leadership in our community, and celebrating every action that helps us reach our climate goals. **We love to showcase success stories on our blog to spur conversations and inspire others to act on climate!**



Sarah Dellimore took advantage of public transportation with JAUNT's Crozet Connect. The Wi-Fi enabled bus takes approximately 45 minutes, door-to-door, and allows Sarah time to work and check social media. Taking their car off the road saves the Dellimore family \$15 a week (over \$700 a year) on gas, and reduces their local carbon emissions by almost 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide annually.

"There's no single large-scale solution to climate change. It requires each of us to do our part, a part that can seem meaningless in its smallness, but in the aggregate is the only way forward, the only way we achieve anything."

- **Sunshine Mathon, Climate Connections**



"It gives me great hope to see how passionate and involved the young people in our country are right now about pushing our lawmakers to pay attention to our current climate crisis. When I think of them as our future leaders, voters, and environmental stewards it inspires me."

- **Claudine Ebeid McElwain, April 2020 Climate Leader**

COMMUNITY MATTERS

2020 Communications

C3 is all about being an ally for the community. **We are dedicated to developing mutually beneficial relationships with local businesses, residents, schools, and other nonprofits to inform and inspire our shared vision for climate action.**

While we were unable to gather in person last year, C3 galvanized the community by elevating our issues and celebrating our shared success across social media and in the news.

See what the community is saying about our work!

City of Charlottesville, Va - Government · July 28, 2020 · 🌐
Our community partner @C3climate invites you to attend an important webinar on energy burden in Charlottesville entitled Uncovering Energy Inequity on Thursday, July 30th at Noon at 5:30pm. Learn what the revealed; where energy burden exists in Cville; and potential reasons why.

UVA Sustainability · March 10, 2020 · 🌐
A great read from Community Climate Collaborative's Erica Gaines!

Sierra Club - Virginia Piedmont Group · March 16, 2020 · 🌐
In case you haven't heard, the City's proposed budget includes \$0 to address the climate crisis (actually negative dollars with the slashing of the sidewalk fund). Tonight is the first public hearing on the budget - the Sierra Club will be commenting (virtually) in support of C3's reasonable proposals to remedy that. Join if you can, or read C3's plan and sign on to speak out for sanity. Thanks!

Community Climate Collaborative · March 15, 2020 · 🌐
The first public hearing on the City Budget is scheduled to be a virtual webinar that allows public input (details are coming on Monday from the City). Read our climate policy recommendations for the budget to ensure that climate is more than just a verbal commitment, but contains action and investments! And one thing you can do right now from home: SIGN ON TO OUR LETTER TO COUNCIL! Tell your friends too.
<https://theclimatcollaborative.org/.../act-now-on-the...>

Chris Meyer - resident of Cville @cm1347 · Oct 19, 2020
Kudos to @c3climate for educating the public on this

Community Climate Collaborative @c3climate
@LEAP_VA & C3 embark on a fuel switching project for a handful of area households from natural gas to electric. This project will improve health, safety, energy costs, & reduced climate emissions. We share why this is a viable climate solution. #electricity #climateaction
ow.ly/bMfp50BUvky

Carrie Hearne 🌱🐾🌻🙌 @carrieella · Jun 12, 2020
"We can no longer look away." Excellent post on racial justice intersection of climate action and the importance of digging in from @kruse_susan, ED of @c3climate. #blacklivesmatter #climateaction #antiracism #dothework
theclimatcollaborative.org/news/2020/6/10/

Sun Tribe @SunTribeSolar · Jun 22
We're so proud to be a Better Business Challenge Award Winner for 2020-2021 -- showing our entire team's dedication to sustainability and being a leader in our hometown. Thanks to the @c3climate for hosting this competition!

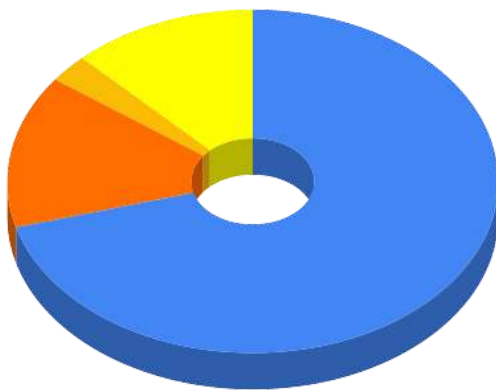
FINANCIAL REPORT

The power to fight climate change resides within our communities. C3 believes businesses, residents, schools, and local governments can harness that power to implement policies and reduce emissions right here at home. Thanks to contributions from our generous supporters, we are able to build climate leadership from the ground up and make great strides in realizing our vision for an equitable clean energy future.

TOTAL REVENUE RAISED:

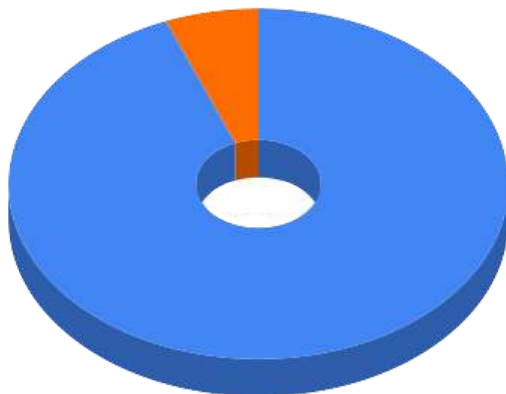
\$609,980.27

2020 Revenue Sources



- **Foundation Support**
\$429,850
- **Individual Donor Support**
\$87,897
- **Business Income**
\$16,165
- **Government Support**
\$74,500

2020 Expenses



- **Programs**
\$525,085.80
- **Administrative & Fundraising**
\$33,822.16

Thank you for supporting our work!

2020 FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

\$50,000+

Aduvans Foundation
Energy Foundation

\$20,000 - \$49,999

The D.N. Batten Foundation
Sonjia Smith

\$5,000 - \$19,999

Andrea Larson
CACF Bama Works Fund
CACF CMA Borches Fund
City of Charlottesville
Local Energy Alliance Program
Patagonia
Ryan and Shannon McCall
The Farkas Family Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Nathalie and James Andrews
Sun Tribe Solar, LLC
University of Virginia Community
Credit Union, Inc.
Wendy Brown and Jack Brown

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Anna Chytla
Cannon and Rick Montague
Monica and Michael Prichard
Morgan Butler and Casey Williams
Paige Perriello and Neeral Shah
Susan and Mike Kruse
The Blank Family Giving Fund
Think Little
University of Virginia Fund
Wistar Morris and Karen Moran

\$500 - \$999

Jennifer Lehman
John and Janine Dozier
Karl and Dana Quist
Kelli Palmer and James Bennett
Patricia Connor and Jeff Gleason
Shawn and Rachel McGowen
Sigora Solar, LLC
VA Earth Day Network

\$250 - \$499

Deborah Lawrence and Kim Tingley
Devin and Alex Welch
Julia Harrigan
Martin Chapman
Quantitative Investment Management,
LLC
Volvo Cars of Charlottesville

\$100 - \$249

Albemarle County Public Schools
Alloy Architecture & Construction
Angel Wilt
Bailey Printing
Brian Sosdian
Charlottesville City Schools
Charlottesville Pavilion
Charlottesville Wellness Center Family
Practice MDVIP
Claire Burke
Commonwealth Computer Research,
Inc.
Creatures Great & Small Inc
Custom Ink
Dandelion Seed LLC
Donna Shaunese
Elizabeth Woodard
Engineering Solutions and
Construction Management, PLC
Ernie Reed
Evergreen Recycling, LLC
Grimm + Parker Architecture, Inc.
HairSmith & Co
High Tor Gear Exchange, LLC
Jennie Moody
Judy Curry
Julia Hockenberry
Kristin and Andres Clarens
Michelle Amt
Peggy Van Yahres
Robert and Marcia Curry
Robert McCall
Roberta Williamson
Roots Natural Kitchen
Roxanne White
Schnabel Engineering
Scivera, LLC
Sela Knight
Sena Magill
Seraphic Group, Inc
Susan White

The Pie Chest/Lone Light Coffee
Thomas Jefferson Planning District
Commission
Tim Wallace
Vault Virginia
Wayne Murphy
Woodard Properties

Under \$99

Anne Deane
Center For Nonprofit Excellence
Christopher McLean
David White
Day Charlottesville School
Deborah Johnson
Donna Goings
East Point Energy
Elizabeth Burdash
Emily Byers
Field School
Generation180
Jeffrey Boynton
Jennifer Jacobs
Joan Rough
John and Rauna Surr
Judy Harmon
Katrina Callsen
Kevin Chandler
Kristin Breen
Leslie Murphy
Lisa Colosi
Live Arts Inc.
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Inc.
Louise Smith
Mandira Banerjee
Mary Bauer
Mary Capp
Piedmont House, Inc
Piedmont Housing Alliance
Rebecca Dulaney
Robert Helt
Roxanne Carter-Johnston
Southern Environmental Law
Center
Susan McCulley
Tanya Matherly
Teri Kent
Terri Keffert
Tina Morrison
Tray Biasioli
Twice Is Nice

C3 Team



(From left to right)
Erica Gaines, former Operations and Engagement Manager
Susan Kruse, Executive Director
Claire Habel, Commercial Program Manager
Teri Strothers Kent, Director of Programs and Communication
Caetano de Campos Lopes, Director of Climate Policy (Not pictured)
Andrea Bostrom, former Residential Program Manager
Latricia Giles, Residential Climate and Equity Program Manager
Maggie Stokes, Director of Development

C3 Board Members

(From left to right)
Karl Quist, Treasurer
Morgan Butler, Secretary
Paige Perriello
Pete Borches
Emily Francis
Kristin Clarens
Kelli Palmer, Vice President
Devin Welch
Grey McLean, President (Not pictured)
Barbara Brown Wilson
Harrison Wallace
Ryan McCall



**COMMUNITY CLIMATE
COLLABORATIVE**

415 8TH STREET NE
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22902
THECLIMATECOLLABORATIVE.ORG

INFO@THECLIMATECOLLABORATIVE.ORG