



**COMMUNITY CLIMATE
COLLABORATIVE**

**2021
ANNUAL
REPORT**



MISSION STATEMENT

The Community Climate Collaborative (C3) believes the power to confront climate change resides within our communities. Citizens, businesses, and local governments all have the power to take action, implement policy, and reduce emissions right here at home.

AREAS OF IMPACT

Corporate Sustainability.....	P. 3
Accessible, Clean Transit	P. 4
Energy Equity.....	P. 5
Youth Leadership.....	P. 6
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THE FUTURE WE WANT

C3 is built to deliver effective climate solutions at the local level. Founded in 2017 with a single employee and a mission to get more of our community involved in climate action, C3 has grown to seven staff members, dozens of community partners, and nearly 3,000 supporters. You are the key ingredient to our success; together we are effectively reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions, advancing local governmental action, and galvanizing the local youth climate movement.

With four years of service behind us, C3 has become an organization that can lead us forward to a cleaner, more just community. I am pleased to introduce our five core campaigns. These campaigns are designed to address significant shares of our greenhouse gas emissions, address local climate inequities, and engage households, businesses, and youth in climate action.

Read on to learn more about our campaigns:

- 1) Accessible, Clean Transportation - ACT on Climate!
- 2) Corporate Sustainability;
- 3) Energy Equity;
- 4) Make Your Own Impact;
- and, 5) Youth Leadership

It is my honor to lead the incredible C3 team and partner with each of you as we demonstrate the power of communities to lead on climate. Thank you for being a part of the solution.

For Climate and Community,

C3 has become an organization that can lead us forward to a cleaner, more just community.

CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY

Leading in Business, Leading on Climate

Businesses right here in Central Virginia are stepping up and embracing climate leadership. Last May, Governor Northam joined C3 and the inaugural members of our **Green Business Alliance (GBA)** to celebrate the consortium and its ambitious agenda.

The first GBA cohort consists of 16 locally-based businesses that have pledged to reduce their collective greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2025, which will **offset more than 8,000 metric tons of CO2 per year**. These organizations employ more than 2,300 individuals and represent a variety of key industry sectors.

With the commercial sector accounting for a significant share of community-wide emissions, the GBA helps both our communities and our Commonwealth meet their climate goals. **A second cohort is set to launch later in 2022.**



GBA PROGRESS

- **Tiger Fuel** unveiled its first EV charging station at The Market at Mill Creek
- **Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital** is exploring solar energy

GBA member **InBio** (rooftop pictured), was able to **reduce their gas usage by over 60% in the last 9 months** by implementing HVAC re-commissioning and a remote energy dashboard!

Making Climate Action Accessible for All Businesses

Achieving our climate goals will require leadership from the entire business community. This can be difficult for small businesses that lack the resources to improve sustainability. And in Virginia, small businesses make up the overwhelming majority of the commercial sector. Last year, C3 partnered with the City of Charlottesville's Economic Development Office to **award energy efficiency grants to five small, women and minority-owned businesses**. The funds were used for energy-saving projects such as smart thermostat installation, LED light bulbs, and more.

ACCESSIBLE, CLEAN TRANSIT

Making Transit Clean and Accessible

C3's *Transit Equity and Climate: Moving to a Cleaner Future* report was published in September of 2021, following a year-long effort to understand the landscape of local transit service, seek community input, and identify areas for improvement. We received 300 responses to our surveys and focus groups which emphasized input from residents who are most impacted by local transit. These responses were the basis for our policy report and key recommendations for transit reform.

In December 2021, C3 launched the **Accessible, Clean Transportation - ACT on Climate!** campaign. Through ACT on Climate!, C3 is mobilizing our community to advocate for local transit infrastructure that is safe, equitable, and energy-efficient. Our sign-on letter, which was delivered to City Council in March 2022, included **347 community signees and 23 businesses and nonprofits** and urged decision-makers to prioritize local transit improvement as a climate, equity, and health solution.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

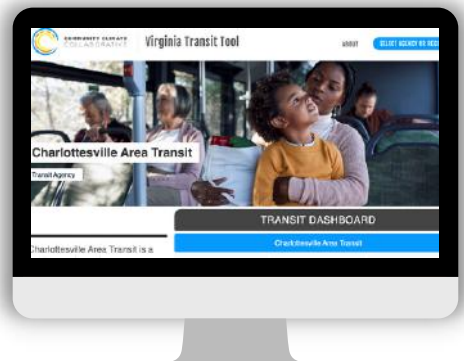
- Double transit ridership by 2024
- Increase accessibility and safety at and around bus stops
- Provide community voices a meaningful role in transit planning
- Reduce air and climate pollution from our transit system
- Ensure a just transition to a low-carbon transportation system



Check out our new Virginia Transit Tool!

This interactive online dashboard will help communities across the Commonwealth assess their own transit systems and visualize opportunities for improvement.

vatransit.theclimatecollaborative.org



ENERGY EQUITY

Saving Money and the Planet

Rising temperatures and extreme weather events caused by climate change are expected to increase energy consumption, and consequently, costs. This will be detrimental to residents who are already suffering high energy burden.

Supported by the City of Charlottesville's Climate Protection Program, C3 hosted Energy Clinics at various locations around the City to **educate residents about the financial and environmental benefits of utility, municipality, and state-funded energy-efficiency programs**. The funding for these programs, which make energy-efficiency products and services more affordable for income-qualifying households, veterans, and people with disabilities, increased in recent years with the passage of the Virginia Clean Economy Act and Virginia's inclusion in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). But insufficient public promotion means that the intended beneficiaries may not be aware of their eligibility.

We will continue our targeted outreach efforts to accelerate residential energy efficiency and increase the public's understanding of the connection between climate and household emissions

Electrifying Households and the Local Climate Movement

Last year we concluded our multi-year fuel-switching pilot project in collaboration with the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP). Eight income-qualifying households in the greater Charlottesville area received home efficiency services and electrical upgrades to their fossil-fuel appliances at no cost. In August, we released our report, **Lessons in Residential Electrification**, highlighting the analysis of the climate, energy consumption, and monetary impacts of the upgrades, as well as profiles of the participating families.

For February alone, one family saw a huge difference in their utility bills, with a **decrease from approximately \$600 in 2020 to \$200 in 2021!**

Read *Lessons in Residential Electrification* and other C3 reports online: theclimaticollaborative.org/C3-reports



YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Planting Seeds of Change

C3's 2021 Climate Justice Summer Program was organized in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club, the Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative, the Charlottesville Mural Project, and the Uhuru Foundation. The program introduced concepts of climate justice to a dozen 4th and 5th-grade campers.

With the help of our five high school interns, we provided hands-on learning experiences to make tangible connections to the local impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, energy costs, and food scarcity. The campers **worked with local artist James "Jae" Johnson to paint a climate justice mural at the Red Cross headquarters** on Rose Hill Drive depicting our changing climate. Jae superimposed images of the humans, plants, and animals that are most impacted by global warming.



The background of our Climate Justice Mural was created by **Dr. Jeremy Hoffman of the Science Museum of Virginia**. This colorful graphic shows average temperatures in Charlottesville from 1895 to 2018 and clearly demonstrates that our home is getting hotter.

Supporting the Next Generation

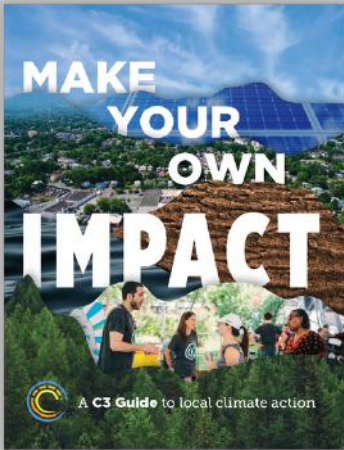
Following our successful Climate Justice Summer Program, C3 **launched the Green Teen Alliance (GTA) in the fall of 2021**. At the core of the GTA is our year-round teen internship program where C3 teens discuss climate issues with their peers and learn how to effectively advocate for climate action and justice in their community. This initiative is completely youth-led and includes a teen-generated newsletter, **The Green Thumb**, and social media account!

RESIDENTIAL ACTION



On July 1, 2019, the City of Charlottesville committed to reducing community-wide emissions by 45% by 2030 and becoming carbon neutral by 2050. It was the first city in the Commonwealth to establish this ambitious goal. Albemarle County followed suit shortly after, making our communities the first to set twin City/County carbon neutrality goals. With less than eight years to reach the first target, we all must do our part to prioritize climate action. **Our community's climate goals are within reach if we work together.**

Being Part of the Solution



Last year, C3's Executive Director, Susan Kruse, led by example by **cutting her household and transportation emissions by more than 50%** (without even adding solar panels)!

To help other residents make climate-conscious decisions in their homes and modes of transportation, we created a **"Make Your Own Impact" guide with targeted actions and curated resources** that anyone can follow to significantly reduce emissions.

Download the guide at theclimatecollaborative.org/myoi

SUSAN'S JOURNEY

"In 2020, we swapped out our gas furnace and water heater for electric heat pumps and switched our gas range to electric induction. Then in September of 2021, I purchased my first electric vehicle (EV).

The result is that my **household emissions are down by 51% in the last year, and my EV purchase should cut my transportation emissions by 50 - 80%**, depending on how much I use it over my remaining gas-powered vehicle."

DONOR IMPACT

Last year was not only busy but filled with many great accomplishments. Thanks for helping us make 2021 a success!

Engaged **90**
community members
with Energy Clinics

9 cities and counties,
representing
1M+ Virginians
united in supporting Clean
Cars Legislation in the
General Assembly

1,200
Climate Action
Kits delivered

16 businesses,
representing
2,300 employees
in the GBA

Fuel-switching families
decreased their GHG
emissions by **25%**

1,420 people
attended virtual and
in-person events

With current pledges from our partner households and businesses, C3 is on track to reduce **18,000+** metric tons of CO2 emissions per year by 2025!

Together, we raised:

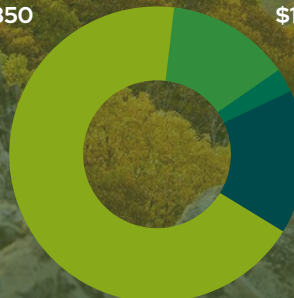
\$765,411

Foundations
\$520,850

Individual Donors
\$103,239

Businesses
\$20,084

Governments
\$120,425



2021 Expenses

\$664,875

Programs \$616,741

Administrative & Fundraising \$48,134

2021 DONOR LIST

Thank you for supporting our work!

\$50,000 and Up

Adivans Foundation
The D.N. Batten Foundation
Energy Foundation

\$20,000 - \$49,999

Farkas Family Foundation
Ryan and Shannon McCall
WestWind Foundation

\$5,000 - \$19,999

Andrea Larson
Charlottesville Area
Community Foundation
City of Charlottesville
Clean Virginia
Climate Action Campaign
Greyson and Ariana Williams
Patagonia Org
Pete and Liza Borches
Sentara Healthcare MJH
St. Paul's Memorial Church
The Equity Center
UVA Equity and Environment
Fund

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Apex Clean Energy
InBio
Nathalie and James Andrews
Wistar Morris and Karen
Moran

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Albemarle County Public
Schools
Alex and Lucy Taurel
Allie and Duncan Hill
CFA Institute
Local Energy Alliance
Program
Michael and Monica Prichard
Morgan Butler and Casey
Williams
Paige Perriello and Neeral
Shah

Rachael and Shawn McGowen
Sigora Solar
Sun Tribe
Susan and Jonathan Blank
Susan and Michael Kruse
The J & E Berkley
Foundation

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Austin deButts
Barbara Fried
Colonial Nissan
DBA Volvo of Charlottesville
Dave McDaniel and Holly
Hatcher
Devin and Alex Welch
Emily Francis
Hantzmon Wiebel LLP
Jeff Gleason and Patricia
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Jennifer Lehman
Karl and Dana Quist

Kelli Palmer and James
Bennett
Mathew Davis
Nicholas Duke
Norman Dill
Peggy Van Yahres
Virgil and Margaret Wagner

\$250 - \$499

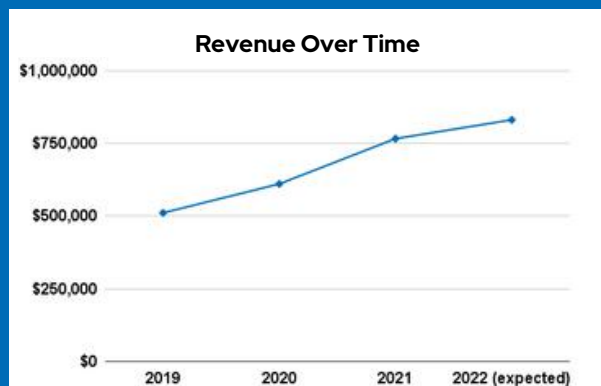
Bank of America
Barbara Brown Wilson
Dogwood Refillery
Erik Haug and Caroline Melton
John and Janine Dozier
Lauren Stokes
Monty and Bryce Harris
Sena Magill
Todd Niemeier

\$100 - \$249

Andrea Senatro
Becky Wilbur
Brian Poe

Thanks for Helping C3 Grow!

Your support has helped C3 become a trusted resource and powerful community ally. We now have seven full-time staff members representing decades of combined experience in climate and justice work.





Brian Sosdian
 Cale and Katie Jaffe
 Carolyn and Bill Achenbach
 Carolyn Daldorf
 Cynthia Neff
 David Robinson
 Deborah Johnson
 Diantha McKeel
 Elaine Bailey
 Elizabeth Woodard
 Jane Matthews
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 Jennie Moody
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 Harrison Wallace
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 Jonathan Rice
 Judith Curry
 Karen Davenport
 Katherine Slaughter
 Kristin Breen
 Lara Gastinger
 Lisa and Bruce Glassco
 Marcia Geyer
 Nancy Kruse
 Network for Good
 Pamela Nicholas-Hoff
 Patricia Cochran
 Robert Curry
 Robert and Sue Stokes
 Ryan Snow
 Susan Jennings
 Susan McCulley
 Will Retzer

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Coles Jennings
*Director of Corporate
 Sustainability*

Teri Kent
*Director of Programs and
 Communication*

**Caetano de Campos
 Lopes**
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Maggie Stokes
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*Finance and Operations
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Latricia Giles
*Residential Climate and
 Equity Manager*

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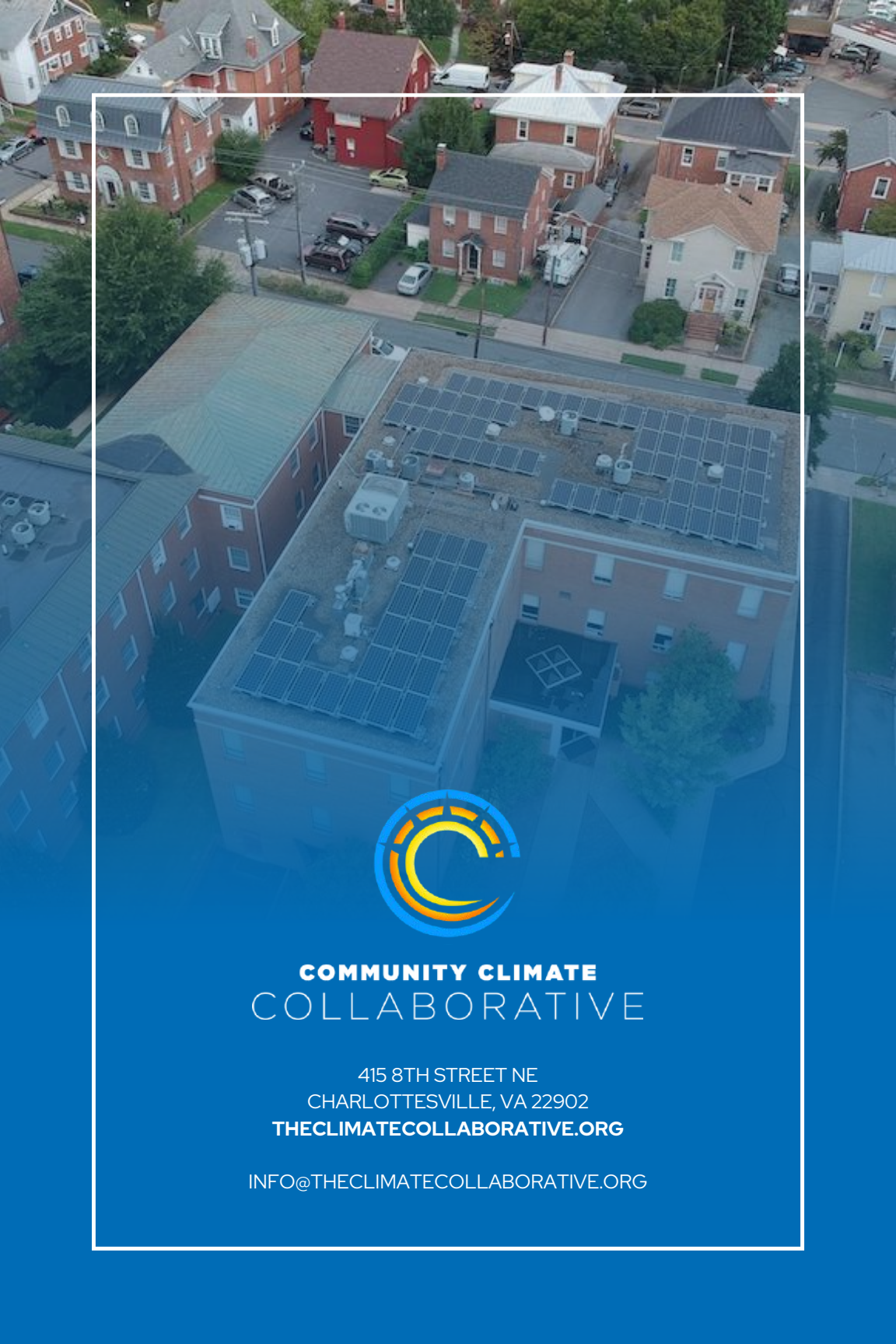
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