

**NARRATIVE RESPONSE:** Respond to the following questions in 300 words or less per question:

**1. Project Description.** Describe what you plan to do to improve air quality in Detroit and how your proposed project connects to recommendations in the CAPHE Public Health Action Plan.

Eastside Community Network (ECN) has been committed to addressing air pollution concerns in our community, particularly around the Stellantis plant expansion, increased truck traffic, and addressing the health impacts of poor air quality. With this project, we aim to expand our efforts to collect data on air quality and increase community engagement around climate issues. ECN began convening the resident-led Eastside Climate Action Coalition in early 2022 and they identified air quality as a key priority in our advocacy agenda. Two of the actions that the resident coalition would like to move forward are: (1) increasing and coordinating the amount of air monitoring across the eastside and (2) bring awareness of air quality monitoring including paying residents to collect data. These align closely with recommendations 10-1, 10-2, and 10-3 around air quality monitoring. To advance these priorities, ECN is working to develop an "Eastside Air Monitors" project which will incorporate both physical air monitor installations and social engagement in collecting data to use as an advocacy tool.

ECN has opened the Stoudamire Wellness Hub in our space and we are working to transform this building into a climate resilience hub. As part of this work, we are participating in the Resilient Eastside Initiative to help foster a network of resilience hubs across the eastside in partnership with resident leaders. As air quality is one of the most detrimental environmental health issues facing our residents, we think it is important for these hubs and community spaces to be engaged in air quality monitoring. With this grant, we will be able to help install robust air monitors in our resilience hubs and other neighborhood hubs on the eastside as well as compensate residents for hosting monitors, collecting air quality data (including qualitative/experiential information), and building capacity for air quality advocacy with residents

**2. Project goals.** Describe your project goals and outcomes you want to achieve.

- Install 4 air quality monitors with weather functions (i.e. Clarity node S with Wind module) at the Stoudamire Wellness Hub and neighborhood resilience hubs.
- Purchase 10 Plume Flow 2 portable wearable air monitors for the Stoudamire Wellness Hub and Eastside Climate Action Coalition to lend out and engage youth and resident leaders in collecting air quality data.
- Offer compensation to neighborhood hubs that host a Clarity monitor and to residents who participate as “eastside air monitors” in data collection and advocacy efforts.

### **3. Applicant capacity.**

- 1) Please describe your and/or your organization's qualifications for completing the proposed project, including any previous work to improve air quality in Detroit. If you are new to working on air quality issues, please describe how this project would improve your ability to address air quality issues.

Eastside Community Network has been working in the community development field for 27 years and have been committed to integrating sustainability in our efforts for the last 10 years. We have hosted town hall meetings on air quality, engaged residents around the FCA/Stellantis Community Benefits Agreement, have installed a Purple Air (PM 2.5) monitor on our wellness hub, and have been developing an air quality policy strategy with our Eastside Climate Action Coalition. In addition, the Stoudamire Wellness Hub, where our offices are located, sits right next to the Stellantis plant, and we frequently have to call to report odors. This project will allow us to advance solutions identified by eastside resident leaders to expand our data on eastside air quality and engage more community members in air monitoring and advocacy.

- 2) Indicate who will carry out or manage the project and why they are qualified for this role.

This project will be carried out by the Climate Equity Department at ECN. The tasks will primarily be performed by the Air and Water

Projects Coordinator, whom we are in the process of hiring, and supervised by the director and the Chief Sustainability Officer. Both supervisors of this work, Erin Stanley, and Ricky Ackerman, have participated in the Collaborative Planning Project for Air Quality and the Air Quality Sensor Learning Collaborative. We have also engaged in specific work groups within these collaboratives around policy and air monitoring. Additionally, we are participating in a participatory research grant through the University of Michigan's Urban Research Center in which we will partner with a faculty member to advance a specific policy priority. Our intention is to expand our air monitoring efforts on the eastside and use this data as an advocacy tool as we work on a policy that will address air pollution and community health.

- 3) Describe any individuals or groups you will collaborate with, and their role in the project. If needed, please let us know what technical support our team can provide to you.

We will collaborate with neighborhood hubs that are a part of the Resilient Eastside Initiative to install Clarity Node S wind/air monitors. Potential partners for host sites include the Bailey Park Neighborhood Development Corporation, Feedem Freedom, the Boggs Center for Nurturing Community Leadership, and Brilliant Detroit. We will implement this project in partnership with the Eastside Climate Action Coalition, particularly the resident leadership team and any other members who want to get more involved in air quality advocacy efforts.

**4. Project Impact and Sustainability.** Describe the community or communities that would benefit from your project. How might you support this work or its impacts after the funds are spent?

The southeast side of Detroit, where ECN serves, is overburdened with air pollution, has two of the zipcodes with the highest asthma hospitalizations in Michigan, and faces compounding environmental and social justice harms. Within this context, there is a passion for

change and commitment to community that echoes across the southeast side, and this project will aim to continue to support these resident leaders in our neighborhoods. The project will be implemented in specific eastside neighborhoods where resilience hubs are being envisioned and created, yet will also form a connected network of air quality monitoring across the southeast side. Currently, there is only one EGLE monitor on the eastside of Detroit, and it is near the northern border of the city. Yet, on the southeast side, we have an interstate running through our communities, the Stellantis plants which have received several violations, trucking distribution sites where idling occurs, and other polluting industries, including an asphalt plant.

These funds will help support the initial up-front costs of increasing air monitors on the eastside as well as provide compensation to community leaders who participate in the project. ECN will seek other funding sources or look for flexible sources within our current funders to continue to provide stipends beyond this grant, as this is a practice we are committed to. ECN will enter into MOUs with the partner host sites regarding ongoing care and maintenance of the air monitors and we will be able to manage the check in/out process for the portable monitors through our current systems at the Stoudamire Wellness Hub.

**5. Evaluation.** Describe how you will know you met your goals for the project.

We will evaluate this project based on our successful installation of clarity monitors at partner sites on the southeast side of Detroit. We will also track the use of the portable monitors and aim to have them in use by community members on a regular basis. Finally, we will know we have met our goals if resident climate leaders are engaged in actually tracking the data from the monitors as well as using information from them in community meetings to advocate for improved air quality.