Justice40
Accelerator
Information Session
IN SUPPORT: The People's Agenda

Dr. Mildred McClain aka "Mama Bahati"
What is the **Justice40 Initiative?**

The Justice40 is a Biden-Harris Administration initiative to direct 40% of the benefits of the Administration’s investments in clean energy and climate into disadvantaged communities.

Justice40 is a historic opportunity that will result in funding levels across:
- Energy
- Water
- Housing
- Transit/Transportation
- Local Business Development
How will the Justice40 Initiative be Implemented?

From the January 27, 2021, Climate EO, Section 223:

- By the end of May 2021 (120 days) the White House (OMB, CEQ, Climate Advisor and Task Force) will publish recommendations on how Federal investments can be made to meet the goal.
  
  - Developing the recommendations will include consulting with impacted communities.
  - Recommendations will focus on spending through existing authorities, which means focusing on programs where the agencies have the flexibility to focus spending on the goal.
  - Recommendations will also include legislation that may be needed to meet the goal, which would include programs that have statutory funding mandates that would have to be updated via legislation to meet the goals.

- By the end of July 2021 (60 days from when the recommendations are issued), agencies would implement the goals across applicable programs.

- By February 2022, OMB will publish a Scorecard on agency progress on the goals.
Justice40: Key Dates

May 2021: We will know which programs will be the focus of the Justice40 initiative. Be ready to determine where your project fits and make your plan.

July 2021: Agencies will be in the implementation phase.

January 2022: The federal government will have evaluated the success of the Justice40 initiative.
What does this mean? …a pivotal opportunity for reparation and restoration of communities.
What is the Justice40 Accelerator?

The Justice40 Accelerator’s primary focus is to serve frontline communities by helping them to navigate applying for federal funds across multiple agencies.

The offerings will include:

• Informational sessions and resources to learn about federal grants and eligibility
• $25,000 to $50,000 in project grants for eligible organizations
• Project pre-development workshops
• Partnership opportunities
• Technical expertise to support successful applications for federal funding including but not limited to accounting, legal, and government grant writing
Poll Question 1
Which of the offerings listed do you think your organization would take advantage of?
The Issue at Hand

Funds are becoming available for frontline organizations

...BUT you must be ready to receive them!

The Resolve!

The Justice40 Accelerator is here to support and serve you in accessing funds that will allow you to further your efforts in doing what you know is right for your community.
Poll Question 2
Have you had any experiences in applying for federal funding?
Three Step Strategy

1) **Action** – Prepare Frontline Communities to Win

2) **Influence** – Address Systemic Racism

3) **Transformation** – Educate and Engage Decision-Makers for Lasting Change
**ACTION:** Set Up Frontline Communities to Win!

**Goal:** Win Federal funding for community-based projects.

**Inform & Involve: Learning Series**

Organize a national learning series to inform frontline leaders about how the Justice40 can help achieve their goals. Involve leaders in the initiative.

**Share Access & Capacity:**

Create a support team that includes a team of “ally organizations” as well as technical support such as accounting, grant writing, legal, org development and HR, and project management to support project teams in the pursuit of Justice40 funding.

**Prepare Projects: Project Pre-Development Support**

Building on the learning series, provide competitive project pre-development funding to support local leaders to formulate projects that can successfully compete for Federal funding resulting from the Justice40.
Identify

- Review the existing Federal resourcing systems
- Identify the exclusionary practices and other barriers to frontline community participation.

Study and Documentation

- Study and document the programs and processes setup by the Justice 40 initiative
- Examine their value and the opportunities to create lasting change.

Stories

- Listen to the stories of people, communities, and organizations that gain access
- Examine the stories of people, communities, and organizations excluded from participation.
- Connect those stories to the study and documentation of underlying systems and values.
TRANFORMATION: Educate and Engage for Lasting Change

• Build and utilize our network of relationships to educate and engage

• Tell stories, inclusive or successes and frustrations, to illustrate the need and opportunity of the Justice40 Accelerator

• Target Fall 2022 for completion, inclusive of an assessment period for reflection to inform future strategy
Poll Question 3

What is your main area of focus?

- Environmental Justice
- Economic Development
- Economic Equity
- Climate Justice
- Sustainable Energy
- Voter Engagement
- Civic Infrastructure
- Transit/Transportation
- Rural
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Climate Resilience & Adaptation
- Affordable Housing
- Clean Water
- Workforce and Training
Federal grants of measure being awarded to frontline community-led efforts

Frontline community-led projects being funded and supported through this initiative

Strengthening the ecosystem of businesses owned by leaders from Black and historically disinvested communities of color

Enabling these businesses to more effectively compete for opportunities

Creating stronger network of business leaders from Black and historically disinvested communities of color

Providing introductions and access to decision makers and resources

Resourcing systems towards reparation and restoration by creating awareness of inherent biases among decision-makers
Timeline Review: What’s Next?

• By July 2021, all applicable Federal agencies will be implementing the Justice40 guidance in how they spend money on programs, grants, and awards across a wide range of program areas including energy, water, housing, and transportation.

• Soon thereafter, Federal agency funding opportunities will be released that target benefits to underserved communities, per the Justice40 goals.