

# Inclusive Energy Innovation Prize



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## Illuminations CLEANetwork

**A Bridge Between Innovation & Impact**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yloM3ltwSTk>

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**Your city and state:** East St. Louis, IL

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## Short Description:

The Illuminations project combines the expertise and experience of three Southern Illinois community-based organizations, United Congregations of Metro-East (UCM), Macedonia Development Corporation (MDC) and The Climate Economy Education Inc (TCE). UCM is the lead organization whose interfaith, multiracial community organization consists of residents directly impacted by systemic inequalities. The long-term strategic mission of Illuminations project is to create, 1) Illuminations CLEANetwork (Network), a robust network of clean/green business and innovation resources and 2) Energy Resiliency Hub (HUB), a translatable model to catalyze equitable and inclusive green economies in disadvantaged communities throughout the country.

MDC promotes renewable energy projects, job creation, and economic development. In Phase 1 of IEIP we seek to leverage organizational capacity by joining our grassroots organizations together for a dynamic, holistic model to address economic disparities in urban and rural environments, namely East St. Louis and Carbondale, IL. Illuminations works to increase awareness of clean/renewable technologies through grassroots community organizing, in collaboration with TCE's community educational and resource platform (CLEANetwork.Earth). Project efforts expand and empower individuals with access to climate-smart opportunities and a network of business and workforce resources.

