

Community Power Accelerator Prize



Team Name: *Piedmont Sun*

City and State: Charlottesville VA

Submission Title: Piedmont Solar



PIEDMONT HOUSING ALLIANCE



PIEDMONT SOLAR

Organization Overview

- *Guided by the values of Home, Opportunity, Community, Respect, and Equity, Piedmont Housing Alliance is an experienced, regional, mission-driven nonprofit affordable housing developer with a deep commitment to accountability, sustainability, and deep impact.*
- *Sunshine Mathon, the executive director, has overseen the development of 900+ kW_{DC} of solar integrated into housing developments.*
- *We have a sophisticated team of in-house development expertise with experience with complex, \$40M+ projects as well as robust relationships with key consultants to bridge the gaps.*
- *As the largest nonprofit developer in the Charlottesville, VA region, we have trusted relationships with municipalities, private organizations and households based on 40+ years of positive impact.*

Project Overview

- *Two community solar projects in the short term (1.05 MW_{DC} total) with a goal to develop 15+ MW_{DC} over the next 6 years.*
- *Innovative partnership with the City leverages long-term relationship to co-solarize large municipal roofs with 50% serving the building + 50% as community solar.*
- *No- to low-cost roof lease to drive down energy costs for LMI households.*
- *One project is located in a Justice40 census tract. Both projects are located in a Persistent Poverty County.*
- *“Small”, on-building installations in partnership with the City is a strategy to unlock current interconnection challenges with IOU.*

Meaningful Benefits

- *Four meaningful benefit goals for each project.*
- *1: 40%+ reduction in energy costs for LMI subscribers. Will leverage nonprofit status and low-cost roof leases to achieve this goal.*
- *2: Prioritize residents of Piedmont Housing Alliance properties (most are below 40% Area Median Income).*
- *3: LMI subscribers will have equity and decision-making power in developments. Exact structure to be determined.*
- *4: As with our housing development work, we are committed to prevailing wage levels and mandating local hiring requirements for contractors.*