

Community Energy Innovation Prize

JCEI² Joint Clean Energy Institute for Community Energy Innovation

Project Summary

Our team proposes to develop JCEI2 as a Clean Energy Ecosystem combining clean energy workforce training and community outreach that fosters volunteer and sponsor-driven no-to-low-cost clean energy services to disadvantaged neighborhoods in Waco, Texas. Through a partnership between Baylor University and local Community Service Innovators, the workforce training program will include coursework, professional training, and certification for undergraduate students and professionals in several areas: energy technologies, solar and distributed energy development, energy efficiency and auditing, and energy-related financing. Community outreach will be integrated within courses where energy services to community members are facilitated by community innovators, JustEnergy, Waco Habitat for Humanity, and Economic Opportunity Advancement Corporation. The JCEI2 institute is proposed to serve as the “glue” to reorient and bolster the efforts of local organizations, colleges, and programs who are all already actively participating in academic programs, workforce development, and technology deployment methods centered around clean energy ecosystems.

Tasks

1. **Developing Clean Energy Academic Program and Workforce Development**
2. **Community Energy Innovation through Energy Service Outreach**
3. **Design JCEI2 for long-term sustainability**

Key Organizations & Roles

- Baylor University – Academic Programs and Workforce Development
- JustEnergy – Energy Service Provider to Disadvantaged Communities
- Habitat for Humanity - Housing for Disadvantaged Communities
- Economic Opportunity Advancement Corporation – Weatherization and Utility Assistance Programs

