

Team Name and Program

Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO) SOLAR FOR ALL Program

LVEJO Mission

The mission of LVEJO is to organize with our community to accomplish environmental justice in Little Village and achieve the self-determination of immigrant, low-income, and working-class families.

LVEJO Long-term Vision

Our vision is to build a sustainable community that promotes the healthy development of youth and families, provides economic justice, and practices participatory democracy and self-determination.

LVEJO Brief Background Information

Founded in 1994, LVEJO has been rooted in environmental justice and self-determination of the low-income Latinx and African American families that live in Chicago's Little Village neighborhood. LVEJO has been instrumental in shutting down the two coal power plants nearby. The children called them cloud factories. LVEJO also converted a 21-acre Superfund site into a public park and has been instrumental in several key energy policy legislation in the IL State Legislature, among many other accomplishments.

Short Program Description

LVEJO's SOLAR FOR ALL Program plans to catapult 150 low-income, out-of-school youth and returning citizens from Chicago's Little Village and Southside neighborhoods to become solar installers and entrepreneurs and jumpstart their careers in clean energy.

Key Project Members:

1. Dr. Miguel Saucedo – LVEJO Solar For All Program Director
2. Carolina Vazquez – LVEJO Solar For All Project Manager
3. Johnny Nunez – LVEJO Solar For All Lead Instructor
4. Mrs. Kimberly Wasserman – LVEJO Executive Director

Community Location:

Chicago's Little Village neighborhood, located 3 miles southwest of downtown Chicago, IL, is predominantly Latinx and African American communities.