

SUMMARY SLIDE

Project Mission

The "Motor to Solar City™ Workforce Development Training Program" spearheaded by the Green Door Initiative (GDI) is part of a **transformative initiative to revitalize underserved neighborhoods** in Detroit, particularly low-income areas with predominant populations of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). With a focus on **promoting environmental and economic justice**, GDI has a vision of creating sustainable neighborhoods and improving environmental literacy and access to family-supporting jobs by combining **successful workforce development, award-winning community engagement, and clean energy projects**.

The Team Members

Lead Organization: Green Door Initiative brings a wealth of experience and expertise in working with disadvantaged communities, promoting clean energy development, and addressing climate change and energy justice issues. One significant achievement is GDI's launch of an Environmental Careers workforce training program, assisting low-income and formerly incarcerated residents in transitioning into family-sustaining employment within the green-collar sector. The program has successfully trained over 1000 residents, achieving an impressive 96% job placement rate, which demonstrates GDI's commitment to creating opportunities for individuals in disadvantaged communities.

Primary Team Member

Walker-Miller has been a trusted partner with deep roots in the energy industry for over 22 years. Their expertise includes designing programs, sourcing products, training inclusive workforces, and researching innovations to drive the adoption of energy-efficient practices. Walker-Miller's experience engaging marginalized communities and training inclusive workforces will aid in overall training program development, course implementation, and reaching formerly incarcerated and marginalized groups.

APEX, an award-winning certified Minority and Women Business Enterprise, brings over 30 years of experience supporting environmental justice and community engagement initiatives nationally, regionally, and in Detroit. APEX's past work with GDI, including a community needs assessment, provides foundational insight for this project. APEX will assist with key messaging, stakeholder engagement and outreach, trust building, and developing training materials. APEX's expertise complements GDI's vision of promoting environmental, economic, and climate justice in traditionally underserved communities.

The City of Detroit's Office of Sustainability and Mayor Duggan's endorsement of GDI's Motor to Solar City™ community revitalization initiative will allow us to maximize outreach and implementation efforts of the workforce development training project. The City is committed to providing invaluable support, including technical expertise, resource referrals to solar contractors, assistance in leveraging funding, and facilitating access to a 60,000 sq ft school building for a dynamic solar energy hub. Notably, GDI has been incorporated into grant applications, such as the Kresge Foundation, securing vital funding to sustain the continuous progress of the Motor to Solar City™ initiative.