

Groundswell SOLVE IT Prize Embark Phase Summary

Advancing Community-Driven Smalltown and Rural Clean Energy Solutions

Groundswell is working with local municipal and nonprofit partners in the neighboring counties of Chambers County, AL and Troup County, GA to identify energy challenges and explore potential clean energy solutions. Our work has grown out of more than three years of energy efficiency program implementation in Troup County and represents an effort to integrate additional clean energy solutions and leverage the availability of federal resources (made available via the IRA and BIL) to serve an increased number of LMI households in the area.

Our partners represent multiple small municipalities whose inclusion is absolutely essential to ensuring a just transition to a clean energy economy, but that lack the scale and capacity to access the abundance of federal support that is currently available to fund equitable clean energy initiatives. By highlighting the similar need experienced across multiple small municipalities and treating them as one cohesive community, Groundswell will enable our partners to pursue far greater funding opportunities as our work together progresses.

- Energy Challenges Identified**
- High Energy Burdens
 - Highly Inefficient Housing Among LMI Households
 - High Vulnerability to Impacts of Climate Change
- Energy Solutions Discussed To-Date**
- Energy Efficiency Programming
 - Community Solar
 - Resilience Hubs

Engagement and Planning Process

