



S.W.E.E.T.

alabama

2022 Impact Report

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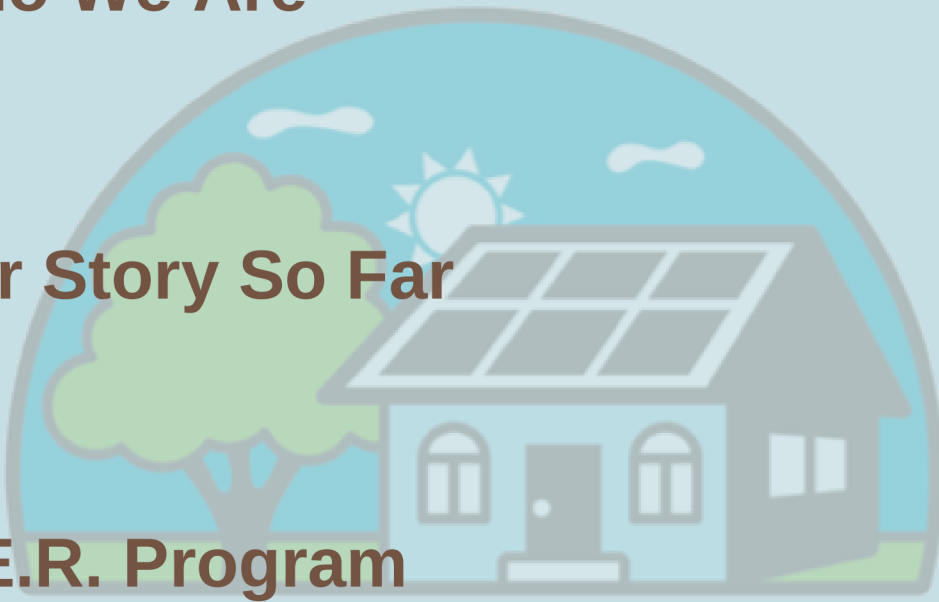
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S.W.E.E.T.
alabama



OUR MISSION

We are a 501c3 nonprofit connecting communities to resources for energy efficiency, sustainability, and affordable homes.



OUR VISION

We are a "just transition" organization focusing on democratic economies and energy independence within Birmingham and the beautiful State of Alabama.

We are connecting people to resources to achieve these goals.

This transition will be supported by popular education in cooperative economics and sustainable uses of energy, land, and water.



OUR VALUES

SWEET Sovereignty

Yield of Love

Reverence for Communities

Authenticity of Work

Acknowledgment of People

Power of Voice

Acts of Love: Healing

BOARD MEMBERS

Celida Soto Garcia, President
Marian Mwenja, Vice President
Kari Powell, Treasurer
Jilisa Milton, Secretary
Carmen Capó-Lugo
La'Tanya Scott

ADVISORY BOARD

Susan Diane Mitchell
Majadi Baruti
Molly MacFarlane Palmer
Nina Morgan
Teresa Chandler

STAFF

J. Robert Burton
Co-Executive Director
(Policy & Programming)
Yawntreshia Coleman
Co-Executive Director
(Finance & Development)

YOUTH FELLOWS

Amaiyh Sumlin
E.J. Cutts
Jared Smith
Olivia Pierce
Perry Powell

MAKING ALABAMA'S FUTURE SWEETER

We celebrated **FIVE** years of operation this year by hiring a new Co-Executive Director, launching an inaugural youth fellowship program, hosting free DIY home energy retrofit workshops, and distributing mutual aid kits!

5

Youth
Fellows were
hired in July
for our
2022 cohort

4

H.E.R. Clinics:
Aug. 27th,
Sept. 10th,
Sept. 24th,
& Oct. 22nd

5

Retrofitting
Skills
in DIY
videos and
guides

OUR STORY SO FAR

SWEET Alabama has been performing community work since 2017 and has been hosting community trainings since 2019. We were determined as a 501c3 in 2020 to center environmental justice & racial equity and address the compounding crises of housing affordability, energy insecurity, and climate change.

This year, we onboarded a Co-Executive Director focused on finance and development to uplift proximate BIPOC leadership. She leads our resource development, fundraising, and building our organizational capacity, all of which have allowed us to make a bigger community impact and increase the number of Fellows accepted into the program each year. Adding her to our leadership team allowed us to execute our diversified multi-year resource development plan which includes developing and maintaining a robust membership program, individual donor program, and green-friendly corporate solicitation program, in addition to pursuing multiple identified grant opportunities from foundations.

Our other Co-Executive director focuses on leading our policy & programming and expanding our coalition partners. In 2020, we became an active member in the Alabama Hub of the Gulf South for a Green New Deal because of our expertise in climate justice work.

Respect for communities is at the heart of everything we do, and that means we follow rather than lead to promote community led-ness. Our efforts tangibly connect communities to resources. Our primary target population is low-income, BIPOC, and female-headed households. Therefore, most of our board members are Women of Color who have invested years leading movements in Alabama's organizing community. As a result, our local political institutions have shifted based on our conversations and coalition efforts. Through our coalitions, we are building community-owned institutions in every Alabama county, advocating for statewide policies, and promoting a green economy.

The just transition nonprofit was founded in 2017 as a conversation between seven community organizers and frontline community members who had been working together for years through various organizations and movements. The group of founders, majority black and women, sought to bring about a better future for Alabama. After Susan Diane Mitchell, a black woman and artist, created the name and acronym, SWEET Alabama (Sustainable Water, Energy, and Economic Transition in Alabama), their ideas began to take shape as a vision for a new organization. Over the next year, they began doing the foundational work to create a non-profit organization dedicated to the future of metro Birmingham and the State of Alabama, while prioritizing the leadership of black and brown women.



HOME ENERGY RETROFIT (H.E.R.) PROGRAM AND 2022 GREEN ECONOMIES YOUTH FELLOWS



28% of the energy used for heating and cooling your home is associated with air leakage.

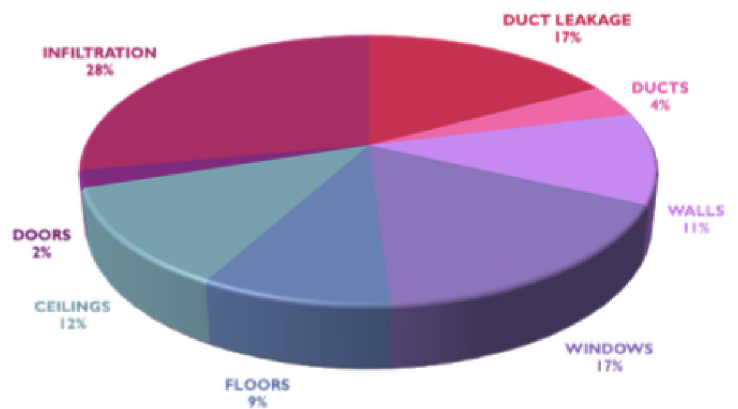
Duct leakage allows harmful pollutants to enter your home and wastes 17% of the energy used.

As a result, you are losing a large sum of money each month on energy bills.

Air sealing your home combined with proper ventilation:

- Reduces your energy bills by 45%
- Eliminates unwanted drafts
- Improves your homes' air quality

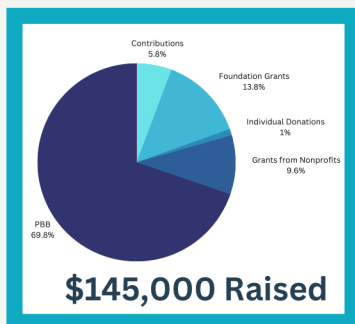
ENERGY USED TO HEAT & COOL



2022 WINS

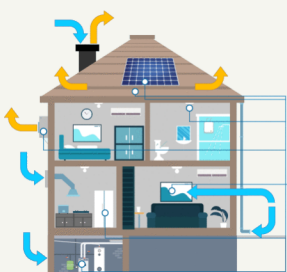
- Awarded a \$20,000 grant from Climate Reality to create our youth fellowship, tool bank, & mutual aid kits.
- Our fellowship included H.E.R. trainings for the community and popEd about energy burden.
- In collaboration with our other partners, we started a deep canvassing campaign with PBB, we are supporting the AL Rising Climate Justice Tour with the AL4GND Hub.
- The climate justice tour has the goals of amplifying stories from communities across AL, building and nurturing relationships with communities, and building and strengthening a shared analysis of issues & solutions.

WE ARE BUILDING CAPACITY



Our Green Economies Youth Fellows achieved their goals!

Home Energy Retrofit



Community Outreach



Popular Education



Email us at actnow@sweetal.org

2023

ROJO DINE-IN NIGHT

S.W.E.E.T. ANNIVERSARY

MEMBERSHIP COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

S.W.E.E.T. COCKTAIL HOURS

SPRING EQUINOX CELEBRATION

PICK A DATE & DONATE FUNDRAISER

EARTH MONTH SUMMIT

2023 GREEN ECONOMIES COHORT

SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX CELEBRATION

CHALLENGES/TOURNAMENTS

S.W.E.E.T. BIRTHDAY PARTY

WINTER SOLSTICE (YULE) CELEBRATION

