



Momentum is building for equitable clean energy solutions

This past year the Pacific Northwest witnessed an unprecedented level of public funds designated to move the clean energy transition forward. Spark Northwest is proud to have met the moment. Read further to see how we deepened our engagement with local Indigenous communities; brought no-cost heat pumps to families with low incomes; and tripled our rural renewable energy work.

In 2023, we supported Shark Garden, a wonderful shared garden, teaching and gathering space in Burien, Washington. The garden will install a microgrid solar system to generate electricity to help grow and harvest over one ton of produce for the local food bank. [You can watch a 3-minute video about the project here.](#)



Supporting long-term energy resilience for remote communities

We continue to support remote, rural and smaller communities, including Tribal Nations, as they begin their long-term energy planning. In 2023, in partnership with public entities, we provided direct technical assistance to the Nooksack Indian Tribe, the Makah Tribe and the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, helping each to understand their unique energy challenges and goals.



Advancing Tribal energy sovereignty



With a \$100,000 prize from the Department of Energy, we simultaneously embarked on a groundbreaking initiative with two Indigenous partners: the Nooksack Indian Tribe and the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe. The program will identify and mentor future energy champions, so that they will be ready to lead and direct the next phase of developing fundable clean energy projects for their communities.



Deploying home heating and cooling for people with low wealth

Our residential heat pump program doubled in 2023 with new programs in Olympia, Skyway and White Center. Our latest campaign, in partnership with King County, will facilitate the upgrade of 150 homes to clean and efficient heating and air-conditioning systems at no cost to participants.

1000+

educated
about heat
pump
technology

175+

community
members
engaged in our
heat pump
programs

More than half of the participants served in 2023 were BIPOC and/or low-and moderate-income homeowners.

Engaging community groups in clean energy development



In 2023 we began a collaboration with Washington Department of Commerce to connect hard-to-reach communities with no-cost feasibility studies. Our outreach included St Michael's Episcopal Church in Yakima, Moses Lake food bank and distribution center, Toppenish School district, and Whatcom County. These communities are now on their way towards developing solar + storage projects and increasing their energy resilience.



Expanding access to clean energy in rural areas

In 2023 we tripled the number of applications submitted for rural partners to apply for USDA funding.

Spark Northwest supported 35 rural partner applications proposing over 1.2 Megawatts of solar energy and energy efficiency projects - increasing rural resilience in our region.

35

applications
submitted for
funding

1.2 MW

clean energy

Advocating for policies to support an equitable transition



15

Clean Energy Ambassador
coalition members

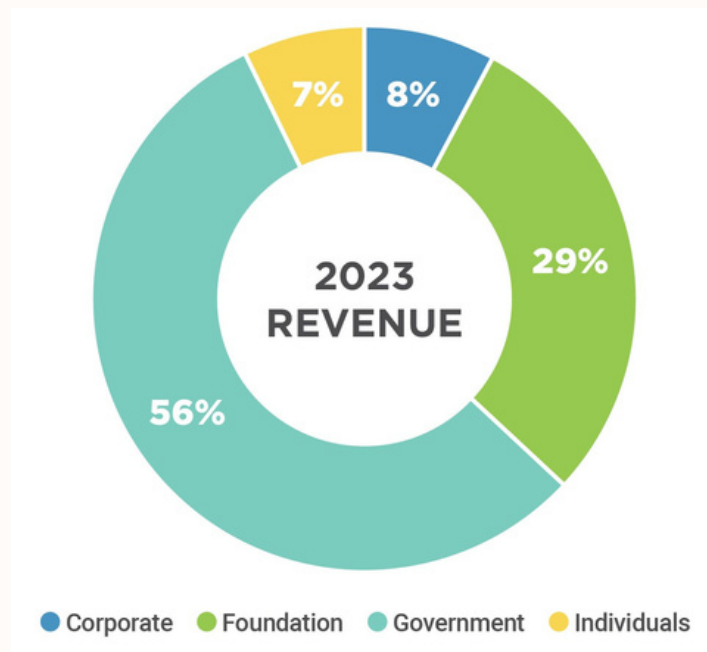
This past year in Oregon we were key players in a coalition that successfully secured \$10M to build community resilience hubs. In Washington we supported successful bills to protect against utility shutoffs during instances of extreme heat, as well as funding for residential efficiency.

In 2023 we began co-leading a coalition to advocate for a Clean Energy Ambassador program to ensure federal and state clean energy dollars are used to build power and wealth in frontline communities.



Organizational health and an expanded interest in our work

Spark Northwest has a diverse revenue stream, including fee-for-service, philanthropic support and government contracts. We have expanded from a team of nine to eleven clean energy innovators. Our finances are regularly reviewed by the board's Finance Committee, and we undergo a financial audit by an independent accounting firm each year.



In 2023 our governing board of directors added five new members, our volunteer advisory board added four new members.



Our annual fall fundraiser was a success in both turnout and funds raised. Over 80 clean energy enthusiasts joined for our in-person “mix & mingle” and we raised over \$60,000.

\$1.3m

annual
budget for
2023

19

board and
advisory
members

100

individuals
donated in
2023