

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Building  
momentum  
for equitable  
clean energy  
solutions



Spark Northwest is proud to play a unique role in the Pacific Northwest—working directly with underserved communities to design, plan, and build clean energy solutions. Our mission is clear: to support rural, Tribal and low-wealth communities in advancing their clean energy goals. We provide education and access to funding, equipping our partners with the expertise and resources to take charge of their clean energy futures. While the political landscape presents challenges, the momentum for equitable clean energy remains strong. Read further to see how we made an impact in 2024.

**In 2024  
we supported**

**100**

low-income  
households

**25**

rural, small  
businesses

**20**

community  
groups

**7**

Tribal  
Nations



## Advancing Tribal energy sovereignty

In 2024, the US Department of Energy awarded Spark Northwest a second \$200,000 Prize to ensure that remote Tribal communities receive the resources and foundational knowledge they need to set their own course towards sustainable, sovereign energy solutions.



We continued partnerships with the Nooksack Indian Tribe, the Makah Tribe, the Spokane Tribe of Indians, the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. We began new projects with the Tulalip Tribes, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. With each collaboration, we meet our partners where they are in terms of energy readiness, adapting to incorporate local wisdom and co-designing community-led solutions.

## Expanding access to clean energy in rural areas

People in rural areas frequently experience higher energy uncertainty and fewer safety net resources due to geographic isolation. In 2024 we assisted 25 rural small businesses to apply for USDA grant funding to support solar energy and energy efficiency projects. Each of these communities is one step closer to reliable, efficient and affordable clean energy.

**25**  
applications submitted  
for funding

**2.1 MW**  
of clean energy



## Deploying home heating and cooling for people with low-wealth

In 2024, we celebrated the completion of two heat pump campaigns, one with the City of Shoreline, and the second with King County in Skyway and White Center. These campaigns resulted in the completed installation of nearly 100 energy efficient heat pumps in low-to-moderate income households.

We are proud to help families and communities reduce their energy burden, stay comfortable, and contribute to a more sustainable and resilient future.

**300+**

people educated about energy efficiency and renewable energy

**With learnings in hand, the King County program is expanding in 2025. The next phase of the program will include energy efficient heat pumps, heat pump water heaters and induction stoves for daycares, adult group homes and single-family homes. Stay tuned to hear more about these new program developments.**

**77**

heat pump installations were either heavily or fully funded for White Center and Skyway residents

**“**

*What an amazing gift to have a heat pump in my home provided with grant funds! I could not have afforded it.*

*Energize participant*





## Engaging community groups in clean energy development

This year we supported the completion of 12 solar installations on Proud Ground’s permanently affordable homes located in Portland, Oregon. Spark Northwest managed homeowner solar education, installer selection, and customer experience. As a result, these homes are not only powered by the sun but also offer residents greater resilience during extreme weather events like winter windstorms and summer heat waves. Pictured above is the all-star team from Proud Ground and Solar for All.



We also supported several community-based organizations with funding applications, securing nearly \$6 million for their clean energy projects. Partner organizations who benefited and received funding include the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, the Toppenish School District and the Community Services of Moses Lake. We continue our support as their projects get underway.

## Advocating for policies to support an equitable transition



In Washington we were key players in a coalition that secured a \$3 million budget proviso to pilot a Clean Energy Ambassador program. We also conducted early stakeholder discussions with 16 local Tribal Nations to identify energy policy issues of highest importance to their communities and are now pursuing new advocacy goals in response. Our policy manager, John Seng, was recognized with an emerging leadership award presented by the Northwest Energy Coalition.





## Spark Northwest's organizational health

We have a diverse revenue stream, including fee-for-service, philanthropic support and government contracts. In 2024 we welcomed new corporate and philanthropic funding partners including Google, Amazon, BECU, EcoSpark, and the Satterberg Foundation.

**\$1.3m**

2024 annual  
budget

**17**

board and  
advisory  
members

We have a dedicated base of individual donors, many of whom are recurring monthly and annual contributors. Our fall fundraiser brought together over 100 Spark Northwest supporters.

Our staff and board are guided by a strategic plan adopted in early 2024. We use the plan to design programming to achieve three key goals: reducing energy burdens; building energy capability and capacity; and advancing energy democracy. We are developing new metrics to evaluate our impact and progress. We have a 12-person staff of passionate, clean energy innovators. The board meets quarterly and brought on a new member this past year. The majority of our board and over half of our staff identify as people of color. We are deepening our equity learning, with weekly guided discussions led by rotating staff members.

## A just and sustainable future is not a dream—it's a necessity



As we look forward, we are keeping a close eye on developments at the federal level that may impact our work in the region. We remain steadfastly committed to pursuing decarbonization and social justice.

**The time for equitable clean energy action is now. We invite you to join us.**