



Spark
Northwest

**SIGN UP
STAY INFORMED
TAKE ACTION**



From left to right: Edwin Wanji from Sphere Solar Energy, former staff member Mikhaila Gonzales from Spark Northwest, Dian Ferguson from Central Area Senior Center. Photo credit Rian Devos

Below are our top legislative priorities for 2023.

AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE SOLAR (WASHINGTON)

Having rooftop solar saves money on energy bills, yet many Washingtonians can't afford the upfront costs. Renters and folks with low to moderate wealth have been excluded from the financial benefits of solar. Furthermore, a key incentive called net metering, which makes solar financially beneficial, may soon expire.

During Washington's 2023 session we will advocate to extend net metering laws so that more people can share the benefits of solar.

HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY (WASHINGTON)

Improving home insulation and switching to electric heat pumps for heating and cooling is good for our health, the climate, and our wallets. But like solar, the benefits of home energy efficiency have not reached everyone. For many renters and those who cannot afford the upfront costs of home upgrades, the benefits of energy efficiency are inaccessible.

We will advocate for Washington state funding to ensure benefits of home energy efficiency reach BIPOC, rural and low-wealth communities.

RESILIENCE HUBS (OREGON)

Leaders from climate-impacted communities are bringing forward legislation that will empower communities across Oregon to build community resource centers known as resilience hubs. The resilience hubs will include solar energy generation and storage to ensure that electricity is available through extreme weather events and sustained power outages.

We will support Oregon legislation to help communities across the state design and plan resilience hubs based on community-defined needs.

EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL FUNDS (OR & WA)

Landmark federal legislation including the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and 2022 Inflation Reduction Act will provide a surge of funding for clean energy and efficiency projects. We are committed to ensuring that BIPOC, rural and low-wealth communities receive easy access to the economic and health benefits of the newly enacted laws.