



TRIBAL SOLAR
ACCELERATOR FUND
GRID Alternatives

For immediate release

Tribal Energy Innovators Fellowship Award Announced

Four fellows from across Indian Country to participate in new renewable energy program for tribal members

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DENVER, CO; October 4th, 2021 -- Today, the [Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund \(TSAF\)](#), is proud to announce the four individuals selected to participate in the 2021-2022 Tribal Energy Innovators (TEI) Fellowship. With grant support from Sempra, the TEI Fellowship will support renewable energy innovation, knowledge, and expertise of tribal members who will develop their renewable energy visions and ideas to meet the unique needs of their tribal community.

“We are so excited to continue the Tribal Energy Innovators Fellowship program which supports emerging leaders share and learn, and build a network so they can help create a transition to energy sovereignty in their communities that is educational, entrepreneurial and completely renewable.” said TSAF Director Tanksi Clairmont (Lakota/Dakota).

The goal of the fellowship is to develop and strengthen tribal energy sovereignty and resilience in Indian Country while building tribal capacity in renewable energy by utilizing GRID Alternatives’ network of industry professionals and resources while working collaboratively within their tribe or tribal organization. Over the course of the year-long fellowship, each fellow will learn from GRID staff, from one another and from industry professionals on best practices in renewable energy planning, business, workforce development and training, and other areas of technical support. The fellowship will culminate with a presentation to GRID staff, industry professionals and other renewable energy changemakers looking to invest in innovative approaches to the unique energy needs across Indian Country.

Congratulations to the TEI 2021-2022 fellows from across Indian Country:

- Chantel Greene (Nez Perce)
- Daniel Wiggins Jr (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians)
- Gino O’Rourke (Yurok Tribe)
- Brett Alberts (Spirit Lake Nation)

This is the second year of the TEI Fellowship. This year’s Fellows will be strengthening their knowledge in tribal energy planning and development, teaching tribal youth about sustainable living and renewable energy, and researching and developing innovative solar cell technology. To learn more about each Tribal Energy Innovator Fellow, visit tribalsolar.org.

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About the Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund

GRID Alternatives' Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund was launched in 2018 with a 3-year, \$5 million grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation. Since 2010, GRID has partnered with tribes in a community-centric approach to increase renewable energy capacity, resilience and energy sovereignty. The fund builds on this work to provide grants that catalyze the growth of solar energy and expand solar job opportunities in tribal communities across the United States. To further expand access to renewable energy in tribal communities, TSAF welcomes new donors and partnerships to contribute to the fund. For more information, visit tribalsolar.org.