



GRID Alternatives partners with Google's Nest Renew, bringing renewable energy benefits to environmental justice communities

The collaboration will involve support for a solar installation on Heritage Park, a senior affordable housing development, estimated to save half a million dollars over the next 20 years

October 7th, 2021 -- [GRID Alternatives](#), a national leader in providing access to clean, affordable renewable energy, is a proud beneficiary of Nest Renew from Google, a new service for compatible Nest thermostats that makes it easy to support a clean energy future. As part of Nest Renew, customers will have the opportunity to direct funding from Google to partners like GRID Alternatives that are extending the benefits of renewable energy to communities of color and low-income communities through solar energy savings and job training.

GRID Alternatives is partnering with Nest Renew, which will be rolling out in early preview by invitation beginning in Fall 2021. As part of Nest Renew's [Energy Impact Program](#), GRID Alternatives is committed to sharing the benefits of renewable energy with the communities that need it most. When customers join Nest Renew, they'll accumulate Nest Renew Leafs that track their positive impact, and as their individual actions to save energy and help the environment grow, they'll reach new milestones allowing them to direct Nest Renew funds to support our community programs.

The collaboration supports GRID's multifamily and commercial solar installation projects, including a solar installation on Heritage Park, an 81-unit affordable housing development for seniors in Hanford, California. Heritage Park's owner, WNC Preservation Equity Fund 1, implements social service and energy efficiency programs at their properties to increase the quality of life for their residents and ensure long-term financial stability. Over the next 20 years, GRID estimates the solar energy system will provide half a million dollars in energy savings to WNC Preservation Equity Fund 1 and their tenants and prevent the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent of burning 5.7 million pounds of coal. With continued support from Google's Nest Renew, GRID Alternatives will be able to develop more renewable energy projects like that at Heritage Park which serve economic and environmental justice communities.

"GRID Alternatives is excited to be taking part in Nest Renew, which brings together community to support clean energy solutions," says Erica Mackie, CEO and Co-Founder of GRID Alternatives, "With collective action and support from Nest Renew, GRID Alternatives will continue to build community-powered renewable energy solutions, increase energy resiliency and savings for families, and create solar job opportunities for individuals."

The partnership will also support GRID's SolarCorps Fellowship program, an 11-month paid term of service for individuals looking to gain experience in the solar and non-profit industry. SolarCorps Fellows gain skills that help launch their renewable energy careers, while making significant contributions to GRID and environmental justice communities.

¹ Nest Renew requires the 3rd generation Nest Learning Thermostat, Nest Thermostat E, or the newest Nest Thermostat connected to a Google account (sold separately).



“As we transition to a carbon-free electric grid, it will be vital that we collectively support programs helping to build a new equitable energy economy. Google is honored to be partnering with GRID Alternatives, an organization with a deep commitment advancing economic and environmental justice through renewable energy,” says Casey Sinnwell, Head of Nest Renew’s Energy Impact Program.

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About GRID Alternatives

GRID Alternatives is a national leader in making clean, affordable solar power and solar jobs accessible to economic and environmental justice communities. Using a unique, people-first model, GRID develops and implements solar projects that serve qualifying households and affordable housing providers, while providing hands-on job training and connections to clean mobility and battery storage incentive programs. GRID has installed solar for more than 20,000 families to-date and helped households and housing providers save \$534 million in lifetime electricity costs, while training over 32,000 people. GRID Alternatives has eight regional offices and affiliates serving California, Colorado, the mid-Atlantic region, and Tribal communities nationwide, and serves communities in Nicaragua, Nepal and Mexico. For more information, visit gridalternatives.org.