



NAACP Launches Solar Equity Initiative for Low-Income and Underprivileged Residents

The Solar Equity Initiative Will Provide Job Training, Solar Panel Installation to Communities in Need

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Longmont, CO: The NAACP has launched a new [solar energy](#) project called the Solar Equity Initiative as a part of its Environmental and Climate Justice Program. The Solar Equity Initiative is a way for the organization to advance its various civil rights programs with a focus on the emerging solar energy industry. Solar energy is helping home and business owners across the country save money on their utility bills, gain energy independence, and even generate additional income by selling excess electricity to their local utility company. Yet, access to solar energy remains limited in certain communities, including those with low-income residents. The Solar Equity Project aims to expand access to solar technology among low-income communities by providing solar job skills training, coordinating the installation of solar panels in these communities, and strengthening equity in solar access policies in at least 5 states.

According to the NAACP, low-income households spend more than twice as much of their income on lighting and heating compared to middle-income and high-earning households. The organization also shows that nearly 70% of African Americans live within 30 miles of a coal-fired powerplant, forcing them to pay more for fossil fuel-sourced electricity. These communities are also subject to more air pollution from coal-fired powerplants. The NAACP is working to spread the benefits of solar energy to low-income households. The Solar Equity Initiative is committed to the following:

- Providing solar job skills training to 100 individuals
- Installing solar panels on 20 households and 10 community centers
- Strengthening equity in solar access policies in at least 5 states across the country

The Solar Equity Initiative is supported by GRID Alternatives, Solar Energy Industries Association, Sunrun, United Methodist Women, and Vote Solar.

As one of the leading solar panel installation and construction companies in Colorado, Southard [Solar Energy & Construction](#) believes that all communities and individuals, regardless of their income, deserve access to clean, renewable electricity. As the country's solar energy industry continues to expand, new methods of electricity generation should be made available to individuals of all backgrounds. This will allow low-income households to produce their own electricity, helping them save money on their utility bills, gain energy independence, and generate new forms of income. Those interested in learning more about the benefits of solar electricity generation can send a

message to info@southardsolar.com.

About Southard Solar Energy & Construction: Southard Solar Energy & Construction has been serving Colorado's Front Range since 1987, providing homeowners and business owners throughout the state with access to solar panels, free site estimates, [installation services](#), and information on various building and zoning permits. The company also specializes in constructing off-grid solar energy properties and energy independent tiny homes. Southard Solar Energy & Construction proudly serves Frederick, Firestone, Longmont and the surrounding areas. For more information, all interested parties can visit southardsolar.com or send a message to info@southardsolar.com.

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