

2022-2023 IMPACT REPORT

**THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP, INC.**

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About CEEP

STAFF

Jannelle Koszarek,
Interim Executive Director

Jamie MacDonald,
Program Manager

Donna Denley,
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Jeff Domanski,
Program Consultant

Emma Kaminski,
Program Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ira Saul Rubenstein

Heather Langsner

Thomas I. Apperson

David R. Berg

Dr. Shana S. Weber

Stephanie Greenwood

Peter Szabo

Elena Krieger, PhD

About CEEP

CEEP's mission is to serve as a bridge between economic and environmental perspectives. Our work encourages the evaluation, development, and implementation of policies and programs supportive of the environment and environmental industry.

We specialize in technical guidance, program design and support, education, and community outreach; through this work we aim to promote economic well-being alongside sustainability and climate resiliency in the region.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

August, 2023

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report of activities and programs of the Center for Economic and Environmental Partnership, Inc. (CEEP).

Since CEEP's founding in 1996, we have worked at the forefront of efforts to create and initiate new processes and programs with which to advance opportunities that positively impact issues affecting our environment. These have ranged from citizen engagement efforts to structured dialogues among business professionals and community leaders to acquiring and managing support for technical and engineering solutions designed to solve energy and environmental problems.

As a founder of CEEP and its long-time Chairman, I appreciate the engagement and support that my Board colleagues have shown over this past year to both immediate past Executive Director Jeff Domanski as well as newly appointed Interim Executive Director Jannelle Koszarek, an experienced CEEP program team member. We look forward to both Ms. Koszarek's proactive leadership and Mr. Domanski's continued involvement in key CEEP program areas.

Thank you for your interest in and support for CEEP's work. Our planet cares about what we achieve, not what we merely discuss.

Best regards,
Ira S. Rubenstein
Chairman



LETTER FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August, 2023

Although my involvement with CEEP began in 2023, I can see how impactful the work achieved before my arrival has been. In talking with representatives from local municipalities, our community partner organizations and Climate leaders it is apparent that the CEEP team offers a much needed service and expertise in the area of climate mitigation and adaptation. Moreover, the recent intensified and more frequent occurrence of extreme, devastating and costly weather events reminds us how much more work needs to be done.

We are fortunate to represent a state that holds a position of leadership in making a commitment to ACT NOW to reduce our reliance on fossils fuels and to intentionally and equitably build the infrastructure, resources and workforce to meet those goals.

CEEP is just one organization among several doing this important work, and yet I repeatedly talk to climate leaders in towns across the region and am told they still need help to meet these goals. The task is large, the needs are deep, the solutions are complex and thus require many hands to get involved.

Partnership wants to continue to be leaders in the climate mitigation and resilience field. We are the experts municipalities, school districts, businesses and concerned citizens can turn to to grow their climate action plan.

Please read the report below to learn more about the work we achieved in 2022 and consider donating to further this work for the years to come!

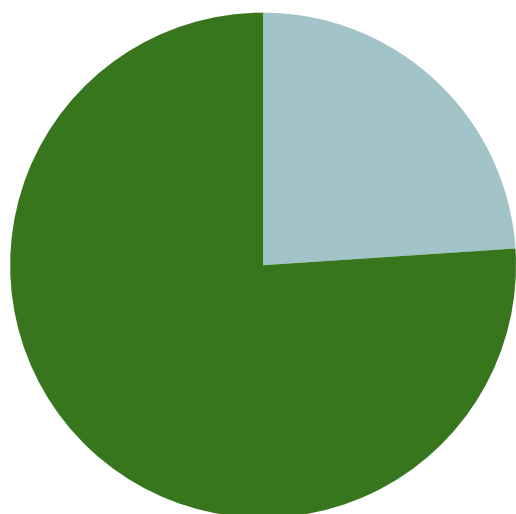
In partnership,
Jannelle Koszarek
Interim Executive Director



2022 FINANCIALS

Revenue

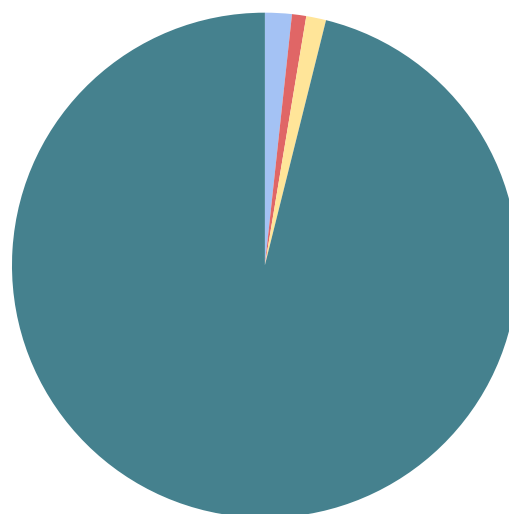
Total Revenue: \$228,008



- Contributions and Grants - \$54,600 (23.9%)
- Program Service Revenue - \$173,408 (76.1%)

Expenses

Total Expenses: \$155,784



- Accounting - \$2,665 (1.7%)
- Office Expenses - \$1,415 (0.9%)
- Insurance - \$1,977 (1.3%)
- Contracted Program Services - \$149,727 (96.1%)

Center for Economic and Environmental Partnership, Inc. Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax

The 990 form is an IRS form that provides the public with financial information about a nonprofit organization. See the above link for CEEP's 990 form for the 2022 year.

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“We are grateful for the invaluable support, expertise, and good work that we have received from CEEP to achieve successful outcomes for these projects. Our Environmental coordinator from CEEP has just filed for our Bronze CSC Certification! It’s great to have CEEP as a resource.”

-Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia from the Town of Rhinebeck

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CSC Bronze Certification
anticipated in 2023 for
Rhinebeck and
Peekskill.

**20+ In-Person
Information
Sessions** hosted for
CCA education.



To date, CEEP has provided 10 early career professionals with paid fellowship opportunities. Over half of the CEEP fellowships have been offered to BIPOC individuals and those who identify as female sustainability leaders.



96.1% of our funding goes
directly towards CEEP's
programmatic work.

110,700 metric tons of greenhouse gas equivalent emissions saved from the atmosphere through Hudson Valley and Rockland CCA programs which CEEP supported in 2022 and 2023.

**5 CEC High Impact
Action Items** completed
in Rhinebeck and
Peekskill.

PROGRAMS



Sustainability Navigator

CEEP's sustainability navigator program provides subject matter expertise and program guidance to projects which advance economic, environmental, and social sustainability in under-resourced organizations and municipalities. Our staff, the sustainability navigators, are as-needed local project managers who provide guidance in the use of best practices, access to an industry-leading network of experts, and general assistance to maximize use of available programs to build sustainable and climate resilient communities.

This past year, CEEP, and specifically program manager Jamie MacDonald, have provided aid through the sustainability navigator program to the city of Peekskill and the town of Rhinebeck as they pursue Climate Smart Communities certification through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). MacDonald, alongside some of our recent matchmaker fellows and the Climate Smart task forces of Peekskill and

HIGHLIGHTS

The Town of Rhinebeck and City of Peekskill are on track to receive CSC bronze certification this year. Both Applications have been submitted.

This year, Peekskill has completed 2 High Impact Actions for the NYSEDA Clean Energy Communities Program, and the Town of Rhinebeck has completed 3.

PROGRAMS

“Jamie MacDonald, our exceptional Sustainability Consultant from the Center for Economic and Environmental Partnership, inc. (CEEP), is at the forefront of leading Peekskill's charge towards achieving a Bronze status in New York State's Climate Smart Communities program...Jamie has played a vital role in propelling our sustainability initiatives forward specifically by obtaining Tree City USA designation, initiating the city's first ever food scraps program and handling the multifaceted submission application for the DEC Urban Community Forestry grant for a city-wide tree inventory and management plan.” - Elaine Caccoma, Chair and Lise Prown, Vice-Chair, City of Peekskill, Conservation Advisory Council.

Rhinebeck, have made enormous strides in their respective sustainability goals. By working collaboratively, both municipalities have kept sustainability efforts moving forward by connecting the relevant departments and stakeholders as well as creating documentation and organizing the necessary materials for CSC certification. CSC certification will not only give Peekskill and Rhinebeck bragging rights for their tireless sustainability work, including CCA participation and municipal building benchmarking, but give them increased access to state grant funding in the future. Both the town of Rhinebeck and the city of Peekskill are on track to be bronze certified CSC communities in 2023. Rhinebeck and Peekskill have also received aid from CEEP in completing several High Impact Actions under the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program. High Impact Actions are those that local governments can take to save energy, cut costs, and earn CEC designation. Peekskill has completed and submitted documentation for 2 of these

actions, while Rhinebeck has done so for 3 high impact actions. Ongoing progress through the sustainability navigator programs for these two communities also includes work with the respective Climate Action Planning Institutes which Rhinebeck and Peekskill

PROGRAMS

belong to. This year we have already made great progress in the Greenhouse Gas Inventories of the CAPI for both communities. In the coming year, we intend to continue these partnerships, and the strides made in climate sustainability work as a result, specifically through the Dutchess County and Westchester County Climate Action Planning Institutes. In the coming year, we intend to continue these partnerships, and the strides made in climate sustainability work as a result, by helping to develop Climate Action Planning Institute plans for both municipalities.



"We are grateful for the invaluable support, expertise, and good work that we have received from CEEP to achieve successful outcomes for these projects. Our Environmental coordinator from CEEP has just filed for our Bronze CSC Certification! It's great to have CEEP as a resource." -Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia from the Town of Rhinebeck.

PROGRAMS



"The team at CEEP has created a program that is a gift for any resource limited organization. They match talented early career professionals for our projects and connect the funding to pay them, all while providing training and project oversight to ensure the project's success." -

Commissioner Alan J. Sorensen, Orange County Department of Planning.

Matchmaker

CEEP's Matchmaker program 'matches' early career professionals with local Hudson Valley organizations to help advance their sustainability efforts. We provide the funding, project management, training and oversight for matchmaker interns to ensure equitable opportunities in the workforce and measurable outcomes for all parties. The program is designed to benefit municipalities and non-profit organizations that want to complete sustainability projects, but are unable to do so due to funding and staffing limitations. Rather than having to carry these burdens alone, these organizations effectively pass to CEEP the work of sourcing qualified early career professionals and managing their progress. Matchmaker sets out not only to aid these organizations, but to provide invaluable job experience and networking opportunities in the "green jobs" world to the early career professionals. This

PROGRAMS

"Our fellowship partnership with CEEP gives our students the hands-on experience and tools they need to become sustainability leaders. Plus, they're making a difference right here in the Hudson Valley." - Caroline Ramaley, Associate Director, Bard College Center for Environmental Policy.

year, CEEP has continued our work with Bard University's Graduate programs in Sustainability, working with three talented graduate students. In 2022, fellow Elena Fischer provided assistance to the town of Rhinebeck in their bid for CSC Bronze certification, a project which is now on track to be completed in 2023.



PROGRAMS

Subject Matter Expertise

In 2022, CEEP renewed our partnership with the Capital District Regional Planning Committee (CDRPC), which initially began in August 2020. This work will extend through January 2024. CEEP acts as a subject matter expert for The CDRPC, funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), enabling us to provide subject matter expertise to the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Program.

Through our work with the CDRPC, CEEP has provided responsive, on-call support across a range of services supporting the CEC program in the Capital, Mid-Hudson, North Country, and Mohawk Valley regions. In his role as a subject matter expert for the CDRPC, Jeffrey's work primarily includes participating in statewide working groups, providing technical support, training, and program development assistance to CEC Coordinators, and developing program guidance tools and presentations to assist present and future municipalities through the CEC certification process.



PROGRAMS

Community Choice Aggregation

Community Choice Aggregation allows cities, towns, and villages to join together (“aggregate”) to source electricity on behalf of their residents. By pooling their demand, these municipalities can secure low-cost, 100% generated, renewable electricity sourced regionally at a competitive and contracted rate.

CCA gives residents an additional choice beyond the variable-rate fossil fuel default offered by their utility providers. And, because there are no contracts, enrollment fees, or penalties for leaving the program, CCA protects individual consumers choice in their Electric Supply Company and gives them autonomy over their electricity.

This past year has been an exciting one for CEEP and CCAs in the Hudson Valley; we worked alongside Joule Assets, the program administrator for Hudson Valley Community Power and Rockland Community power, to provide community engagement support to a group of over 40,000 residents. In early 2023, twelve communities in the Hudson Valley Community Power Program (Villages of Cold Spring, New Paltz, Saugerties, and Nelsonville, Towns of New Paltz, Marbletown, Philipstown, Red Hook, Saugerties, Gardiner, and Rhinebeck, and the City of Poughkeepsie) and six communities in the Rockland Community Power Program (Towns of Orangetown and Clarkstown, Villages of Nyack, Upper Nyack, Haverstraw, and Grand-View-on-Hudson) renewed or launched a CCA program. In our role as local organizing partner CEEP staff answered thousands of calls and emails from residents to assist their transition to the CCA electricity supply, working to increase public understanding of how CCAs work, and why they are



PROGRAMS

important. Former Executive Director Jeff Domanski led multiple in-person and online information sessions for all 20 of these communities, making understanding the CCA process more accessible to all. CEEP also served throughout 2022 and into 2023 as a liaison between community leadership and Joule, ensuring that local leaders understood the program, their options, and the opportunities that community choice aggregation and community solar affords them.



HIGHLIGHTS

As of October 2022, Hudson Valley Community Power and Rockland Community Power have saved 110,700 metric tons of greenhouse gas equivalent emissions from entering the atmosphere as a result of participation in community choice electricity supply offering.

THANK YOU!

None of this year's work would have been possible without the help of our supporters and partners.

SUPPORTERS

Bertha Foundation

JSA

The New World Foundation

The Gate House Team, Compass Real Estate

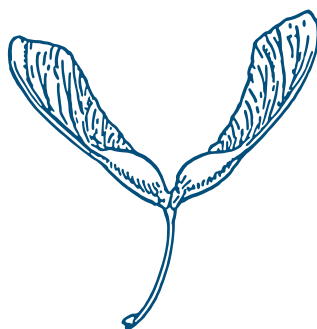
Law Office of Dennis R Vetrano

PARTNERS

Joule Assets

Bard College Graduate Programs in Sustainability

NYSERDA



GET IN TOUCH

Interested in participating in one of our programs, learning more, or donating? A better future is possible, Contact us to get involved with CEEP.

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