



## Our Mission

To create a healthier, more equitable, and environmentally sustainable community by catalyzing local efforts to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions and address the effects of climate change.

## Our Vision

A thriving region on a healthy planet, achieved through bold, systemic climate solutions that promote prosperity and security for all.

The Climate Solutions Accelerator works with both organizations and individuals across the Genesee-Finger Lakes region to expedite climate progress at the local level. We do this by supporting the development of effective leaders, channeling their energy toward impactful, locally-relevant climate solutions, facilitating their efforts to implement these solutions, and removing barriers to progress. Though we primarily focus on systemic issues, we also support individuals and organizations that are striving to lighten their personal carbon footprints.

Because climate impacts and solutions touch nearly every aspect of our lives (e.g., where we live, what we eat, how we travel, how our neighborhoods are designed, and what products and services we use), the Accelerator brings together stakeholders from across sectors to collaboratively define and advance intersectional climate action priorities for our region, using a collective impact approach.

We center equity in our work and prioritize climate solutions that accelerate emissions reductions while also addressing other key community concerns (e.g., health disparities, access to jobs, affordable housing). We are firmly committed to ensuring that ALL members of our community have opportunities to benefit from and participate in climate action at the local level. Building a powerfully diverse climate movement that bridges political, economic, geographic, and racial divides is therefore a critical goal of our work.

## Our Values

- Inclusive
- Nonpartisan
- Solutions-focused
- Collaborative
- Scientifically-informed
- Transparent
- Committed to social, racial, economic, environmental, and intergenerational justice

## Programmatic Priorities

Focus area	Goal	Key activities
Collective Impact	Coordinate and guide diverse, cross-sector stakeholders in collaborative work to identify, prioritize, and implement systemic climate solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene steering committee and work groups</li> <li>• Co-create a common agenda and governance framework</li> <li>• Establish systems for collecting data and tracking progress</li> </ul>
Movement Building	Increase the capacity of community members and organizations to take effective action on climate through leadership development, community organizing, and the provision of resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the development of citizen action teams at the municipal and neighborhood levels</li> <li>• Create toolkits to guide effective action</li> <li>• Provide ongoing training and skill-building opportunities</li> </ul>
Advocacy	Promote effective and just climate policy by activating stakeholders and leveraging relationships with local, state, and federal officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a scientifically-informed policy platform</li> <li>• Build relationships with elected officials throughout the region</li> <li>• Organize advocates to demonstrate support for needed policies</li> </ul>
Implementation Support	Provide organizations and individuals with the tools, information, vision, and coaching they need to implement effective climate solutions within their households and institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a community needs assessment and corresponding program co-design process</li> <li>• Create “spaces” (online and in-person) where community members can access clean energy resources and receive practical implementation support</li> <li>• Develop a structured program for organizations that want to integrate the economic, social, and ecological principles of sustainability into their operations</li> </ul>

## Organizational Development

Focus area	Goal	Key activities
Capabilities and Capacity	Build internal capacity to ramp up and excel at collective impact and other programmatic work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hire additional staff to meet programmatic and administrative needs</li> <li>• Develop policies and procedures that operationalize organizational values and support rapid growth</li> <li>• Identify and adopt technologies that promote efficient, effective work</li> </ul>
Funding and Development	Build a stable base of multi-year funding sources that are sufficient to sustain the work of the organization over time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate local funders about the intersectionality of climate change and other pressing community concerns</li> <li>• Secure significant funding from a diverse range of sources to allow for both organizational growth and long-term stability</li> </ul>
Brand and Visibility	Be an authoritative source of information on local climate issues and widely recognized as a trusted partner and effective advocate for equitable climate solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully roll out, promote, and actualize new brand platform</li> <li>• Build relationships with local media</li> <li>• Transparently share information about our work and the work of the collective impact initiative</li> </ul>