

CONNECTING FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE IN BOULDER COUNTY



A COLLABORATION OF

Naropa
UNIVERSITY

BOULDER dot EARTH

philanthropiece
piecing together a better world

CLIMATE JUSTICE
COLLABORATIVE
Of Boulder County

OUR VISION

Coordinated climate justice efforts uplifting a caring and connected community whose systems support equity, resilience, and well-being for all, including future generations and the rest of the natural world.

OUR MISSION

To foster collaboration and connectivity for justice-based climate action and impact in Boulder County, Colorado. To inform, coordinate, and incentivize collaboration across the climate justice movement, shifting the paradigm of how communities work better together.

THE PROBLEM ... AND THE OPPORTUNITY

Effects of climate chaos are impacting the most marginalized among us, first and most. The root causes of social injustice are also the causes of the climate crises: in Joanna Macy's words, the "Industrial Growth Society" and the sense of separation that fuels it. Local governments, numerous organizations, faith-based communities, businesses, and schools are grappling with historical inequities and shifting gears to mitigate the devastation.

However, independent efforts fall short of the collective participation and systems change needed for a just transition.

The current systems are working as designed. Economic, legal, and social systems are generating monetary wealth for those that they are intended to benefit by exploiting certain humans (primarily Black, Indigenous, people of color, and poor people) as well as animals, plants, and the earth herself. The inseparability of social justice and earth justice movements is clear.

This moment offers the opportunity and the necessity to come together as a full community in support of climate justice.

The wave of the future is on the local level. Don't waste your heart and mind trying to pull down what is already destroying itself, but come into where you are almost below the radar and reorganize life. We want communities where we live and work and fight for the future.

— Joanna Macy



THE HIVE'S ROLE & SOLUTIONS

Weaving a Movement

In an effort to connect conversations, coordinate more effectively, and incentivize collaboration, Naropa University's Joanna Macy Center for Resilience and Regeneration and Boulder Dot Earth have created the **BoCo Climate Justice Hive** to bring together various community-based climate justice efforts.

The Hive collects and shares up-to-date information about who's doing what and where, "cross-pollinating" neighborhoods, communities, and sectors in Boulder County by weaving connections from grassroots to grass-tops and across the non-profit, academic, business, and government worlds.

The Hive is creating an easy-to-navigate, interactive online map of the Boulder County climate justice landscape that can be shared in English and Spanish through any participating organization's website, illustrating formal, informal, and potentially collaborative networks. This online platform is being prototyped in Boulder County with plans to scale and replicate it to benefit other communities.

Climate impacts do not stop at city borders. Boulder County communities are vulnerable and interconnected. For climate action to be successful, collaboration is critical. To best succeed in changing systems and addressing climate emergencies, the Hive is developing better community organizing tools and online technology to work across borders and foster more robust partnerships, changing systems and, even, our relationship to each other and the earth.

Collaborating and working in concert, our potential is far greater than the sum of the parts. To make this happen, coordination and a clear shared vision are necessary.

That is the BoCo Climate Justice Hive.

CURRENT ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACT

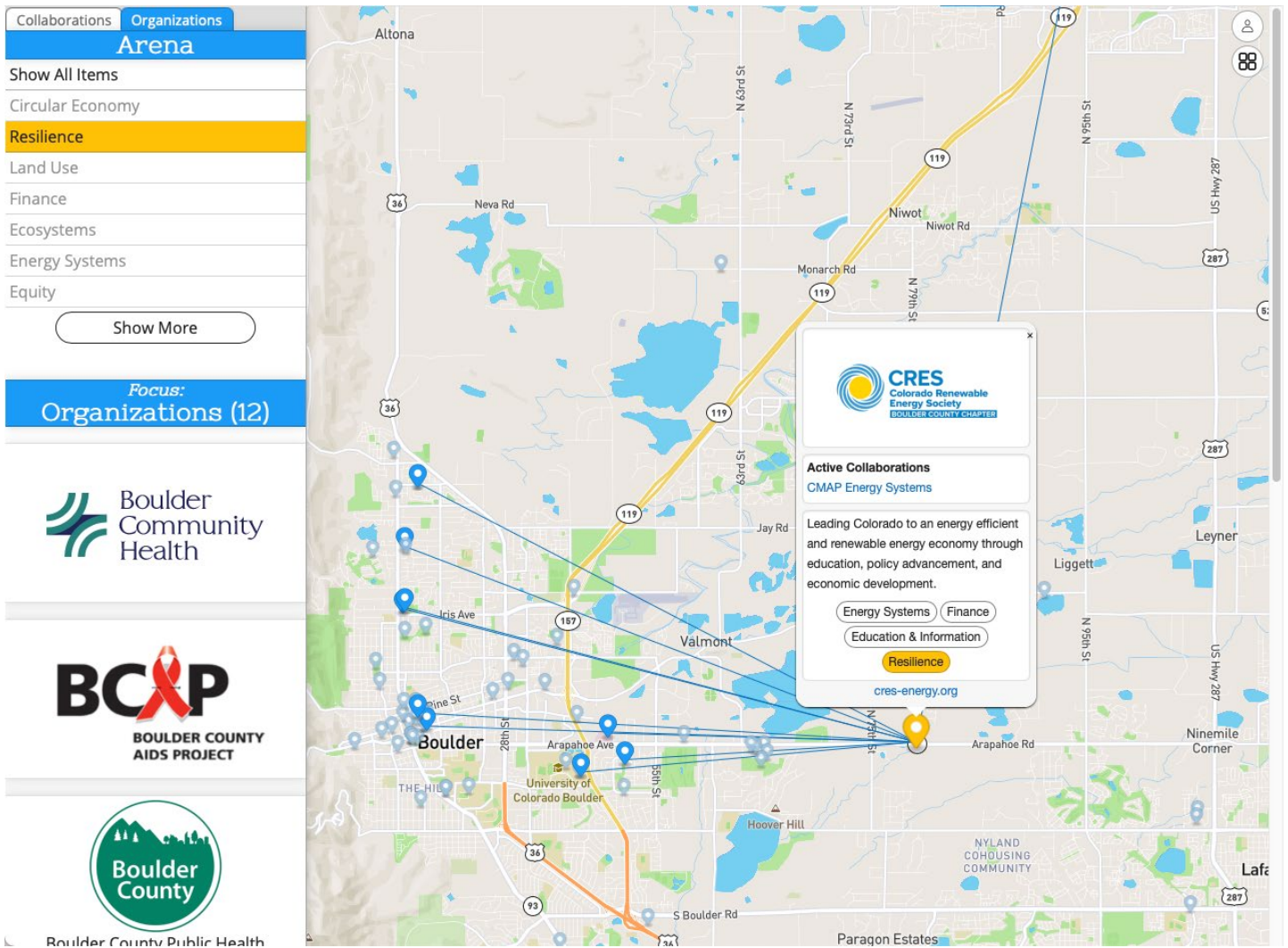
Core projects developed include:

- **Boulder.Earth Website** - Calendar, Directory of Organizations, Actions, Climate Mobilization Action Plan, Topical Sections, Volunteer & Job Listings
- **Boulder.Earth In-Person Community Engagement Gatherings** - Open houses, Tours, Cross-promoted organizational meetings, Boulder StartUp Week hackathon, Residential climate grant awards, Climate engagement workshops
- **Boulder Earthweek** - A collection of events and gatherings in April to celebrate action and collaboration in the community
- **Naropa+Alumnx Climate Mobilization Action Plan initiative** - Engaging relationship with the City of Boulder; Hosting a series of Community Resilience Brown Bag Conversations
- **BoCo Climate Justice Hive** collaboration initiated - Sept 2021
- **Social Ecosystems Map** - A beta online mapping tool of who's doing what and where in Boulder County
- **Climate Justice Collaborative (CJC)** - The Hive has been an instrumental and supportive member



SOCIAL ECOSYSTEMS MAP

Beta online mapping tool of who's doing what and where in Boulder County





REQUEST FOR FUNDING

The BoCo Climate Justice Hive is a joint initiative of the Joanna Macy Center at Naropa University and Boulder Dot Earth, and is fiscally sponsored by the 501c3 non-profit organization Open Collective Foundation. The Hive relies on financial support, in kind goods and donated/discounted services. In order to keep the platform and community growing while building out projected programs, we are looking for community support from investors, philanthropists, foundations, local government, local businesses, and individuals. While our future budget will include income revenue from the online tech tool, we need financial support to get started.

Over the last months, the Hive has gained substantial momentum, strong partnerships, and an increasingly clear trajectory. As the initiative evolves and develops sustainable cycles and financial stability, we are excited to invite you into our Hive: become involved and provide your support. Some of the primary areas your contribution will support include:

- **Community Engagement** - Workshops and gatherings designed to seek community input, weave connections, and share relevant information.
- **Ecosystems Mapping** - The next phase of the mapping project is continuing in 2023, as the mapping scope expands beyond the Climate Justice Collaborative and into other areas and arenas of the county. The mapping work includes both technology and relational components.
- **Climate Justice** - Climate justice is a guiding principle across all areas, including work to help establish values and 2030 benchmarks for climate justice as part of the Climate Justice Collaborative.
- **Boulder.Earth web content** - The calendar keeps community/ies informed of ways to participate and offers a place to track coordination and collaboration. The website also hosts the mapping tool, providing the online resources complement the in-person work.
- **Expanding partnerships** - Part of the Hive's mission is opening silos and bringing diverse people and organizations together. We look for opportunities to bring in new collaborators to be a part of the collective work.

WE WOULD LOVE TO PARTNER WITH YOU!

Equity, resilience, and well-being on a county-wide level for all is not something any entity can achieve alone. Government, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and residents all have a role to play. The work of the Hive is not just to create maps of organizations or to maintain a website of events and actions, but to use technology and in-person organizing to engage and bring people together around what kind of community we want to co-create. We hope you will consider supporting the Hive to showcase current efforts, uplift future collaborations, and spur new action for climate justice.

To contribute, please contact Lodi Siefer at lsiefer@naropa.edu

BOCO CLIMATE JUSTICE HIVE

Boulder.Earth

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*Knowing that you love the earth changes you,
activates you to defend and protect and celebrate.*

*But when you feel that the earth loves you in return,
that feeling transforms the relationship from a one-way street
into a sacred bond.*

— Robin Wall Kimmerer



CONTACTS & WHO WE ARE

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