

Questions received in response to the Request for Proposal: Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Property Management and Resilient NYCHA Workforce. **Answers provided in bold.**

Monday, June 19, 2023

RFP: <https://www.communityfund.nyc/opportunities/sustainable/rfp>

1. Can you provide more information about the existing NYCHA's first Clean Energy Academy and the NYCHA Resident Training Academy? What are some key challenges the programs faced and successful partnerships established in the past?

The [NYCHA Clean Energy Academy](#) seeks to meet the hiring needs of NYCHA's energy efficiency and renewable energy contractors by connecting resident trainees to NYCHA contractors who will be performing nearly \$500 million in retrofit and renewable energy projects at NYCHA developments through 2026. Working directly with potential employers, the Academy will maximize NYCHA resident hires by customizing training curriculum around contractor needs and providing trainees with wrap-around services (such as mental health and other social services) to ensure they have the support necessary to succeed in their new careers and on the job site. The Academy has set a goal to provide 100 public housing residents clean energy job training over two years, and a goal to place at least 64 trainees into clean energy jobs over two years. The first cohort began in April 2023.

During a six week (280 hour) course, NYCHA residents develop the skills to install solar panels, transform heating and cooling systems, install and maintain heat pumps and learn various construction duties in order to perform a key role in transforming both the NYCHA community and our environment. Enrollment is free and trainees earn a \$1,500 stipend for participating.

The curriculum was designed by CUNY's LaGuardia Community College, in consultation with NYCHA.

2. What is the expected level of engagement with current NYCHA residents and caretakers?

Respondents should propose the level of engagement they think would be required to develop a high-quality actionable plan and is feasible within the budget. The minimum expectation is that the hired consultant will engage NYCHA residents and employees in the development of a plan. This could include but is not limited to one-on-one interviews, group discussions, engagement events, surveying, and/or development of a stakeholder advisory group.

3. Are there specific NYCHA developments that will receive a greater focus or priority? Can you provide more information on the factors the consultant should consider?

Consultant should focus on developments that have recently received or will receive sustainability and/or resiliency investments. This includes developments where deployable flood barriers, green infrastructure, organics collection, or other facilities have been installed or are being considered. NYCHA's Sustainability Department will advise on where such work has been completed or is in the planning or construction phases.

4. What support would the Community Fund be able to provide in the outreach to residents and caretakers?

The Fund and NYCHA's Sustainability unit will work closely with the consultant to identify and outreach to NYCHA residents, caretakers and property management supervisors.

5. Will the Community Fund team facilitate introductions with policymakers at the local and federal levels? What is the expected level of engagement from policymakers?

As needed, the Fund and NYCHA will connect the consulting team with policymakers and/or those individuals or agencies responsible for assisting with the goals for this action plan.

6. Are there certifications the two academies are considering or have emerged in some of the ongoing conversations?

The Fund is interested in exploring the creation of a sustainable property management certification that would enable caretakers at NYCHA to receive increased pay to compensate for a higher level of ability to care for sustainability and resiliency features. To maximize economic mobility, the Fund is also interested in the extent to which such a certification could encompass component certifications that would be recognized in private or other government employers.

7. Does the Community Fund have any indicators in mind for a 'high-quality, implementable plan'?

The Fund expects an action plan to be developed through this engagement. The plan should be implementable, providing a roadmap for the Fund and NYCHA to execute.

8. Please confirm that we do not need to submit a budget breakdown for each deliverable.

A budget for each deliverable is not required.

9. For Task "Map NYCHA-led investments to identify pathways into green, sustainable property management careers"... does the fund envision "opportunities outside NYCHA" to mean outside of NYCHA or outside the realm of public government?

Yes, outside the realm of public employment.