

# Community Environmental Council Impact Report

20  
20



Protecting the California Central Coast since 1970

Community  
Environmental  
Council

BOLD CLIMATE ACTION  
ACCIÓN CLIMÁTICA AUDAZ







In 2020, a trifecta of interrelated crises – public health, social justice, and climate-driven natural disasters like extreme heat waves and California’s first gigafire – shone a harsh light on how disasters compound each other, particularly impacting those on the frontlines. Earlier this year, that message was amplified when **the White House officially declared a climate emergency.**

To protect our communities from climate change, we know that **most of the work must be done at the local level.** This effort requires bold policies, strong networks, and the ability to quickly scale up working pilots and programs.


Over the last year, we developed a decisive climate action plan and applied **CEC’s unique approach to change-making** to jump into immediate action.

The result: **CEC grew despite the pandemic** and earned accolades for our critical work, including being named 2020 California Nonprofit of the Year. And we did this while earning the highest grades possible for financial health, accountability, and transparency from Guidestar and Charity Navigator.

This on-the-ground momentum is how **we will reverse the threat of the climate crisis,** transform the systems that fuel it, and safeguard the community from its impacts.

**The times are calling for us to step up.** Please join us.

  
Sigrid Wright  
CEO/Executive Director

  
Barbara Lindemann  
Board President

## Building Rapid and Equitable Climate Solutions

climate

equity



“ For 50 years, CEC has stood out as an environmental leader, both in Santa Barbara County and across California. They understand that issues like the climate crisis are too complex and too big to be solved by a single organization and work collaboratively to treat a healthy environment as both a human right and the foundation for a thriving world. We need the leadership of CEC to build momentum to reverse the threat of the climate crisis and safeguard our communities. Their work today is critical.”

**Monique Limón**

California Senator

transport

energy

food

waste

community

# cec's legacy: 50 years of environmental

For 50 years, CEC has strategically catalyzed change on the Central Coast, influencing California and in turn the nation and world. Often our approach is to innovate or incubate a project, accelerate and bring it to scale, and then fledge it once established. Unique among U.S. environmental groups, we drive change at every level: helping guide robust policy, developing programs and educational events, and activating individuals.

**1970**

## Founded one of the nation's first ecological centers

A group of forward-thinking youths fresh out of college incorporated CEC. Catapulted by devastating impacts of the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill, they hosted a teach-in as 20 million citizens around the country did the same on the first Earth Day.

**1982**

## Hosted a green building competition for CEC headquarters

This contest for cutting-edge sustainability helped move the needle for local environmental design and building technology.

**1990**

## Helped pass the California Integrated Waste Management Act

This game-changing recycling law – the first of its kind in the nation – was influenced heavily by CEC's local efforts. A year later, CEC's founder Paul Relis was appointed to help oversee the law's implementation.

**1976**

## Opened one of the nation's first community recycling centers

As demand grew, CEC opened new sites and operated multiple collection centers across the region before selling them to Marborg Industries in 2004.

**1973**

## Founded one of the nation's first learning and research community gardens

We used our innovative garden as a laboratory for large-scale composting and other healthy farming practices. This led to multiple community gardens, including three that CEC ran for several decades before handing them over to the City of Santa Barbara.

**1985**

## Pioneered hazardous waste collection and curbside recycling programs

These innovative programs became part of our community fabric and were eventually taken over by the County and City of Santa Barbara.

**2001**

## Built the Watershed Resource Center at Arroyo Burro Beach

The flagship center for CEC watershed preservation work addressed ocean pollution. We eventually handed it over to Explore Ecology (formerly Art From Scrap) – one of several nonprofits CEC incubated over the years.

# leadership

## 2003-2004

### Shifted our mission to focus on climate change

Long before a climate movement began to form, CEC recognized the lack of local or regional leadership addressing this existential threat. We made the unprecedented move of selling our headquarters, recycling business, and other assets to refocus all resources on a shift away from fossil fuels.

## 2008

### Developed the Santa Barbara County Transportation Energy Plan

This pivotal publication became the first of five transportation plans that CEC helped develop to rapidly move the tri-counties off of fossil fuels.

## 2010

### Installed the first Rethink the Drink bottle refill station

CEC's creative program to install water refill stations and educate youth on source reduction of single-use plastic bottles continues today. We presently have stations at 103 Central Coast schools (and growing) with 5 million single use bottles prevented and 37,136 students educated.

## 2007

### Published one of the nation's first regional carbon-neutral plans

Our far-reaching plan, titled *A New Energy Direction: A Blueprint for Santa Barbara County*, laid out a path to move the Central Coast away from dependence on fossil fuels in one generation.

## 2011

### Opened the first Solarize program

CEC's affordable, streamlined program for homeowners has led to 858 home solar arrays on the Central Coast. A nonprofit program also began in 2018.

## 2017

### Secured city commitments to 100% renewable energy

Our targeted advocacy led Central Coast cities – currently 19 and growing – to commit to move to 100% renewable energy.

## 2016

### Published the Santa Barbara County Food Action Plan

This community-driven strategic plan laid out a path to build a healthy and sustainable local food system. Spearheaded by CEC and the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, we then joined with other community leaders to cofound the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network to implement the plan's goals.

## 2019

### Secured our region's first windfarm

Our sustained advocacy over 10+ years led to approval of the Strauss Wind Project. Currently under construction, it will provide enough renewable energy to power 43,000 homes.

## 2018

### Achieved Community Choice Energy for the Central Coast

After 10+ years of advocacy, this solution has now been adopted by 21 cities and 3 counties in our region.

# climate

## CEC's Vision: Climate Safe by 2030

CEC is putting the Central Coast – and California – on track for an equitable, climate-safe future with an ambitious plan for how our community can meet this urgent moment, go all in together, and halt the climate crisis. Over this decade, our work will focus on three major efforts.



## 1 reverse

Push ambitious, equitable Zero Carbon goals and ensure the Central Coast has the tools to reach them.





## ② repair

Tap the power of regenerative agriculture and nature-based solutions to remove excess carbon from the atmosphere.



## ③ protect

Spur bold actions to protect vulnerable populations and strengthen communities in the face of climate change.



# equity

## Central Coast Climate Justice Network

**What we do:** We co-founded a network of social justice and environmental organizations and leaders who are expanding our collective power to advance restorative actions and systems change, centering on communities who bear the greatest burden of climate change impacts.

**Why this matters:** People who have been marginalized by deeply-rooted systems of power, oppression, and inequality will be the most disproportionately burdened by climate change, are more sensitive to negative impacts, and have the least resources for resilience.

**185 FRONTLINE**  
**community members**  
gave input on the future of transportation and  
housing in our region







## Community Ambassadors

**What we do:** We work to break down barriers to participating in the climate conversation, sending Community Ambassadors into the field to build relationships and invite in voices of frontline community members.

**Why this matters:** Efforts to develop rapid and equitable solutions to the climate crisis hinge on our ability to engage our full Central Coast community. Historically, frontline communities have not had the voice they deserve in developing these solutions.

| **206** |  
**PARTICIPANTS**  
engaged in bilingual  
webinars centering  
on stories of frontline  
community members

# transport

## Electric Drive 805

**What we do:** We advocate for policies that create communities centered on people not cars, where it is easier to bike, take alternative transportation, or live close to work. We make it easier to choose zero-emission vehicles and equitable transportation solutions.

**Why this matters:** About 50% of the energy used in Santa Barbara County goes to move people and goods, and the cars and trucks on our roads are the largest source of pollution in California. A rapid transition to a zero-emission transportation system helps us end our dependence on fossil fuel, reduce climate impacts, and build better communities.

**950 people** engaged in 4 webinars to learn how all drivers — including low to moderate income earners — can affordably **SWITCH TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

**10,000+**  
**drivers**

learned about  
affordable electric  
vehicles through  
educational events







**\$7.1** million in state funding secured in 2020 with Electric Drive 805 partners to bring **NEW EV CHARGING STATIONS TO SAN LUIS OBISPO, SANTA BARBARA, AND VENTURA COUNTIES** — with at least \$2.5 million dedicated to frontline communities

There are now  
**1,800**  
— PUBLIC —  
**ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS**

in Santa Barbara,  
Ventura, and  
San Luis Obispo  
Counties

# energy

## Solarize

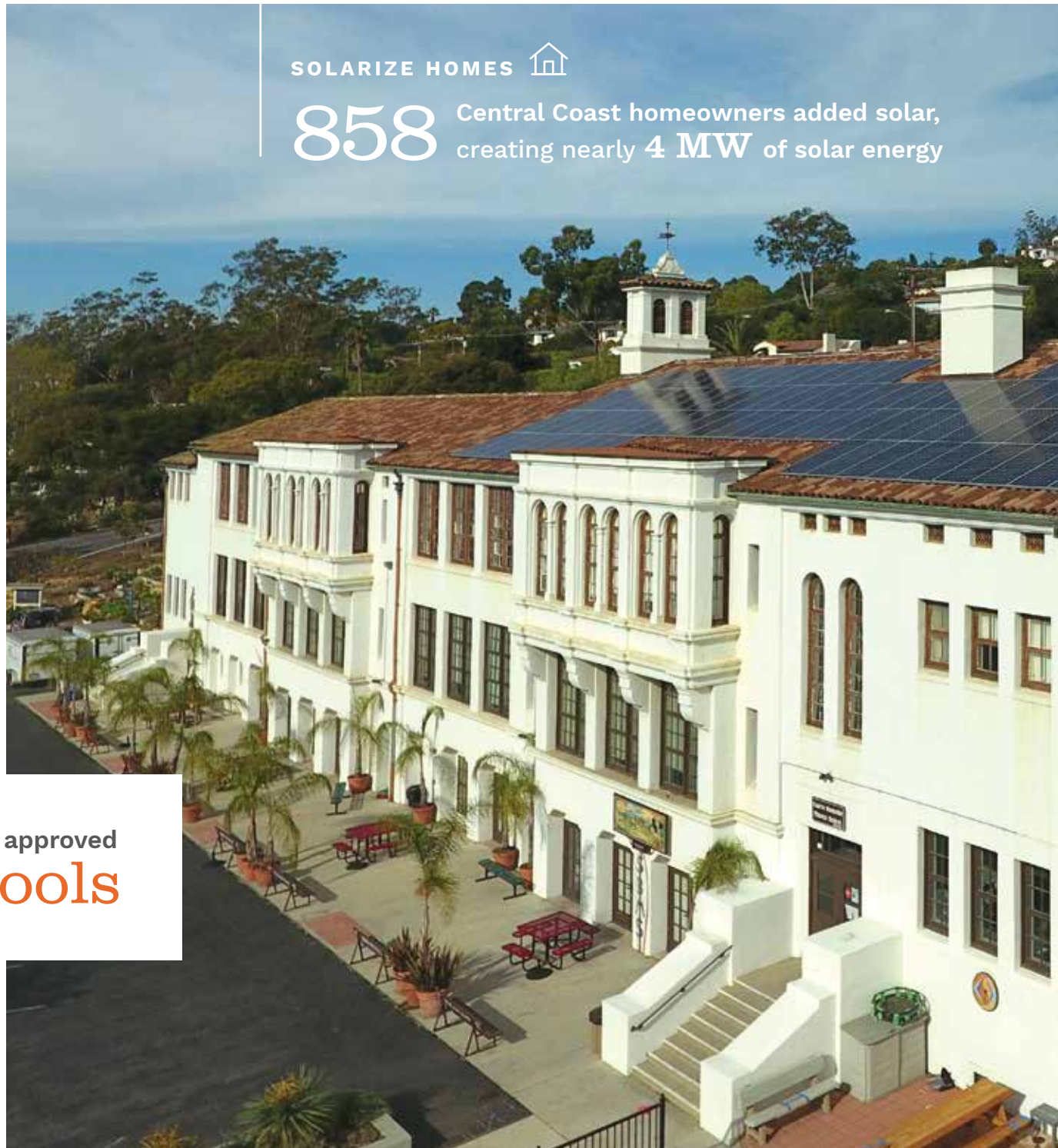
**What we do:** We make it easier and more affordable for homeowners and nonprofits to install solar power and energy storage (battery) systems. We also partner to advocate for greener schools.

**Why this matters:** Solar panels are a powerful grassroots tool to move our region toward 100% renewable energy, but the process and costs make it challenging for individuals and organizations to navigate on their own.

Santa Barbara Unified School District approved **solar for 14 schools** including 6 solar microgrids

SOLARIZE HOMES 

**858** Central Coast homeowners added solar, creating nearly **4 MW** of solar energy







## **SOLARIZE NONPROFIT**

No-upfront cost solar added to

**8 nonprofits**

annually serving

**120,765**

community members

## **Nonprofits Served**

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Boys & Girls Clubs of Mid Central Coast — Santa Maria Campus

Girls Inc. of Carpinteria

Planned Parenthood  
San Luis Obispo

Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition

Santa Barbara Middle School

Santa Barbara Museum of  
Natural History Sea Center

Santa Barbara Rescue  
Mission

Wildling Museum



# energy

## Carbon Neutrality

**What we do:** We advocate for 100% renewable electricity goals and carbon neutrality targets. We partner and run programs to increase the amount of solar energy on the Central Coast, lowering energy bills and reducing carbon footprints.

**Why this matters:** To safeguard our future, we must rapidly move to generating 100% of the electricity that powers our homes, businesses, and cars from clean and renewable sources.

## Secured Carbon Neutrality by 2035

commitment for the City of Santa Barbara

First wind and solar farms  
in Santa Barbara and  
San Luis Obispo Counties

POWERING  
253,000  
HOMES  





# 100% renewable energy by 2030

## GOALS FOR 19 CENTRAL COAST CITIES

Energy choice programs for  
1,395,401 RESIDENTS  
in 21 cities across 3 counties

### Community Choice Energy

**What we do:** We advocate for communities to adopt Community Choice Energy programs, and encourage agencies to set 100% renewable energy goals for their communities.

**Why this matters:** In 2007, CEC published one of the nation's first carbon neutrality plans. In it, we identified Community Choice Energy as the single most effective tool to rapidly move our region to 100% carbon-free electricity.



# food

## SBC Food Rescue

**What we do:** We prevent packaged and restaurant quality prepared food from going to the landfill by partnering with Veggie Rescue to transport it to organizations that feed people facing hunger in Santa Barbara County. In response to COVID-19, we established an information hub to help Santa Barbara County government, nonprofit, and businesses collaboratively problem solve for short- and long-term food needs. This led to innovative partnerships with restaurants, universities, government, and more – and earned CEC’s SBC Food Rescue Coordinator, Julia Devor (formerly Blanton), a Santa Barbara Independent Local Hero Award.

**Why this matters:** About 40% of food produced in the US is never eaten. When this food goes to landfills, it decomposes and produces methane – a greenhouse gas 21 more times potent than carbon dioxide.



OVER  
**161 tons**  
of **EDIBLE FOOD**  
kept from going to the  
landfill to date





— OVER —  
**280,000**  
pounds of food

distributed to  
low-income families  
and others in need  
during COVID-19s

### Food Rescue Recipients

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Buellton Senior Center

Casa Serena

Domestic Violence Solutions

Father Virgil Cordano Center

Food From The Heart

New House

St. Mark's-in-the-Valley Episcopal  
Church – Los Olivos

Veggie Rescue

# food

## Climate-Smart Agriculture

**What we do:** We work to increase the use of carbon farming by demonstrating clear economic and environmental benefits to landowners. We currently run three pilot programs on farms in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, focusing on solutions like applying compost to rangeland and using vermiculture (worm composting).

Along with getting our hands in the dirt to measure for soil health, we also work to overcome regulatory barriers, using our research to advocate for policies that encourage and facilitate climate-smart agricultural practices.

**Why this matters:** To stabilize our climate and ensure ample food supplies, we must significantly scale up climate-safe agriculture over the next decade – pulling carbon out of the air (where it harms us) and storing it in the soil (where it helps us).

**603** ranchers and policymakers  
have attended a CEC on-farm educational event







**181 stakeholders** attended bilingual webinars on projects that directly impact thousands of residents

## SBC Food Action Network

**What we do:** We work to build food resilience on a larger scale. In 2019, we cofounded the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network to connect, align, and activate food system changemakers around developing a robust local food economy, a healthy and just community, and a well-stewarded, resilient foodshed. This network is implementing a countywide, community-driven strategic plan for how we grow, distribute, consume, and dispose of food.

**Why this matters:** To safeguard our community from the impacts of disasters and global stressors like climate change, we must develop a healthy, vibrant, and resilient local food system.

# waste

Helped pass **7 regional laws** that curb the tide on single-use plastic

## Circular Economy

**What we do:** We advance zero waste solutions and advocate for policies that move our region (and society) toward a circular economy, where waste is reimagined as a resource and emissions are eliminated.

**Why this matters:** The production of goods is responsible for 21% of global emissions, and one of the worst polluters – plastics – is on the rise.

**19 tons**  
of film plastic  
**UPCYCLED**







Educated **37,136**  
**STUDENTS AND STAFF**  
at 68 schools on plastic and  
waste reduction

## Rethink the Drink

**What we do:** We help reduce plastic bottle use by providing water filling stations at schools and educating students and staff on how to ditch plastic.

**Why this matters:** Plastic trash is invading every corner of our planet — impacting our waterways, oceans, soil, and alarmingly, even our air as tiny particles of airborne dust. We are literally eating, drinking, and breathing plastic.

**103** school water refill stations have prevented  
**5 million** plastic bottles from going into use

# community

## Climate Resilience Roundtables

**What we do:** In a 15-month series framed around key climate threats to the Central Coast, we convened unconventional cross sections of the community for listening and ideation sessions. Together, we drew out bold ideas for building a more cohesive, community-wide approach to climate resilience and adaptation.

**Why this matters:** Climate impacts have arrived in force and are borne disproportionately by those who are already most vulnerable – frontline workers, communities of color, the homeless, elderly, youth, and those with underlying health issues. The crises of 2020 – climate, pandemic, economic recession, racial violence – have highlighted the ways in which these issues intersect and their impacts compound. We believe there can be no climate resilience without community resilience.

Gathered **700+** community-driven project ideas







**ENGAGED**

**580**

government employees,  
community-based  
organizations, social and  
environmental advocates, community  
leaders, elected officials, and climate  
practitioners in collaborative resilience planning

# community

## Santa Barbara Earth Day

**What we do:** We bring together 30,000+ people each year for the region's largest Earth Day with two+ days of education, entertainment, celebration, and inspiration to propel bold action and convene changemakers for an annual Climate Leadership Summit.

**Why this matters:** In 1970, 20 million Americans – including a newly incorporated CEC – took to the streets and parks on the first Earth Day to learn about how they could protect the environment, creating a national shock wave that fueled rapid and impactful action. This is the kind of inspired action we need today, and it can happen here if we each lean in and commit – to learning, to leading, and to taking bold action every day toward environmental solutions.

**41,000+** participants tuned in  
for CEC's 2020 Earth Day **livestream event**







## Community Education & Activation

**What we do:** We delve deep into resilience with events like bilingual roundtables that center on frontline communities, and we host webinars to keep the Central Coast moving toward solutions for everything from electric vehicles and solar energy to single-use plastic reduction and rescued food.

**Why this matters:** As our community responded to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, CEC remained committed to providing educational events that moved the needle on equitable climate solutions and local resilience.

**17** webinars

(including 5 bilingual  
or Spanish-first)

with **2,430** attendees

# cec people

## Board of Directors

A group of strong advocates providing strategic input for CEC's mission to create local solutions to the challenges of climate change.

**Barbara S. Lindemann**  
*President*

**Catherine Brozowski**  
*Vice President*

**Charles Newman**  
*Vice President*

**Kathy Yeung**  
*Treasurer*

**David N. Pellow**  
*Secretary*

## Board Members At-large

Jon Clark

Christine DeVries

Nadra Ehrman

Carolyn Fitzgerald

Laura Francis

David Jackson

Elliott MacDougall

Pat McElroy

Ivette Peralta

Peter Schuyler

## Board Members Emeritus

Dick Jensen

Marc McGinnes

Paul Relis

Selma Rubin

## President's Council

A group of founders, past directors, and esteemed friends who have given significantly of their time, effort, and resources to the organization.

Dennis Allen

Diane Boss

Laura Capps

Hal Conklin

Dave Davis

Katie Davis

Carla Frisk

Karl Hutterer

Ivor John

John Jostes

Bruce Kendall

Kim Kimbell

Mike Noling

Paul Relis

Michel Saint-Sulpice

Leanne Schlinger

John Steed

Elizabeth Wagner

Sally Warner-Arnett

## Partnership Council

A broad spectrum of community leaders who act as ambassadors to advocate, network, and promote on behalf of CEC.

Karen Brill

Linda Cheresch

Claire Fackler

Kristin Hogue

Cooper Matthieson

Michelle L. Pickett

Wendy Read

Missy Robertson

Stan Roden

Holly Sherwin

Bret A. Stone

Jacob Tell

Sally Terrell

Michelle Weinman

Deborah Williams

## Staff

A rapidly expanding team is building key capacities to meet the challenge of the climate crisis.

**Sigrid Wright**  
*CEO*

Michael Chiacos

Julia Devor

Alhan Diaz-Correa

Danny Ettelson

Melissa Gomez Fontaine

Cameron Gray

Gad Girling

Jennifer Hernández

Joseph Hernandez

Katie Hershfelt

Lisa Javellana Hill

Iris Kelly

Kathi King

Sharyn Main

Sarah Miller

Gina Nisbet

April Price

Ana Rico

Allegra Roth

Becca Summers

Nicole Wald

Sue Walker

Michael Williams







“ Our current climate is marked by year-round fire seasons, extreme heat, mass evacuations, mass blackouts, and unfathomable fire runs measured in acres per second. We need clear thinkers and leaders who can bring people together as a community to tackle the impacts of the climate crisis. This is what CEC does, and why I stand with them.”

### Pat McElroy

Former Chief  
Santa Barbara City Fire Department  
Executive Director, The Partnership for Resilient Communities

# networks & partnerships

**What we do:** Building on 50 years of successful community engagement and leadership in Santa Barbara, CEC has begun expanding its efforts across the Central Coast, growing networks to tackle projects across Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.

**Why this matters:** More than half of all climate actions outlined in international, national, and state climate plans must be implemented at the local or regional level. More importantly, citizens at the local level are best equipped to guide solutions on the ground and ensure that they are implemented equitably. Networks help stitch the community fabric that leads to true community resilience.



## Climate Action

Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara  
Citizens Climate Lobby  
County of Santa Barbara Association of Governments  
Environmental Coalition  
Environmental Defense Center  
Environmental Studies Program at UC Santa Barbara  
Get Oil Out!  
League of Women Voters Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara Bucket Brigade  
Santa Barbara County Green Business Program  
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter  
Society of Fearless Grandmothers  
Sustainable Future

## Carbon Neutrality

Asteri Solar  
Brighten Solar  
California Solar Electric  
Central Coast Green Building Council  
City of Carpinteria  
City of Goleta  
City of Moorpark  
City of Santa Barbara  
City of Thousand Oaks  
City of Ventura  
Clean Coalition  
County of Santa Barbara  
Good Energy Solar  
League of Women Voters\*

Santa Barbara Contractors Assoc. / Green Build SB  
Sespe Power Solutions  
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter\*  
Southern California Edison  
Sun Pacific Solar Electric  
The World Business Academy  
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

## Resilient Food Systems

Allan Hancock College  
Buellton Senior Center  
Cachuma Resource Conservation District  
Casa Serena  
Chumash Casino  
City of Buellton, Public Works  
City of Carpinteria, Public Works  
City of Goleta\*  
City of Lompoc, Public Works, Solid Waste Division  
City of Santa Barbara, Environmental Services  
City of Santa Maria, Utilities Department  
City of Solvang, Public Works  
County of Santa Barbara Public Health Department  
County of Santa Barbara Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division  
Domestic Violence Solutions  
Father Virgil Cordano Center  
Foodbank of County of Santa Barbara



# 2021 cec partners

Gaviota Coast Conservancy  
Lazy Acres Market  
Limoneira Company  
MarBorg Industries  
New House II & III  
Pure Joy Catering  
Santa Barbara City College Foundation  
Santa Barbara Foundation  
Santa Barbara Permaculture Network  
Sarah House  
Social Venture Partners  
Soil Life Services  
Ted Chamberlin Ranch  
University of California Cooperative Extension  
Veggie Rescue  
Ventura County Resource Conservation District  
Wild Farmlands Foundation

## Clean Transportation

Access Clean California  
BikeVentura  
Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)  
Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition  
Coalition for Sustainable Transportation  
County of Santa Barbara Association of Governments (SBCAG)\*  
County of Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control District  
CycleMAYnia  
Ecology Action

Electric Drive 805  
EV Advocates of Ventura County  
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator  
Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP)  
Port of Hueneme  
San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District  
Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition  
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter\*  
Southern California Edison Clean Energy Access Working Group  
Traffic Solutions  
Ventura County Air Pollution Control District  
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance\*

## Circular Economy

Ablitt's Fine Cleaners and Tailors  
Adams Elementary School  
Adams Elementary School Ocean Guardian Ambassadors  
Brittingham Family Foundation  
City of Santa Barbara  
Johnson Ohana Foundation  
Kellogg Elementary Ocean Guardian Ambassadors  
Kermit McKenzie Intermediate School  
La Colina Junior High

Mary Buren Elementary School, Guadalupe  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper  
Santa Barbara School Board Sustainability Committee  
St. Joseph High School, Santa Maria  
Surfrider, Isla Vista Chapter  
UCSB Associated Students Coastal Fund  
UCSB Environmental Affairs Board

## Climate Justice & Resilience

350.org Santa Barbara  
Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation  
Central Coast Climate Collaborative  
Central Coast Sustainability Summit  
Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)  
Central Coast Climate Justice Network  
City of Santa Barbara  
County of Santa Barbara  
County of Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control District  
County of Santa Barbara Sustainability Division  
Environmental & Climate Justice Studies Research Hub at UC Santa Barbara  
Environmental Defense Center\*

Food & Water Watch  
Fund for Santa Barbara  
Future Leaders of America  
James S. Bower Foundation  
Healing Justice Santa Barbara  
LegacyWorks Group  
Los Padres Forest Watch  
Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP)  
One Community Bridge Project  
One Step a la Vez  
Santa Barbara Bucket Brigade  
Santa Barbara Foundation  
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History  
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians  
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, Environmental Office  
Sea Forward Foundation  
Sierra Club Los Padres Chapter\*  
Standing Up for Racial Justice - Ventura County (SURJ-VC)  
State Coastal Conservancy

## Earth Day

Advanced Veterinary Specialists  
Armand Hammer Foundation  
Bunnin Chevrolet  
Bye Bye Mattress  
Carp Events\*  
Carp Growers

Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition (C5)  
Central Coast Community Energy  
City of Santa Barbara  
County of Santa Barbara One Climate Initiative  
Cultivate Events\*  
Edhat\*  
Explore Ecology\*  
Farmacy  
Glass House Farms  
Hope Ranch Living\*  
KJEE\*  
Lazy Acres  
LOACOM  
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator  
Marborg Industries  
Mercury Press International\*  
New Noise Music Foundation\*  
Noozhawk\*, Voice Magazine\*  
Oniracom\*  
Pharos Creative\*  
Quantum Energy Squares  
Santa Barbara Clean Energy  
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District  
Santa Barbara Independent\*  
Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3-CREN)  
UCSB Arts & Lectures\*  
West Beach Films\*  
Will Hahn Productions\*  
Write Kinda Girl\*

\*denotes in-kind donation

# donors 2020

**We use your gifts wisely and consistently receive the highest grades possible for financial health, accountability, and transparency from Guidestar and Charity Navigator.**

## **Eco Trailblazers**

Bentson Foundation  
James S. Bower Foundation  
Bonnie J. Jensen  
in honor of Dick Jensen  
Living Peace Foundation  
McCune Foundation  
John C. Mithun Foundation  
Charles Stuart Mott  
Foundation  
Betsy and Charles Newman  
Michel Saint-Sulpice  
Santa Barbara Foundation  
Schlinger Family Foundation  
Sea Forward Fund  
Suzanne and John Steed  
The Yardi Foundation  
Zegar Family Foundation

## **Eco Innovators**

Bank of America Foundation  
Leslie and Ashish Bhutani  
Cachuma Resource  
Conservation District  
California Coastal Conservancy  
City of Santa Barbara  
Sheila and Tom Cullen  
El Gato Channel Foundation  
Roger S. Firestone Foundation  
Carolyn and Andrew Fitzgerald  
Hutton Parker Foundation

Barbara and Albert Lindemann  
MarBorg Industries  
Natalie Orfaea Foundation  
Mary Hilderman Smith  
Southern California Edison  
The White Family

## **Eco Sustainers**

Ann Jackson Family  
Foundation  
Diane Boss  
Bragg Health Foundation  
Charla Brown  
and Robert Burnett  
Carp Growers  
Katie Davis and Albert Oaten  
Dongiuex Family Fund  
Brook and Jasper Eiler  
Emily and Dan Engel  
Farmacy  
Foodbank of Santa Barbara  
County  
Frank and Joseph Gila Fund  
Nancy and Karl Hutterer  
Kaplan Family Foundation  
Michelle and Bruce Kendall  
Kim Kimbell  
LegacyWorks \*  
LOACOM \*  
Elliott MacDougall  
Debora and John McClure  
Oniracom \*

Outhwaite Charitable Trust  
The Roddick Foundation  
Bob Sollen  
The Towbes Foundation  
Union Bank Foundation  
Sally Warner-Arnett  
and Dr. G. William Arnett  
Elizabeth Weber  
Katherine  
and Stephanie Yeung  
Merryl and Chuck Zegar

## **Eco Warriors**

Advanced Veterinary  
Specialists  
Jennifer Cushnie  
and Dennis Allen  
Anonymous  
Brittingham Family Foundation  
Laura Capps  
Coastal Fund/UCSB Associated  
Students  
Sharon Granoff  
Armand Hammer Foundation  
Karen and John Jostes  
Ruth Loomer  
M & M Foundation  
Bonnie and Pat McElroy  
Montecito Bank & Trust  
PHAROS Creative \*  
Santa Barbara County Air  
Pollution Control District  
Shryne Group  
Roxanna and Randy Solakian  
Jack Theimer  
Tomchin Family Foundation  
Joan and Edward Tomeo  
Warren Weber  
and Amy Nathan Weber  
Heidi Jensen Winston  
Laura and Geof Wyatt

## **Eco Angels**

Whitney Abbott  
and Murray McTigue  
Brier and Kent Allebrand  
B & B Foundation  
Amy and Glenn Bacheller  
Emma Bridges  
Karen and Peter Brill  
Buddha Properties  
Bye Bye Mattress  
Julie Capritto  
Malinda and Yvon Chouinard  
Marcia and John Mike Cohen  
Corwin Denny Foundation  
Cox Communications  
Jean and Dave Davis  
Anna and David DeLaski  
Chris and Robert DeVries  
Nadra Ehrman  
Julie Hendricks  
and Brian Fahnestock  
Chris Gallo  
Aurora and Rick Grimm  
Lee Heller  
Victoria Hendler  
Hendricks-Felton Foundation  
Van Hensen  
Kristin and Richard Hogue  
Jennifer Hulford  
Johnson Ohana Foundation  
Kiah Jordan  
Martha and Edward Kaufman  
Marsha Kotlyar  
and William Harris  
The Lark  
Lucky Penny  
Janet McGinnis  
Jessica and Michael  
McLernon  
Gloria and John McManus

MedBridge  
Sharon Metsch  
Betty and Mike Noling  
Gail Osherenko  
and Oran Young  
Lisa Park and David N. Pellow  
Stacy and Ron Pulice  
Carrie and Mike Randolph  
Paul Relis  
Justine Roddick  
and Tina Schlieske  
Lynn Sarko  
and Laurie Ashton  
Jo and Ken Saxon  
Holly and Lanny Sherwin  
Natali and Michael Smith  
Gene Urban  
Molly and John Vowels  
Elizabeth and Nate Wagner  
Pegeen and Kevin White  
Deborah Williams  
and Rance Wall  
Carolyn Cogan and Jules  
Zimmer  
Danna and Zohar Ziv

## **Eco Heroes**

Anne Adams  
Sherri and Ronald Adler  
Jill and Corey Anderson  
W. Elliot Brownlee  
Catherine Brozowski  
and Steve Conner  
Dinah and Ricardo Calderon  
Connor Casey  
Marni and Michael Cooney  
Simon D'Arcy  
Michael Dean  
Ann Dusenberry  
and Brad Fiedel  
Sally and Terry Eagle



Kate Edwardson  
Judy and Rob Egenolf  
Robert Else  
Cass Enberg and Tom Jacobs  
Joan Hartmann  
Helena Avenue Bakery  
Dan Higgins  
Helena and Gary Hill  
Vijaya and Rao  
Jammalamadaka  
John Kruger  
Dan'l Lewin  
Loquita  
Bob Marshall  
Marc McGinnes  
Laura and Russell McGlothlin  
Kimberly Monda  
Lawrence C Ng  
Family Foundation  
Northrup Grummen  
Wendi Ostroff  
Pacific Capital Resources  
Constance Penley  
Victoria Riskin  
and David Rintels  
Susan Rose  
Santa Barbara Yoga Center  
Christiane Schlumberger  
Elisa Stratton  
and Peter Schuyler  
George Sherwin  
Karen and  
David Telleen-Lawton  
Lois Phillips  
and Dennis Thompson  
Bicky Townsend  
Amy Zak-Urban  
Carol Vernon  
Lawrence Wallin  
Betty Warner  
Nancy Wilkerson

DJ and Diana Wold  
Todd and Cindy Young

### Eco Partners

Elisa and Joseph Atwill  
Monica and Tim Babich  
Chelsea, Don  
and Cam Campbell  
Jackie Carrera  
Susan and Claude Case  
Maxine Chadwick  
Kate and Josh Chassman  
Charu Chaubal  
Sonya and Michael Chiacos  
Phillip Fine  
Chuck Flacks  
Mary Howe-Grant  
Daniel Gunther  
Jane and Jeffrey Hankoff  
Barbara Harthorn  
Jean Holmes  
Joan and Colin Jones  
Carol Keator  
Sharon Keigher  
Hugh Kelly  
Beryl and Neil Kreisel  
Jennifer LeMay  
Sharyn Main  
and Jim Hodgson  
Joan and Bill Murdoch  
Anne Newman  
Pacific Rim Adventures  
Joan Pascal and Ted Rhodes  
Alex Petronakis  
Wendy and James Read  
Kristen and Aaron Ritter  
Beth and Richard Rogers  
Sally Terrell  
Stacey and Chris Ulep  
Cash Upton

### Eco Friends

Acme Markets  
Rebecca and Peter Adams  
Mary Alburger  
Diane Alexander  
James Arthur  
Molly Barnes  
Brandon Bartlette  
Jonathan Baty  
Dianne and David Black  
Bonnie Blau  
Sandra Grasso-Boyd  
and Bill Boyd  
Elizabeth Brown  
Susan Burns  
Julie Lopp and Don Bushnell  
Nancy Caponi  
Sue and Jeff Carmody  
Lisa Chouinard  
Isabella and Caldecot Chubb  
Rabbi Stephen  
and Marian Cohen  
Katherine and Stanley Cowell  
Wendy Crandall  
Patricia Craychee  
Alea and Bob Cunningham  
Carla D'Antonio  
Robert Dautch  
Adrienne and Andy Davis  
Donald Davis  
Randall Day  
Mimi DeGruy  
Roberta DeVries  
Joan Dewberry  
Claire and Lars Fackler  
Gail Fairburn  
Kelly Ferguson  
and Brian Schmandt  
Joyce and Terry Fernandez  
Lena Firestone

Charles Forslund  
Nancy Franco  
and Donald Olson  
Carla Frisk and Jeffrey  
Newton  
Tish Gainey  
Connie Gillies  
Frances Gilliland  
Randy Glick  
Penelope and Andrew  
Gottlieb  
Ada Grace  
Donna Grubisic  
Donna Harris  
Jerry Hatchett  
Mary Heyden  
Anthony Hickling  
Jane and Terry Honikman  
Melissa Hummer  
and Michelle Howard  
Jayne lafrate  
Paula Burnham Johnson  
Tim Johnson  
Laura Macker Johnston  
William Kauth  
Anne Kelly  
David Landecker  
Dr. and Mrs. William Lannan  
Van Latham  
Elizabeth Leddy  
Jefferson Litten  
Linda Locker  
Bruce Luyendyk  
Cynthia Manzer  
Jackie Marston  
Matter Family Office  
Sharon Mckenzie  
Megan Miley  
Hale and Anne Milgrim  
Lana Mohtashemi

Angela Moll  
David Moore  
Gordon Morrell  
Allen Mosher  
Nancy Mulholland  
Carol Murray  
Jeanette and Robert  
Mustacich  
Julie Hayes-Nadler  
Steve Nelson  
Adrienne and John O'Donnell  
Susan Parker  
Laurie Paule  
Susan Petrovich  
Jeff Phillips  
Sarah Pizzaruso  
Beata and Timothy Rose  
Santa Barbara Permaculture  
Network  
Joshua Schimel  
Jean Sedar  
Sparks Photo Graphic Arts  
Judi Stauffer  
and Rick Hubbard  
David Stone  
Danielle and Bret Stone  
Jacob Tell  
Lila Trachtenberg  
and George Handler  
Shelley and Kemmy Van Zant  
Natalia and Michael Williams  
Lorraine Woodman  
Roberta and Bob Wright  
Jill Zachary

\*denotes in-kind  
donation

# financials



## Community Environmental Council Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2020 (with comparative totals for 2019)

	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 508,844	\$ 139,221
Accounts Receivable	191,656	229,590
Contributions Receivable	167,233	50,649
Other Receivable	18,500	16,730
Prepaid Expenses	12,366	17,259
Fixed Assets, Net	2,045	2,861
Endowment Assets		
Endowment Investments	2,680,746	2,530,687
Investment in General Partnership	220,000	290,000
Total Endowment Investments	2,900,746	2,820,687
Total Assets	\$ 3,801,390	\$ 3,276,997
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 75,571	\$ 90,214
Accrued Expenses	40,441	34,367
Deferred Income	15,000	10,000
Unrelated Business Income Tax Payable	-	9,271
Total Liabilities	131,012	143,852
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without Donor Restriction		
Undesignated	530,894	221,582
Board-Designated Quasi-Endowment	2,770,239	2,690,180
	3,301,133	2,911,762
With Donor Restrictions		
Purpose Restrictions	238,738	90,876
Perpetual in Nature - Endowment	130,507	130,507
	369,245	221,383
Total Net Assets	3,670,378	3,133,145
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 3,801,390	\$ 3,276,997



**Community Environmental Council**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**December 31, 2020**  
(with comparative totals for 2019)

	2020			2019
	Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	TOTAL	TOTAL
<b>OPERATING</b>				
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>				
Special Events, Gross	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ 229,763
Less: Direct Costs	(6,466)	-	(6,466)	(120,668)
Special Events, Net	(6,466)	-	(6,466)	109,095
Contributions	702,148	54,763	756,911	439,069
Forgiven PPP SBA Loan	135,895	-	135,895	-
Grants and Contracts (Private)	4,999	454,327	459,326	175,653
<i>Total Public Support</i>	836,576	509,090	1,345,666	723,817
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Government Contracts	\$ 371,295	-	\$ 371,295	\$ 452,711
Earth Day Program	63,380	-	63,380	249,899
Solarize Program	51,162	-	51,162	51,644
<i>Total Public Support and Revenue</i>	1,322,413	509,090	1,831,503	1,478,071
<i>Net Assets Released from Restriction</i>	371,228	(371,228)	-	-
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
PROGRAM SERVICES	1,383,361	-	1,383,361	1,318,421
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
Management and General	212,299	-	212,299	187,916
Fundraising	257,955	-	257,955	246,490
<i>Total Supporting Services</i>	470,254	-	470,254	434,405
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	1,853,615	-	1,853,615	1,752,827
<i>Change in Net Assets from Operating Activities</i>	(159,974)	137,862	(22,112)	(274,756)

**Community Environmental Council**  
**Statement of Activities (cont.)**  
**December 31, 2020**  
(with comparative totals for 2019)

	2020			2019
	Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	TOTAL	TOTAL
<b>NONOPERATING</b>				
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>				
50th Anniversary Campaign	\$ 322,500	10,000	\$ 332,500	-
Investment Income (Loss)	396,874	-	396,874	\$ 491,150
Distribution from Investment in WBIG	-	-	-	79,992
Change in Valuation of Investment in WBIG	(70,000)	-	(70,000)	-
<b>Total Nonoperating Public Support and Revenue</b>	649,374	10,000	659,374	571,142
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Strategic Planning	47,449	-	47,449	76,375
Depreciation	816	-	816	1,094
Unrelated Business Tax	10,664	-	10,664	-
Bad Debt	-	-	-	6,000
50th Anniversary Campaign Expenses	41,100	-	41,100	-
<b>Total Nonoperating Expense</b>	100,029	-	100,029	83,469
<b>Change in Net Assets from Nonoperating Activities</b>	549,345	10,000	559,345	487,673
<b>Total Change in Net Assets</b>	389,371	147,862	537,233	212,917
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	2,911,762	221,383	3,133,145	2,920,228
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	\$ 3,301,133	\$ 369,245	\$ 3,670,378	\$ 3,133,145





“CEC’s leadership has been critical to launching the Central Coast Climate Justice Network. Their climate work sets the tone and pace for making the Central Coast a more equitable, resilient place to live, and we are a better community because of them.”

**Marcos Vargas**

Executive Director,  
Fund for Santa Barbara

“Having worked with and for community-based nonprofits for most of my career, CEC stands out as a consistent leader. It is clear in its mission, bold in its actions, and always willing to partner with others. CEC has reinvented itself several times over the past half century, always with the goal of ensuring that the work is relevant to the moment. The CEC team’s ability to build trust is unparalleled, and they set a high bar not just for environmental work, but for what it means to truly serve the community.”

**Geoff Green**

CEO, Santa Barbara City College Foundation  
Former Board President, CalNonprofits

# 50th anniversary campaign

CEC's Board of Directors has launched a \$15 million campaign to accelerate the pace that CEC can implement new initiatives. The campaign is chaired by Jon Clark of the James S. Bower Foundation and Merryl and Chuck Zegar.

## A Pivotal Moment for Action

As climate threats accelerate and compound, the stakes are high and require a massive, collaborative effort to put the tri-county region on a climate-safe path by 2030. CEC's forward-thinking, whole systems approach to the climate crisis has earned us a regional reputation as an innovator, thought leader, advocate, and coalition builder. We are uniquely positioned and prepared to seize this pivotal moment for action with a bold plan to rapidly deploy equitable climate solutions and build regional capacity for climate action. We invite individuals, foundations, and corporations to join our legacy of impact and invest in our vision to create a vibrant, resilient Central Coast where all people thrive in balance with nature.

**“** CEC has shown results again and again through policy wins and real world action. They think big and they think long-term, and that's why they're the organization to watch.”

**Jon Clark**

President, James S. Bower Foundation  
Co-chair, CEC 50th Anniversary Campaign  
CEC Board Member







“ CEC enables the Central Coast to be a fulcrum of environmental progress that propels California, and with it, the world.”

**Michael Smith**

Honorary Committee Member  
CEC 50th Anniversary Campaign

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**Our approach to making change is unique among environmental nonprofits.**

**We build grassroots programs, educate the community on issues, and advocate for bold policies.**

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# cec accolades

During our 50th anniversary year, CEC worked to build resilience, including for our most vulnerable communities, while pushing ambitious climate targets. Awards from the state, city, and local journalists underscored that our work is more critical to the community than ever.

## 2020 California Nonprofit of the Year

Highest grades possible on Guidestar  
and Charity Navigator for financial health,  
accountability, and transparency



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## 2020 City of Santa Barbara Climate Hero

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## 2020 Santa Barbara Independent Local Hero

**Julia Devor,**  
SBC Food Rescue Coordinator

# cec builds on-the-ground momentum to reverse the threat of the climate crisis.

We transform the systems that fuel it.  
We safeguard the community from its impacts.  
We lead, we partner, we act.  
And every day, we move people to create a more resilient Central Coast.

## join our family

Create Climate Resilience On The Central Coast

### DONATE AND SPONSOR

Donate One-Time Or Monthly Gifts  
[cecsb.org/donate](https://cecsb.org/donate)  
or text GIVE to 805-600-3360

Sponsor Earth Day, Events & Webinars  
[cecsb.org/sponsor](https://cecsb.org/sponsor)

Make A Legacy Gift  
[cecsb.org/cec-legacy](https://cecsb.org/cec-legacy)

### FOLLOW & SHARE

#cecsb social media

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### GET INVOLVED

Attend CEC Events & Webinars  
[cecsb.org/events](https://cecsb.org/events)

Join Our Mailing List  
[cecsb.org](https://cecsb.org)

1219 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
[www.cecsb.org](https://www.cecsb.org) | 805-963-0583  
EIN: 94-1728064



Learn more at [cecsb.org](https://cecsb.org)

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