



## **Just Energy Circle**

### **Who We Are**

The Just Energy Circle is an inspiring, morally-grounded collaborative effort that empowers sustainable, self-sufficient communities and participation in developing clean energy solutions that benefit everyone. Our circle seeks to inspire new, diverse, authentic leadership that is recognized in prominent decision-making positions in both civic and private sectors. We aim to establish structures to ensure that energy opportunities are available to all, including low-income protections, fair prices, freedom from negative health impacts, and access to employment. We represent an ecosystem of diverse business, political, and community interests. We believe that this approach is the future of the sustainability movement, and that the future of our communities is dependent upon “Just Energy” for all.

### **Shared Vision**

Energy equity is the fair distribution of the benefits and burdens of our energy production and consumption. Communities of color and low-income communities are more likely to be exposed to air pollution from coal plants, are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, and stand to benefit the most from energy efficiency and employment programs that help lower bills. Unfortunately, these communities are underrepresented in Georgia’s electricity planning process. In order to ensure that we use electricity efficiently and reduce the negative impact of its production on vulnerable communities, utility-planning processes must include authentic community engagement, participation and leadership from the full scope of Georgia communities.

### **Values**

1. We believe that community engagement is vital for the progression of self-sufficient people & neighborhoods.
2. We believe in access to high quality energy at a fair price for all.
3. We believe in sustainable relationships, partners & solutions for ever-pressing issues in the American South.
4. We believe in transparency and accountability on behalf of energy providers.
5. We believe that equity accessibility should be the principal growth model for the American South.
6. We believe in honoring the idea that all people have a part to play in our emerging green sector economy.
7. We believe in utilizing and leveraging a combination of the best field and scientific research to find the best energy solutions.

### **Activity Areas - 2015 – 2016**

- Just Equity Forum
- Place-Based “EE” Summits
- Legislative Education & Outreach