

climate. science. action.

CLIMABLE

— .ORG —

2021
Annual
Report

Letter From Our Executive Director

Another year in the books!

As we continued to navigate the pandemic, 2021 had its ups and downs. I am proud of our Climable team for handling multiple challenges with style and grace. When I stop to reflect on our mission of making clean energy and climate science understandable, accessible, and actionable for all, I am heartened to know that all our projects tackle this in some way. From our clean energy literacy work in Cambridge, to our middle school curriculum, our work with Brown's Climate & Development Lab, and our community microgrids in Chelsea and Chinatown, our team has grown alongside our partners with the work we do.

This year, our small but mighty team expanded our efforts in climate education and community outreach through multiple avenues of communications. We helped advance the RUN-GJC community microgrid projects in Chelsea and Chinatown by securing grant funding, selecting a contractor for the project, and hiring a microgrid manager. With some (big!) help from vaccines, we had the opportunity to return to in-person work and events, hosting our fourth CLIMAPALOOZA!

We received a generous grant from Mitsubishi Corporation to build a curriculum for middle school students on climate science and clean energy. We also met our \$10,000 year-end goal, allowing us to receive a matching donation from an anonymous donor, doubling our 2021 year-end fundraising total. This match will help fund our Puerto Rico microgrid project, Loíza FE, allowing us to move forward with implementation in 2022.

I want to thank you for your continued support of Climable. Your donations of time and resources have been invaluable to our team. We are extremely grateful and excited for what's ahead.

Jean Ann Ramey

Executive Director, Climable



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2021 Highlights

Climable's goal is to achieve climate resilience and energy democracy. To us, energy democracy allows everyone to participate meaningfully in—and have a say over—their energy sources and energy future. We make strides towards our goal by empowering individuals to combat climate change while preparing for its impacts.

In 2021, we continued to pursue our mission through stronger communications, advancing our clean energy accessibility projects, and educational campaigns.





Communications



This year, we wrote 14 blogs on topics ranging from Biden’s infrastructure plan, to disaster capitalism, to a review of Ayanna Elizabeth Johnson and Katherine K. Wilkinson’s awe-inspiring book, *All We Can Save*.



We also released two series on our podcast *Behind the Switch: Youth in Action* and *Resilient Puerto Rico*. In our Youth in Action series, we spoke to inspiring young environmentalists, such as Boston-area fashion designers, college campus leaders, composting aficionados, and Cambridge high school students showing folks that climate action can start small. *Resilient Puerto Rico*, our current series active through March 2022, investigates energy justice, solar energy accessibility, community resilience, and other related topics in Puerto Rico.

| Platform | Percentage Increase in Engagement |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Facebook | 3.03% |
| Soundcloud | 7.69% |
| Instagram | 10.94% |
| Newsletter | 14.44% |
| Monthly Website Visitors | 17.37% |
| Youtube | 17.65% |
| Twitter | 18.83% |
| LinkedIn | 51.42% |

On social media, we saw an increase in engagement across platforms, compared to 2020.

Collab with Future Leaders



A major part of Climable's work involves introducing students and future leaders to the energy and environmental sectors through our internship program. Funding from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) gives us the opportunity to work with Boston-area students passionate about climate action. This year, we hired six interns through the MassCEC program. We were also joined by two six-month co-ops from Northeastern University. Our interns and co-ops are integral members of the Climable team and critical to the success of our various projects.

In the fall, we launched the Internship Program for Environmental Justice, in collaboration with Synapse Energy Economics and funded by the Energy Foundation. The aim of this internship is to introduce undergraduate and graduate students from historically excluded communities to the energy industry, with a particular focus on expert witness testimony.

My internship has taught me how to **communicate in an engaging and accessible way**. With so many technical and systemic barriers in the world of climate action and clean energy, overcoming jargon and complex language is essential for a **just and equitable future for all**. I believe full-heartedly in our mission to **empower communities** with control over their own energy and climate resilience and I am over the moon about starting full-time with Climable in 2022.

- Sophie Kelly

Former Co-op & Current Program Manager





Clean Energy Accessibility

Chelsea

In 2021, we continued to advocate for microgrid projects in Chelsea and Chinatown as part of the Resilient Urban Neighborhoods technical team. In Chelsea, we helped the City secure major grants from the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness and Green Communities state grant programs. These grants will fund the first phase of the microgrid initiative to support City Hall, Police Department, and an affordable housing unit owned by The Neighborhood Developers (TND), a community development corporation based in Chelsea. We also assisted the City of Chelsea in issuing a Request for Qualifications for the project. In doing so, we helped review different contractors and supported the selection process for the microgrid's contractor. Lastly, we completed the first phase of a clean energy literacy campaign!

Chinatown

This year, Chinatown Power, Inc. was incorporated and will govern the microgrid project in Chinatown. Climable supported the Chinatown project by participating in all 2021 board meetings and helping write the RFI and RFP to solicit bids for the first phase of the microgrid. We attended walk-throughs with potential bidders, looking for opportunities for energy efficiency and renewables. In the final months of 2021, we actively participated in the hiring process for a microgrid manager who will split their time in 2022 and beyond between the microgrids in Chelsea and Chinatown.

Loíza, Puerto Rico

Thanks to a year of successful fundraising from 2021 that led to the generous end of the year matching grant we received, we now have the funds to complete our microgrid project. A portion of our matching grant will help meet the fundraising goal to complete this project.

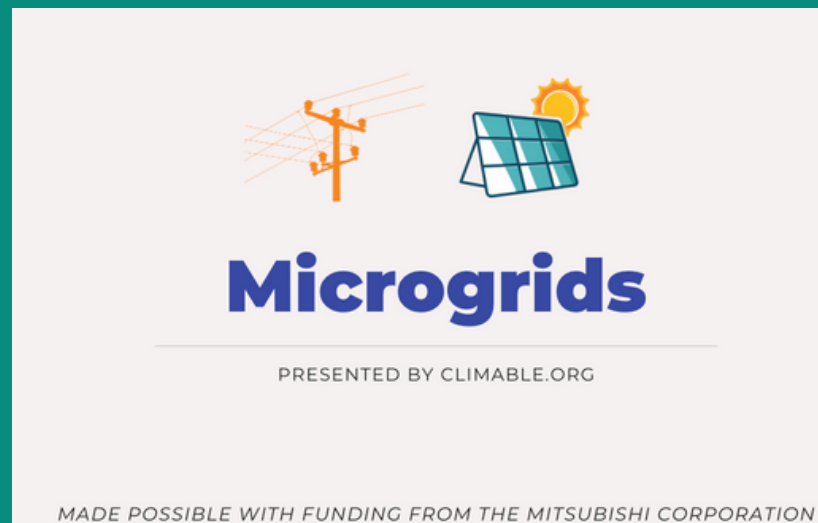


Cambridge

Throughout 2021, we continued our work with the City of Cambridge with an energy literacy campaign focusing on community microgrids and energy efficiency. In collaboration with All In Energy, Cambridge Energy Alliance, and the Cambridge Community Development Department, we launched a social media series focused on the personal and community benefits of clean, energy efficient microgrids. Topics range from the basics of a microgrid structure to energy efficiency upgrades you can make in your home. All materials were made available in the seven languages spoken the most in The Port neighborhood. We also have embarked on a door-to-door outreach campaign to local businesses in The Port and are looking forward to continuing this work in 2022.

Clean Energy Curriculum

In 2021, we received a generous donation from Mitsubishi Corporation to develop a clean energy and climate science-related curriculum for 5th and 6th grade students. Our goal is to engage students on these increasingly crucial topics and empower the next generation to pursue climate action with more vigor. As 2021 came to a close, we wrapped up the creation of lessons focusing on the technical topics of renewable energy, energy efficiency, microgrids and climate change. The materials highlight the policy, innovation, and direct impacts occurring within New England, and more specifically Boston. In December, we put together a Teacher Advisory Board to review our curriculum materials and share feedback. An additional focus group will allow us to gather responses from 5th and 6th grade students themselves. Meetings will continue in 2022 and we are looking forward to refining this valuable content. In the coming months, we are excited to be developing new relationships with educators in the Boston area to engage students on these critical topics!



Events and Sponsorships



This year saw the return of (some) in-person events! In October, Climable hosted a field trip to tour Schneider Electric's microgrid in Andover, MA. We got to visit their Research & Development center and witness their demo microgrid in action. We also participated in an environmental justice boat tour of the Mystic River and Chelsea Creek, with co-collaborators Mystic River Watershed Association, GreenRoots, and the British Consulate in Boston.

CLIMAPALOOZA IV

In September, we celebrated the return of in-person events with CLIMAPALOOZA IV, our annual climate action rally and outdoor concert. After transitioning to a virtual event in 2020, we were so excited to greet our neighbors, friends, and family once again at Herter Park Amphitheater. The event featured musical performances by Aldra, Katie Lynne Sharbaugh, and Lo. Guest speakers Quinton Zondervan, Kendra Hicks, and Bruce Biewald joined us in between performances and we are ever so thankful for their time and support.

CLIMAPALOOZA IV raised over \$11k! You can find our recording of the full event on our website and YouTube channel. Huge shout out and thank you to our CLIMAPALOOZA sponsors – we couldn't have done it without you!





**THE BIGGEST ISSUES
FACING US –
CLIMATE CHANGE
RACISM
SEXISM
COLONIALISM
– ARE DEEPLY
INTERCONNECTED.**

Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

Climate change impacts everyone but we recognize the disproportionate impacts of climate change along lines of race, gender, socio-economic status, ethnicity, age, mobility, and more. We support work that empowers communities and individuals to address this exacerbation and perpetuation of existing social and economic inequality.

Climable collaborates with diverse communities and draws involvement/participation from a diverse set of key stakeholders, supporters, volunteers and social justice activists. We do this not just because it's fair and just, but because diversity breeds creativity and offers unique perspectives.

Our leadership culture values diverse representation and input from inside and outside the organization. We strive to involve and reflect the communities, groups, and individuals we seek to educate and empower.



Justice

Climable is committed to centering equity and justice in everything we do. In 2021, we made more intentional posts on social media. We celebrated intersectional environmentalism and leaders from diverse backgrounds through the following history month social media series: Black History Month, Women's History Month, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Pride Month, and Hispanic Heritage Month.

We also continued to uphold our commitment to energy and environmental justice. We advocated for language around equity and centering the community's voice to be in writing in places like Request for Qualifications and Proposals. We covered topics of justice in our blogs, including anti-racist, feminist leadership to combat disaster capitalism and a three-part review of *All We Can Save*. Climable has been on the side of justice since our inception. Our workforce is composed of college students and grad students who have grown up viewing the world through a social justice lens. If we intend to save the planet for future generations, we believe it is imperative that younger voices lead the way.



2021 Financials

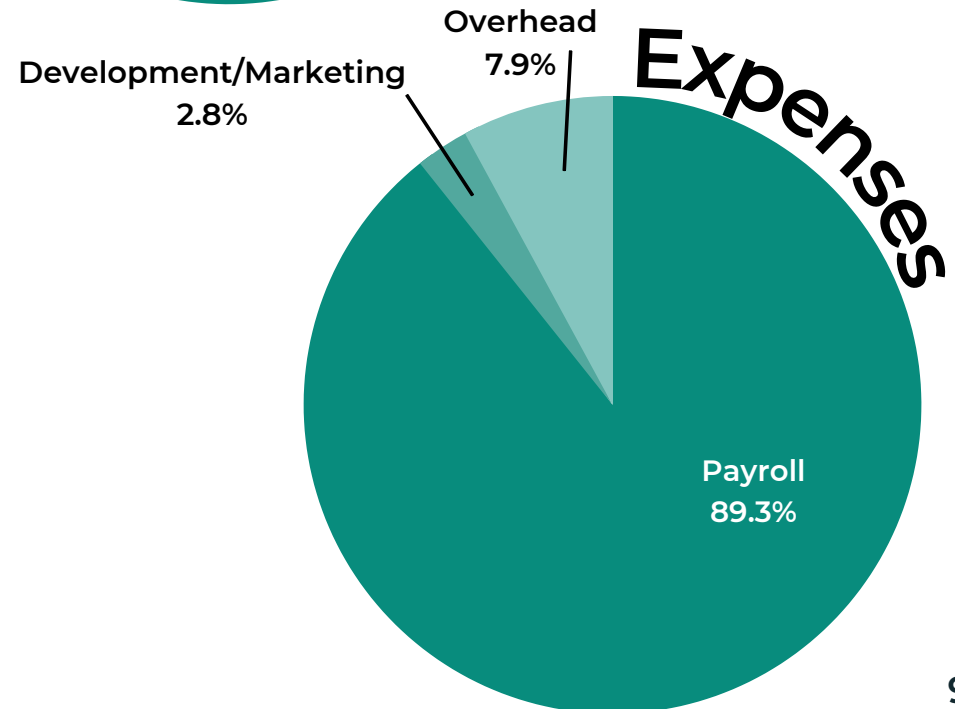
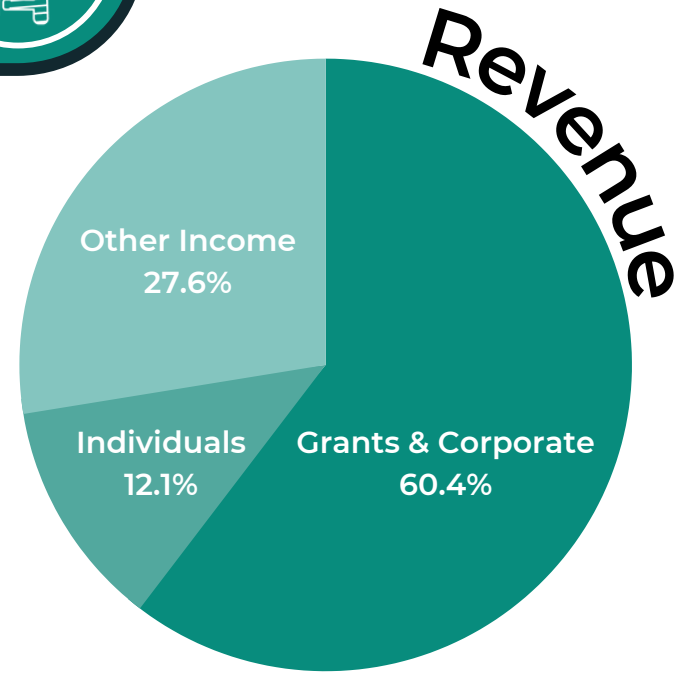


Climable operates on a combination of grants, individual donations, and remunerative work.

| Statement of Financial Position | | 2021 |
|--|--|------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Unrestricted net assets | | \$80,000 |
| Temporarily restricted net assets | | \$115,000 |
| Total | | \$195,000 |

Statement of Activities

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Individual donations | | \$24,417 |
| Grants & Corporate Contributions | | \$122,147 |
| Other Income | | \$55,764 |
| Total | | \$202,328 |
| Expenses | | |
| Payroll | | \$152,878 |
| Development & Marketing | | \$4,772 |
| Overhead | | \$13,572 |
| Total | | \$171,222 |
| Net Income | | \$1,923 |





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