

CCLI'S 2012 SEED GRANTS AND LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Each year the Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI) gives out a series of community seed grants & excellence awards to worthy recipients in order to encourage leadership in the advancement of climate action, clean energy and conservation.

The Climate Courage Award – is awarded to a national figure (sometimes to local leader) in government, business or civil society who makes an outstanding impact in addressing human induced climate change. CCLI is proud to award the 2012 Climate Courage Award to Lisa P. Jackson, the Administrator of the EPA for her bravery, perseverance and achievement in protecting the air we breathe, the water we drink and the climate that sustains us. Under her tenure, in the face of extreme economic and political pressure to roll back or not enforce paramount environmental regulations that protect our public health, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has stood firm for the core long term values of sustainable development and environmental stewardship. By encouraging the clean-up and capture of methane pollution in the extraction of natural gas, by upholding a plan sanctioned by 2007 Supreme Court order to regulate carbon dioxide under the Clean Air Act, by insisting that states either modernize antiquated coal power plants or transition to cleaner energy generation in order to vitally prevent ozone and other forms of air pollution and by implementing the ambitious national goal of achieving US vehicle mileage efficiency (CAFÉ) standards of 54.4mpg for all cars and light trucks by 2025, the EPA under her sound leadership is not only helping safeguard the planet but also America's future competitiveness in the world. We should thank Administrator Jackson and together help [protect the EPA which protects us](#).

Innovation Seed Grant Award – goes to a person, start-up or entrepreneurial endeavor which is seeking or achieving new business success while simultaneously pursuing sustainable development, clean energy and/or conservation solutions. This year CCLI awards the 2012 Innovation Seed Grant Award to Thomas Bowles for spearheading and incubating a state of the art [Green Grid Initiative](#) in Las Alamos. This outstanding demonstration project contains some of the most important dynamics for integrating clean power into community usefulness: there is a 2 MW photovoltaic system built over a capped landfill; 8.3 Megawatt Hours of innovative battery-based energy storage (which helps firm up and balance the intermittency of wind and solar energy so it is applicable during peak load usage); there is prototype smart grid~meter~home efficiency technology so we may learn to better use energy when we need it and save it when we don't; and there is remarkable collaboration that has gone on by companies in Japan and America, the municipality of Los Alamos and the Department of Energy, among others. By granting this Innovation Seed Grant Award, CCLI aims to honor energy excellence and support more experiential education of the Green Grid Initiative by students in New Mexico including interaction with the Alliance for Science mentors.

Direct Action Grant Award – every year the Climate Change Leadership Institute plans and implements a *direct action project*. In 2011 we teamed with the Students for a Sustainable Future (SSF) and did a project called [LIFT THE FOG AMERICA](#) to encourage more responsible and sustainable extraction of natural gas. This year CCLI is proud to present the 2012 the Direct Action Award to the Miox Corporation based in Albuquerque New Mexico for its sustainable business leadership. [Miox is providing a direct business solution](#) helping to make oil and gas drilling cleaner by producing cost efficient water purification and treatment systems. Miox's non-toxic disinfectant and oxidant chemistry process treats and purifies drilling waste water on-site which all-together allows for: eliminating the use of hazardous chemicals, significantly reducing truck traffic, lowering greenhouse gas emissions and improving worker, community and environmental safety. Companies and products like this are the way of the future, as

they are providing business friendly solutions that embody sustainable development and they are making it economically more cost effective to achieve a new era of responsible energy in America.

Justice Grant Award – This grant award is dedicated to supporting and empowering those internationally and/or here at home who have been unduly affected by the impacts of global climate change and the United States’ un-checked and disproportionate level of greenhouse gas emissions. Akilah Sanders-Reed, a recent graduate of Albuquerque Academy, is the recipient of this year’s Justice Award for [her dedicated climate action](#) on behalf of all young people today. Akilah – through her many years of activism, her partnership with 350.ORG and Kids vs. Global Warming, and her lawsuit (recently given standing by Judge Sarah Singleton) calling on the State of New Mexico to uphold its public trust to protect the atmosphere – has been a champion of change calling on us all to take responsibility today for a cleaner and better future tomorrow. CCLI is proud of her collective work and impressed by the powerful idea that our society and indeed our government is entrusted to protect the atmosphere – among other essential life giving common domains (such as clean air and readily available drinking water) – for the next generation. CCLI, in giving the 2012 Justice Grant Award to Akilah Sanders-Reed, is hereby acknowledging the voices, demands and actions of young people today below 18 years of age who do not yet have the right to vote but who have the power to change and restore the world.

Education Leadership Grant Award – CCLI develops education projects, offers paid student internships and provides annual education leadership seed grant awards. This annual education award typically goes to a teacher, a school or an organization that fosters community based education or experiential learning in the important fields of environmental stewardship, climate change and ecology. This year CCLI is giving its 2012 Education Leadership Grant Award to the [Santa Fe Community Farm](#) which is one of Santa Fe’s last remaining local farms and has been a staple in the community for over 50 years since John Stephenson generously founded it. The Community Farm is dedicated to the following purposes: working to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to those in need, practicing sustainable agriculture, protecting local water rights, promoting community service, conserving natural resources and educating children and the public in best practices. CCLI not only recognizes the vital importance of this holistic mission but also offers this seed funding to support the farm’s volunteer program and experiential education by primary and secondary school students in the vicinity.

Conservation Grant Award – CCLI encourages energy & water conservation at once by running the [Conservation Quest](#) project and by providing this annual conservation leadership grant award. The recipient of CCLI’s 2012 Conservation Grant Award is Lisa Randall, the Energy Conservation Program Coordinator for the Santa Fe Public Schools for her leadership helping implement and coordinate [this dynamic and comprehensive approach to saving energy](#). With vital 2009 General Obligation Bond support and since 2010 when the conservation program commenced in earnest there has been meaningful progress throughout the school district including: praiseworthy energy efficiency gains (thru energy audits, better building design and construction, key retrofits, thermostat controls, Energy Star Initiatives, etc), notable water conservation (visa-vi district wide water “Smart” Meters for real-time water use monitoring, leak control & irrigation monitoring), significant cost savings which has allowed more money to go to classroom instruction & achievement as well as more hands-on student involvement in and learning about the sustainability steps that have been taken. CCLI commends the taxpayers, the school district and Ms. Randall for bringing about these reciprocal triumphs in conservation and education.

To learn more about or apply for any of these seed grants or to nominate someone deserving of an award please visit www.takeresponsibility.us or contact ccli@takeresponsibility.us.