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South LA All In "Good Jobs, Healthy Communities Project" Receives \$20 Million Community Change Grant from EPA

LOS ANGELES–Community Coalition is excited to announce that the South LA All In "Good Jobs, Healthy Communities" (SLAAI-GJHC) project, a unique initiative focusing on environmental justice and community development, has been awarded a significant \$20 million in federal funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Community Change Grant Program.

"We are incredibly honored to receive this historic EPA grant as part of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to environmental and climate justice," said Community Coalition President Alberto Retana. "This funding will empower us to continue our mission of galvanizing communities in South Los Angeles, addressing long standing environmental injustices, and building a sustainable and equitable future for all."

The grant strongly emphasizes community engagement, with partners such as the <u>CRCD</u>, <u>Los Angeles</u> <u>Trade Technical College</u> (LATTC), <u>City of Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department</u> (EWDD), <u>Amity Foundation</u>, the <u>City of Huntington Park</u> and the <u>City of Compton</u> playing key roles in outreach and support for justice-involved individuals. The collaboration with local municipalities and educational institutions underscores the project's unwavering commitment to holistic and inclusive community development, ensuring that community voices are heard.

"Through this grant, we will reduce pollution, increase climate resilience, and provide critical workforce development opportunities, ensuring our community members are equipped to lead in the green economy. We are proud to be part of this transformative effort and look forward to the positive impact it will have on our neighborhoods," continued Retana.

Project highlights include:

- Lead Abatement Program: Training 100 individuals to perform lead abatement and improve indoor air quality by removing hazardous lead from homes.
- Weatherization and Energy Auditor Training: Training cohorts to conduct energy audits, increase energy efficiency, and implement weatherization improvements.
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Maintenance and Repair Training: Upskilling automotive technicians to service hybrid and electric vehicles, supporting the adoption of cleaner vehicles.
- Welding for Green Infrastructure Projects: Training individuals for welding positions needed for green construction projects, such as expanding rail lines and electrifying public buildings.
- **Community Impact:** This initiative's focus on reducing pollution in South LA, improving public health, and providing economic opportunities for residents, will make a significant impact.

This significant investment is made possible thanks to the Biden-Harris Administration's Inflation Reduction Act, which will enhance environmental justice, reduce pollution, and create green job training opportunities in the historically underserved communities of South Los Angeles.