

**Organization Name:** Center for Sustainable Communities

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**Organization Mission:** Making communities greener, cleaner, healthier and safer and more climate resilient.

**Internship Semester:** Summer 2020

**Project Title #1:** Design, Development and Deployment of Energy for ALL --ECO District Hampton Roads

**Keywords:** Strategy, Design, Education

**SLS Priority Issue Areas:** Equitable and Sustainable Development

**Project Background:** The ECO District Hampton Roads Project consists of nearly 6,000 homes both residential and multi-family in seven neighborhoods many which were built nearly fifty years ago when building codes were not in keeping with today's higher standards. Further many of the homes today are occupied by senior citizens on fixed incomes and thus energy burdens or the cost of energy as a percent of income is extremely high. Moreover, the homes may be unhealthy due to drafts and thus resulting losses in heating and cooling. Full scale energy audits are extensive and the residents are not knowledgeable of how to access the expertise, how to evaluate the results, costs to retrofit and correct, and the health benefits of having an energy efficient home. Currently there exists NO neighborhood scale initiative or program to ensure homes are energy efficient nor advance the use of clean energy AND work to reduce energy burdens.

The ECO District Project uses its Priority: Resource Restoration to help transform the community to one that is carbon neutral. (Reductions in Green House Gas Emissions). On average **Virginia** households experience an already higher than average **electricity burden** of 3.1%, compared to a national average of 2.7%. "**Electricity burden**" is the percentage amount of your household income that is spent on **electricity** costs. ... **Electricity burden** is a known contributing factor to evictions. The solution is to Design, Develop and Deploy an effective program to reduce energy burdens in the ECO District community including advancing the use of clean energy

**Project Timeline:** This pilot project is scheduled to run 12 months - approximately ending around December 2020. Thus, students will work on the project, but are not anticipated to complete it.

**Desired skills and qualifications:** Program Development, Research, Technical Aptitude

**Deliverables:** Action Plan, Implementation Plan and Trail Pilot

**Project Title #2:** Creating and Advancing A National Movement on Climate -- The 1.5 Degree Patrol - Organizing and Mobilizing for Climate

**Keywords:** Strategic Plan, Program Development, Social Media and Outreach

**SLS Priority Issue Areas:** Climate Change

**Project Background:** The 1.5 Degree Patrol was one of the early climate organizations in Atlanta; it has existed for nearly ten years and is known as an entity that organized and mobilized some of the largest climate actions in the past. It also was an early leader in climate policy advocacy such as the Clean Power Plan. We are looking to “makeover” and transform the informal organization of nearly 70 citizens into one with a broaden and expanded mission and capacity to reach outside the city with its unique and proven effective approach to climate change advocacy. This is an existing organization and the intern will work with members. The expansion of the organization meets SDG#13 Climate Action.

**Project Timeline:** The interns will develop an Action and Implementation Plan and initiate the plan implementation but not complete.

**Desired skills and qualifications:** Strategic Plan Development, Action Plan, Social Media.

**Deliverables:** Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan