

Policy Advocacy

When we treat good jobs and climate resilience as a single goal, workers, employers, and communities all win. Rising Sun advocates for state and local policies that lower energy costs and advance equitable economic opportunity in the communities we serve. Our policy work ensures that the careers our graduates pursue pay family-sustaining wages, public dollars come with labor standards, and decarbonization benefits all Californians. This is how we support individual success while advancing lasting, systemic change.

This work has never mattered more. Climate and job quality protections face mounting opposition, and budget pressures threaten programs that put people to work building green infrastructure. Rising Sun occupies a rare and necessary place in shaping our progress toward economic equity and climate resilience. **As a community-based service provider, we're trusted by labor unions, workforce groups, environmental advocates, and government agencies. Our programs and policy reinforce each other to turn shared goals into common ground for transformational outcomes.**

From 2021 to 2026, we co-led the Bay Area Residential Building Decarbonization High Road Training Partnership (H RTP). This coalition of over 20 partners was built on the premise that public investments in clean energy should also be investments in workers and their communities, and it demonstrated the impact of cross-sector collaboration. Six California public agencies and energy providers, up from zero in 2022, have applied partnership-supported labor standards to their programs. Together, we've influenced more than \$1 billion in residential decarbonization investments, translating directly to higher-quality green jobs for more California workers—and we're just getting started.

Rising Sun knows that good, green jobs are one of the best tools we have to meaningfully move the needle on the most pressing issues of our time: climate and poverty.

All Californians deserve access to affordable clean energy, quality jobs, and a voice in shaping the safety and direction of the industries they're building. When we hire local people and offer them good wages and benefits, something shifts. Contractors can hire and retain great talent. Energy savings increase and persist. Individuals build economic power, the local economy grows, and the racial wage gap disappears. We can build lives out of building a more livable planet, one good, green job at a time.



RISING SUN
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