COMMUNITY BUILDERS OF COLOR COALITION FIGHT FOR EQUITY: GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND

The Community Builders of Color Coalition (The Coalition) is a group of 11 organizations led by the African American Alliance of CDFI CEOs. The Coalition urges the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that minority communities can benefit equally from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GHGRF) as authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act.

Here’s what the Coalition believes the EPA should do:

1. EPA TO LEAD WITH EQUITY IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE FUND’S OPERATION
   At least 40% of awarded capital should go to community economic development lenders who are representative of and embedded in the communities they serve.

2. EPA SHOULD PRIORITIZE A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION AND APPLY PRINCIPLES OF EQUITY TO THE GRANT AWARD PROCESS.

3. EPA SHOULD LEAD WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY AS A STRATEGY TO MAXIMIZE GHG REDUCTIONS IN LOW-INCOME AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES WHILE ALSO HELPING TO REDUCE ENERGY BURDEN.

4. WE ENCOURAGE THE EPA TO INCENTIVIZE LEVERAGING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RESOURCES.

5. EPA SHOULD DIRECT FUNDS TO COMMUNITY LENDERS, LIKE CDFIS, MDIS, AND CREDIT UNIONS, WHO SPECIALIZE IN SERVING LOW-INCOME AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES AND BORROWERS.

The Coalition is comprised of the following organizations: African American Alliance of CDFI CEOs, The Chisholm Legacy Project, Inclusiv, National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders, National Urban League, US Black Chamber, National Bankers Association, Native CDFI Network, National CAPACD, Oweesta Corporation, and Prosperity Now.