



Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light

Indiana Interchurch Center
1100 West 42nd St. Suite 220 E
Indianapolis, IN 46208

2022 McKinney Climate Fellows Program
(formally Indiana Sustainability Development Program)

About HIPL

HIPL brings Hoosiers of different faiths, philosophies, spiritualities, and points-of-view together as stewards of creation to promote renewable energy, energy conservation, environmental justice, and energy efficiency, as a response to climate change.

HIPL supports hundreds of congregations and over 4000 individuals across Indiana. H-IPL focuses on interfaith collaboration and environmental justice, clean energy and energy efficiency, creation care, and advocacy. HIPL has helped upwards of 54 congregations put on solar panels, 75 congregations reduce their energy usage by 25%, through our Using Energy Prudently Program and has helped countless others talk about climate change from the pulpit and engage their membership in advocacy work at the Indiana Statehouse and in Washington, DC. We are working hard to make our communities more resilient in the face of a changing climate and an unequal and unjust distribution of resources.

Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light is an affiliate of the national organization, Interfaith Power and Light. Active in almost 40 states, the IPL campaign is mobilizing a national religious response to global warming while promoting renewable energy, energy efficiency, and conservation.

HIPL is looking to continue our mission-driven work and is implementing a program called **Thriving Faith Communities**. This is a plan to create synergies between the Thrive Indianapolis plan and the earth care goals of Indiana faith communities by helping congregations across Indiana reduce their energy consumption by 25%. HIPL requests a McKinney Fellow in 2022 to further implement this program that can then be replicated in other communities across Indiana. Since 2019, we have had two ISDP Interns that have helped us launch the pilot program. Since that time, we have now brought on an employee--a Thriving Faith Communities Coordinator--to staff the program.

The **Thrive 100** Indianapolis Plan has three overarching goals related to climate change. (1) to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and reduce CO2 emissions from buildings by 25% of the 2016 base year consumption by 2025. (2) Increase community resilience by prioritizing equity in policy, planning and project implementation. (3) Become a visible motivating force for community transformation to a sustainable economy. For example, the **Thrive 100** Plan estimates that 2/3 of the CO2 emissions in Marion County are from buildings.

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There are thousands of faith communities across Indiana. Many have substantial theological commitment to the challenges of Climate Change. This program will engage those communities, working to reduce congregational building emissions and home emissions. Combining the **Thrive 100** Indianapolis Plans overarching goals and the theological commitment of Indiana faith communities will make a substantial reduction in the carbon footprint of the state. A Fellow would help tremendously with our ability to further implement and expand this program.

Over the last two years our Fellows/ISDP Interns have set the groundwork for initiating participation by a number of congregations, they helped us to began tracking our outreach to potential Thriving Faith Congregations, they conducted several educational programs including movie screenings and energy efficiency trainings, set the stage for an invigorated Green Team engagement program, helped us with graphics and design for our Task-of-the-Month tools as part of congregational communication with their congregations, begun outreach to specific Thriving Faith Communities city cohorts including outreach and presentations in two Indiana towns, attended regular H-IPL staff meetings, and supported our social media, HIPL blog, and public radio outreach. The Fellows/ISDP interns were extremely valuable members of our team, contributing to the success of our programs and spreading a positive and constructive vision for H-IPL's work in the Indiana Faith community and beyond.

Job Description

This is a full-time position requiring 40 hours per week, and some flexibility to work a few evenings or weekends during the 10-week work period. The 10-week period will begin starting no sooner than late May, and ending no later than mid-August 2022. The Fellow will be required to attend a multi-day bootcamp in May (May 16 – 20, 2022) prior to the 10-week work period, attend weekly (virtual) "Lunch and Learns" on Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm, submit weekly Canvas reports over the course of the fellowship, attend HIPL staff meetings, and weekly check-ins with your supervisor.

Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute.

The McKinney Climate Fellow will report to and work directly with our Thriving Faith Communities Coordinator, Sarah Mundell and other program staff. All staff meetings are currently held virtually and most of our programming, however, following CDC guidelines and Indiana State law, we have started hosting some in-person events. The intern will also work with other staff members at H-IPL, Dori Chandler, Angie Williford, and other staff and community volunteers in completing assigned tasks.

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The Fellow will collaborate with Thriving Faith Communities volunteers from congregations across the state that agree to participate in the program. The Fellow may interact with additional board members and other stakeholders as well, including statewide H-IPL affiliate groups. H-IPL will work with Energy Stewards, HVAC companies, and others who may be available to the Fellow as a resource.

Feedback and Evaluation

The Fellow will meet weekly with one or more members of the staff to review progress and performance and discuss issues, timetables and next steps. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how this organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships. The participating congregations will also be asked to provide feedback and suggestions periodically throughout the 10-week work period.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The McKinney Climate Fellows Program supports the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Specific Tasks

The Fellow will be responsible to do the following tasks during the internship:

1. **Produce videos for TFC. These may include:**
 - a. **Creating a Thriving Faith Communities Video Tour Mini-Series** of congregations enrolled in the Thriving Faith Communities program, documenting their journey to further their energy efficiency efforts, how they chose which of the 120 actions listed in the Energy Stewards platform to focus on in Year 1, any changes in practices or building upgrades that a congregation decided to make and how that is progressing, and how they are engaging their members in energy efficiency at the congregation and at home.
 - b. **Two promotional 3- 5 minute videos.** One will be to sell TFC to individual congregations and the other to sell the whole-town or whole denomination TFC cohort concept.
 - c. **Training videos** which may include topics such as: how to manage thermostats, find and plug holes in buildings, how to get youth involved in the energy conservation effort, how to engage congregants in reducing CO2 emissions in their homes. The goal will be to use these in our cohort training sessions.
2. **Developing Educational Events** promoting energy efficiency in the faith community--in congregations and at home. Teaching about decarbonization, energy auditing, and the future of energy. This will include current TFC congregations, other potential TFC congregations, and service providers that assist in reducing energy usage; this may

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include window and insulation companies, utilities and subcontractors providing tools such as programmable thermostats and lightbulbs.

3. **Celebrating Achievements** by bringing together congregations enrolled in Thriving Faith Communities. This may consist of smaller individual events or a larger community celebration and maybe as part of task.
4. **Partner Outreach** collaborate with individuals and organizations that Thriving Faith Communities is connected to and others in the interfaith, energy conservation, clean energy and environmental fields in Indiana.
5. **Social Media** Figure out the process and most successful way to efficiently use social media to communicate and promote TFC.
6. **Prepare a final Fellows program portfolio** including (1) updated tracking documents (2) communication and (3) program successes to-date.
7. Assist with additional reporting and data collected as needed including reaching out to TFC-enrolled congregations to document their progress.

Application instructions

To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute's website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Danni Schaut, MCF Program Manager, at danmcphe@iu.edu, or Sarah Miller, MCF Project and Outreach Coordinator at sjm8@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Monday, February 14, 2022.