



South Carolina
Interfaith Power & Light

Strategic Vision
2022

South Carolina Interfaith Power & Light: At A Crossroads

Background

Between November 2021 and May 2022, SCIPL staff, leadership council members and stakeholders helped to create this shared vision for the future. Seeking to build on the vision established a decade ago at Wofford College in 2011, SCIPL is a movement of diverse faith voices and communities that will co-create and sustain climate action, resilience, and justice for the state of South Carolina.

Leadership Council Members

Queen Quet, Lowcountry Representative
King Divine (David Williams), Pee Dee Representative
LaRahna Hughes, Midlands Representative
Keisha Long, Midlands Representative
Rev. Carey Grady, Midlands Representative
Margaret Stephens, Upstate Representative
Matthew Rehnborg, Upstate Representative
Rev. Ronald Robinson, Upstate Representative
Susannah Tuttle, North Carolina IPL

Staff/Interns/Consultants

Michael Brown, Sustaining Way Executive Director
Alecia Brewster, Consultant & Facilitator
Connor Campbell, Program Coordinator
Emma Grace Homoky, Furman University Intern

Geographic Scope

SCIPL focuses on serving the state of South Carolina. Data, information sharing, and partnerships may take a regional, national, and/or international scope.

Mission

Our mission is to engage people of all faiths and traditions to care for and protect the Earth and all her inhabitants by working together for a just and sustainable future.



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Philosophy

South Carolina Interfaith Power & Light (SCIPL) seeks to be a representative organization composed of faith and conscience-oriented houses of worship, communities, organizations, and individuals from across the state. SCIPL recognizes that in order to build sustainable, caring and equitable communities, we must find common ground and collectively take intentional steps to assess and address justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Jemez Principles for Democratic Organizing

Be Inclusive

Emphasis on Bottom-Up Organizing

Let People Speak for Themselves

Work Together in Solidarity and Mutuality

Build Just Relationships Among Ourselves

Commitment to Self-Transformation

Strategic Partners & Initiatives

SCIPL engages faith communities, environmental organizations, and other stakeholders to grow our understanding of climate justice and how we can respond to climate change and environmental justice in our homes, houses of worship, and communities.

Audubon South Carolina - Legislative Bird Walks

Conservation Voters of SC - Energy Justice, EV Infrastructure Coalition, Candidate Forums

Climate Nexus - SCIPL Communications Strategy

Climate XChange - Policy Dashboard & Climate and Energy Landscape Analysis

Gullah/Geechee Nation - Global Tree Project

Interfaith Power & Light - Affiliate Membership & Policy Guidance

My Neighbor's Voice - Interfaith Dialogue

NC Interfaith Power & Light - IPL of the Carolinas Partner

SC Health Professionals for Climate Action - Faith, Climate & Health Series

SC Office of Minority Affairs - Faith Leaders Civic Engagement Academy

State Energy Office - Congregational Energy Efficiency Challenge

Southeast Faith Leaders Network (NC, AL, GA & Creation Justice Ministry) - Regional Partners

Southeast Climate and Energy Network - Regional Affiliate Membership

Sustaining Way - Fiscal Sponsor

US Climate Action Network - National Climate Action Network



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND GOALS

1. Act as a statewide convener and facilitate dialogues/networking centering clean energy, climate change, and climate justice among and between South Carolina's diverse faith communities and regions.
 - o Strategies include working with partners to host monthly dialogues, networking events, and listening sessions with and for faith leaders and communities.
 - o Outcomes include development of a representative landscape analysis that includes recommendations for reaching climate and environmental justice goals in South Carolina and a communications strategy that translates the landscape analysis for faith and BIPOC community engagement.
2. Identify and connect faith and front-line communities in all 46 counties to resources and information.
 - o Strategies include identifying and hosting/co-hosting quarterly workshops, sharing resources and information through social media, website and SCIPL's networks that prepare front-line congregations for climate disasters, provide information and skills for building energy efficiency, and help front-line faith communities secure financial and social capital. We will also identify ways to reduce barriers for congregations to engage in climate networking/resourcing opportunities.
 - o Outcomes include increased capacity to improve building energy efficiency, community specific disaster response plans, and pathways to resources and information that build community resilience.
3. Serve as a conduit for leadership, education, advocacy, and civic engagement – especially for faith leaders supporting front line and marginalized communities.
 - o Strategies include providing education, civic engagement, and advocacy training in all four regions through the Faith Leaders Civic Engagement Academy, Leadership Council meetings, and other strategic activities.
 - o Outcomes include advancement of state-policy priorities that center and engage underserved BIPOC communities including the areas of clean energy, energy efficiency, and holistic transportation electrification, and the advancement of congregations as hubs of climate resilience so that communities can weather the spiritual and physical storms of the climate crisis.
4. Lead and maintain a consistent trajectory toward building a statewide, faith-led movement for resilience and climate justice.

Major Funders

Climate Nexus
Energy Foundation
US Climate Action Network

"While at this crossroads of accelerated climate and social change, SCIPL believes that the best answers lie in our collective genius. We believe that the best solutions are created when brothers and sisters representing diverse experiences, faith traditions, and communities come together for the love of God and our neighbor."

Alecia Brewster, South Carolina Interfaith Power & Light Facilitator