



Tribal Resilience: Supporting Indigenous Communities through Environmental Justice



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
ARIZONA INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENCE
**Indigenous
Resilience Center**



**WEST ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE CENTER**
AZ, CA, HI, NV & USAPI



Your Presenters



Ana Gonzalez-Gomez
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WEST Environmental Justice Center
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA*



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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA*



**WEST ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE CENTER**
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<https://www.ejnet.org/ej/principles.pdf>

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Environmental Justice Principles established at the First People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit (1991) center on

- Sacredness of Mother Earth
- Respect for multiple cultures and beliefs
- Decolonizing methods
- Assure self-determination and environmental justice for all





OUR MISSION

To work as authentic partners with communities towards environmental and energy justice by being a one-stop shop for hands-on technical assistance, multi-faceted training, and other eligible forms of assistance, resources, and support to program participants.



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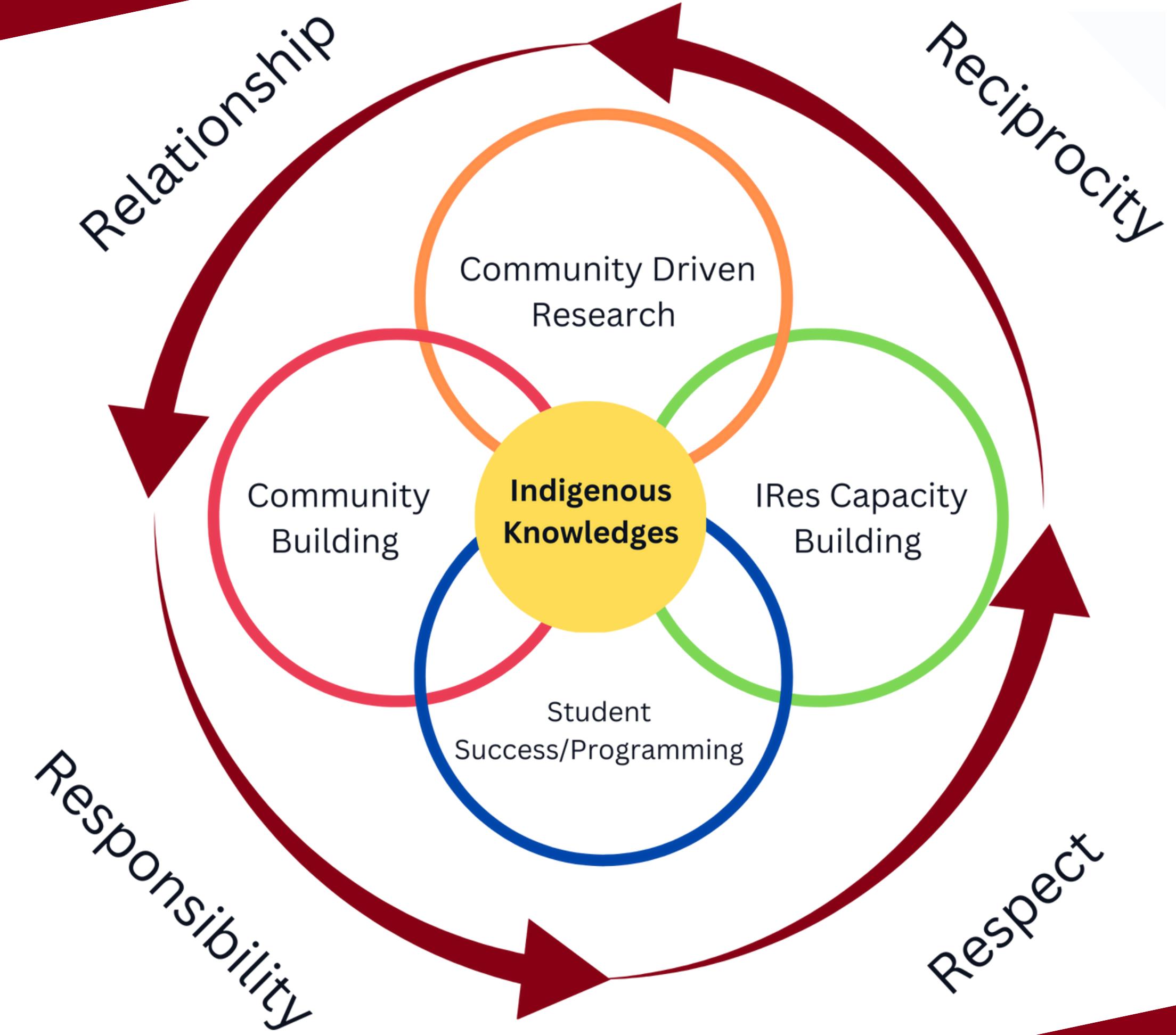
Vision:

We see a world in which Indigenous communities are thriving and adaptable to meet environmental and societal challenges.



Mission:

Centering Indigenous ways of knowing into co-designed environmental solutions and training the next generation of community leaders.



Guided by the IRes Core Values

Relationship

Guides the pathway to meaningful and deep collaboration and connection. Our framework and guiding principles are focused on establishing long term relationships.

Reciprocity

Grounds the work and commitment to Indigenous communities. Breaking the stigma of research and institutions, IRes recognizes and prioritizes the cyclical nature of collaboration and emphasizes the need for balanced cooperation with partners.

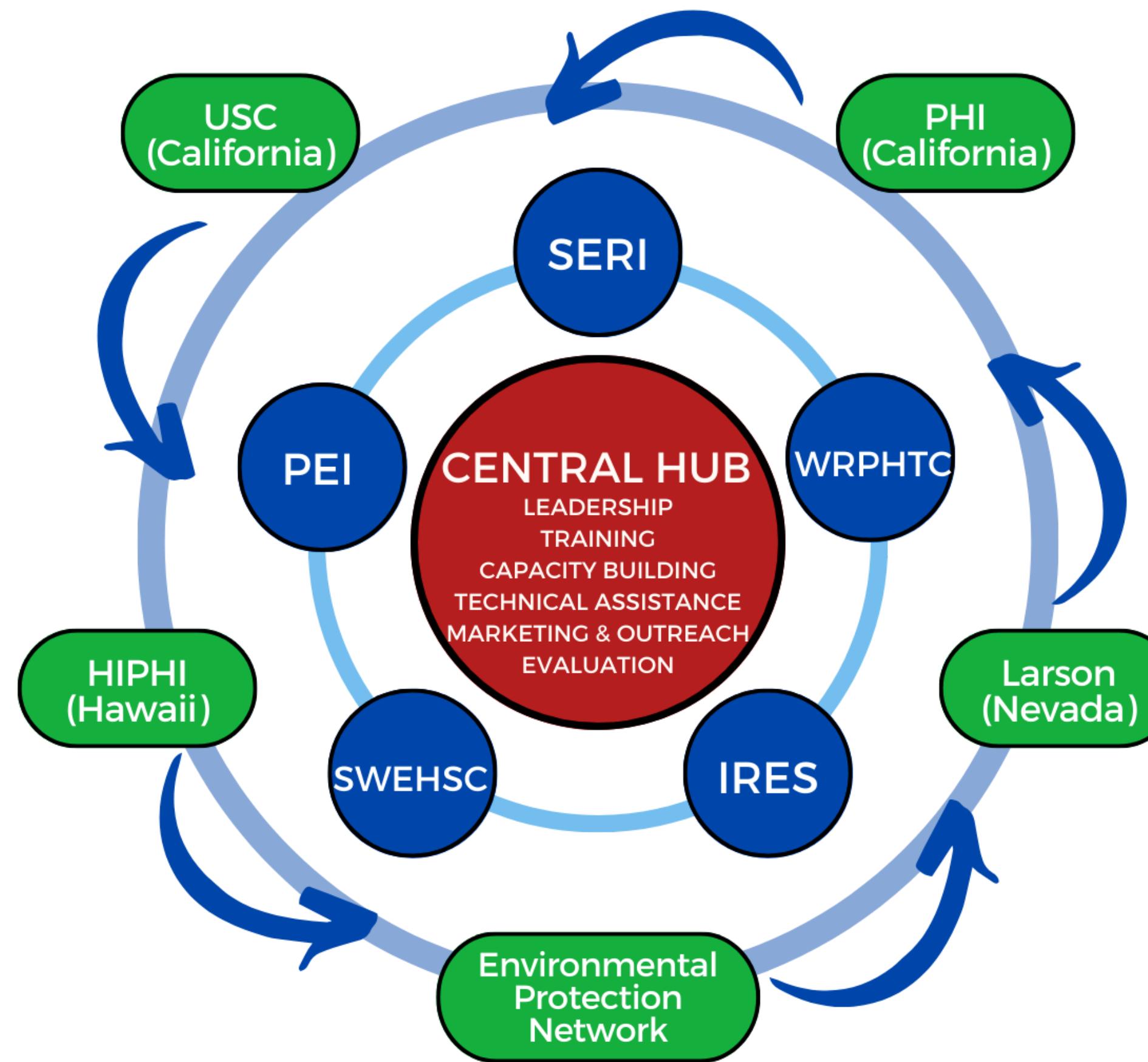
Respect

Must be at the heart of the Center's functionality. Transparency, consistent communication, and respect for place, beliefs, culture, history, language and ways of knowing must be elevated to serve as avenues for respect.

Responsibility

A need to elevate sovereignty, self-determination, and Indigenous ways of knowing through our work both internal and external at the University of Arizona. It is the responsibility of the Center to care for and nurture the relationships and collaborative efforts that have and will be in place.

Our Team



Our *Free* Services

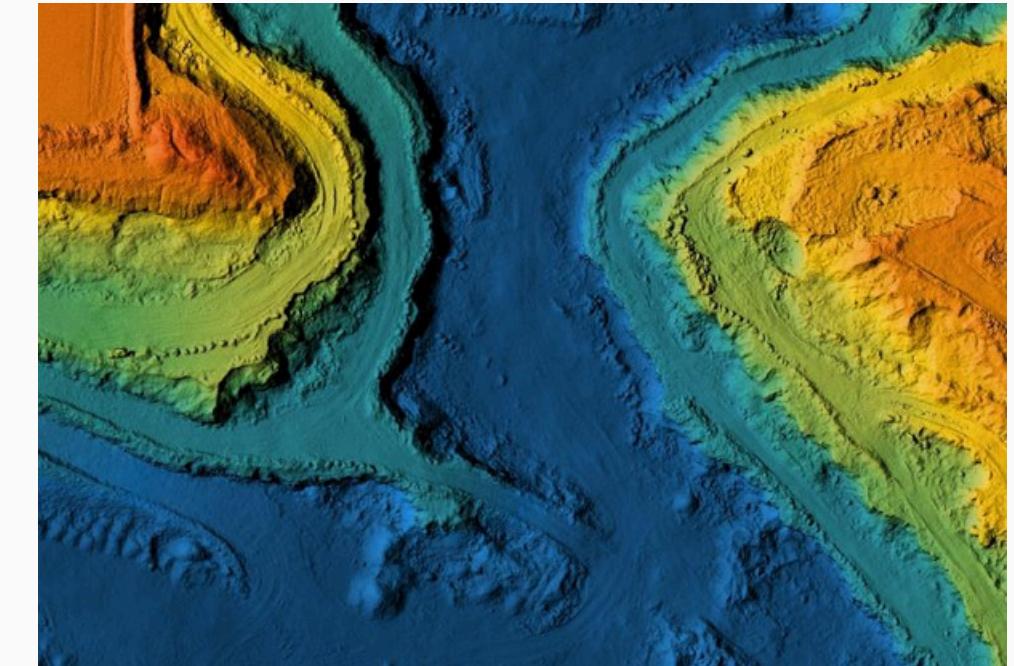


Grants Navigation

- Online Trainings
- Funding Database
- Applying for and Managing Funding*

Community Leadership

- Community Resource Fairs
- Community Champions
- Student Internships
- Advocacy Training and Resources



Technical Expertise

- Hands-on Consultation
- Research Energy Justice Opportunities
- Statistical Consultation
- Conducting EJ Analyses

**The Center is not allowed to write or complete funding applications but can provide guidance in development, application, and management phases.*

ONE-ON-ONE ASSISTANCE

Urban and Community Forestry Tree Resource Enhancement and Engagement (TREE) Grant Guidelines

- Offered personalized assistance tailored to each client's unique needs.
- Helped clients achieve meaningful and measurable results.
- Fostered ongoing relationships, staying connected and engaged.
- Adapted support as clients' needs evolved over time.
- Provided flexible, varied assistance, ensuring each client receives the help they need.

Project Timeframe:

September 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Projects Closed:

(Final Reports and Reimbursement Requests Due)

July 31, 2025

7. Project Need (2500 characters) Provide an overview of the project and the need for work (2,500 characters max)

The United States Forest Service, a federal agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, recommends that a realistic target for desert cities to attain is a 15 percent urban tree canopy. The [REDACTED] is dedicated to expanding our current city average 10% urban canopy cover with a focus in climate vulnerable communities. To date, the new million-tree initiative has recorded approximately 8,000 community planted trees and 2,100 city planted trees. While initial excitement and energy exists, it will take a strategic funding approach to plant one million trees by 2050 while including all residents. [REDACTED] recognizes residents in climate vulnerable communities face barriers such as economic capacity to plant trees.

In [REDACTED] canopy cover keeps residents safe from extreme temperatures. In 2023, the extreme temperatures in the [REDACTED] broke multiple records with 55 days over 110 degrees F and experienced a record 19 days with overnight low temperatures at or above 90 degrees F. Residents suffered from heat injuries and even died. Research has shown that trees have the ability to keep urban areas up to 45 degrees F cooler than those with no shade coverage. Shaded neighborhoods can provide respite from record hot heat. At the launch of the Trees are

one sentence: ... launch of the city's Climate Action Plan, outlining six

[See more](#)

[Reply](#)

AG Ana J Gonzalez-Gomez ... 

This, too, could potentially be in one sentence... "The plan, developed with public input, showed Mesa residents'

[See more](#)

[Reply](#)

AG Ana J Gonzalez-Gomez ... 

I think it might be worthwhile to make explicit here the fact that you want to use this funding as a sort of

[See more](#)

[Reply](#)

DISCOVERING FUNDING OPPORTUNITES WITH WEST EJ'S DATABASE

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [News](#) [Get Involved](#) [Resources](#) [Technical Expertise](#) [Contact Us](#)

Home > Funding Opportunities

Pre-filtered Funding Lists

By organization type:

[Nonprofits & Community-Based Organizations \(CBOs\)](#)

[Tribal Organizations](#)

[Tribal Governments](#)

[Local Governments](#)

[State Governments](#)

[Institutes of Higher Learning](#)

[Other](#)

By location:

[Arizona](#)

[California](#)

Funding Opportunities

[Reset Search](#)

Eligible Locations Application Deadline Application Status Search Keyword

- Any - - Any - - Any -

Organization Type Sort by

- Any - Default

[State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program](#)

[Department of Commerce](#)

Eligible Entities: Tribal non-government entities, Tribal governments

Deadline: Pending

Award Range: \$0 - \$45,300,000

- **Types of Funding Opportunities:**
 - Wide range of grants and funding options available.
 - Opportunities vary by industry, location, and organization type.
- **Using the Database**
 - Easily filter results by location, organization, or desired funding amount.
 - Refine your search to find the most relevant opportunities.
- **Accessing Detailed Information:**
 - Click on the "More Information" button for in-depth details.
 - Includes notes and insights I've added to help you understand each grant better.

Locations We Serve

- Arizona
- California
- Hawai'i
- Nevada
- U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands
 - Guam, Commonwealth of Mariana Islands, American Samoa
 - Republic of Palau
 - Republic of the Marshall Islands
 - The Federated States of Micronesia

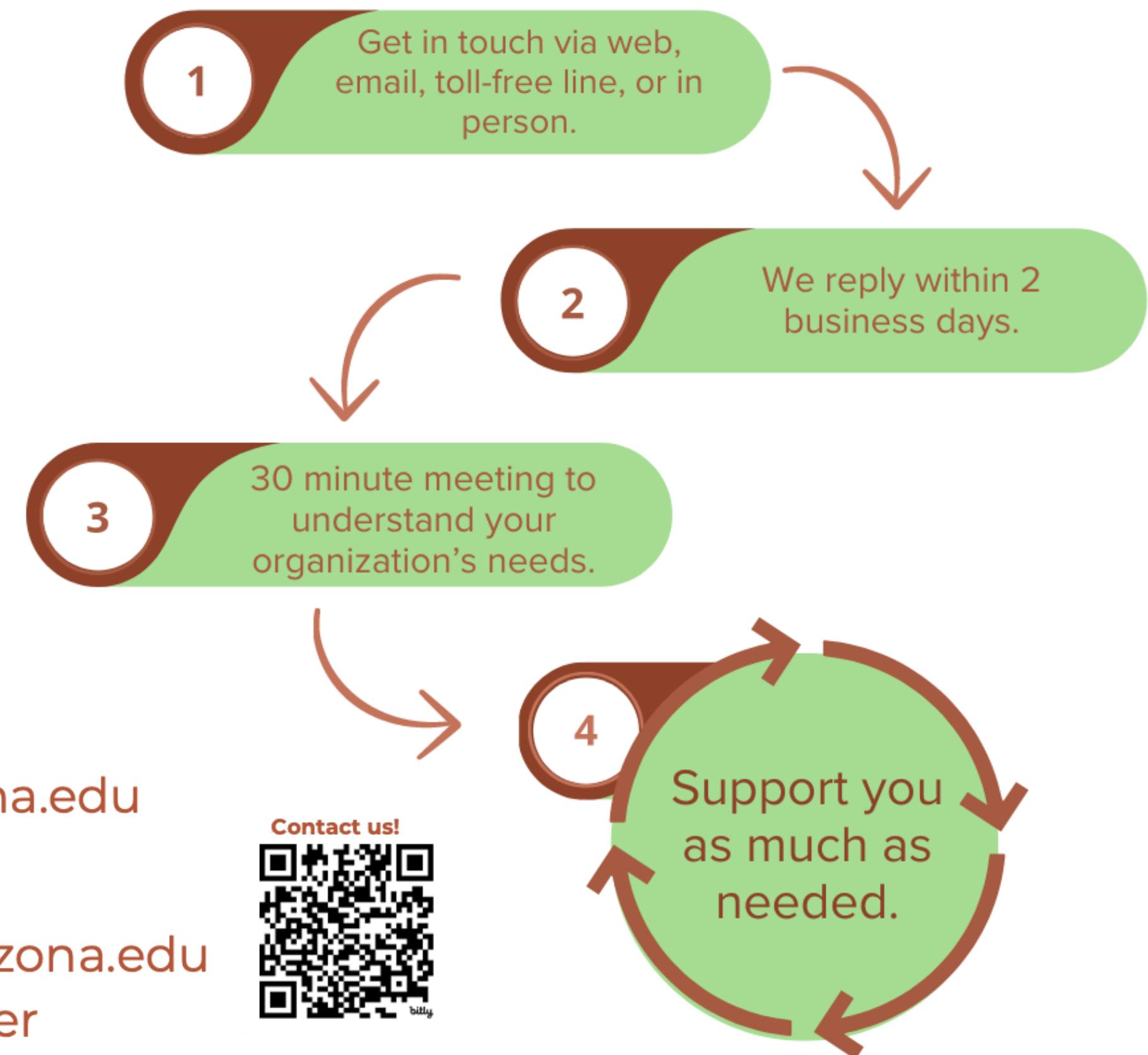


Who is Eligible?

- Individuals.
- Non-profit organizations.
- Community-based and grassroots organizations.
- Underserved communities and organizations.
- Rural and remote communities and organizations.
- Local Governments
- State governments.
- Educational institutions (e.g., schools, colleges, and universities).
- Disadvantaged businesses.
- Philanthropic and civic organizations.
- Faith-based organizations and churches.
- Utility and healthcare providers and clinics.



Steps to Get Support



Examples of Our Services

- A community clinic wants support finding and applying for grants to upgrade a building into a cooling center.
 - **Tailor a list of recommended grant opportunities, confirm their grant is complete, and support while they submit the grant.**
- County public health staff get questions about wildfire smoke in homes and heat and kidney function. Staff ask for resources on building box fan filters, as well as to speak with experts on the relationship between heat and kidney disease.
 - **Find, review, and compile useful resources on making box fan filters, and connect public health staff with an experts on heat and kidney disease to answer questions.**



Student Internship



Financial Support: Students will receive **\$5,000** for completion of the internship, reflection, feedback survey, and digital story.

Eligibility:

- ✓ Age 18+, high school diploma/GED
- ✓ Enrolled in U.S. accredited institution
- ✓ Remote work possible with supervisor approval
- ✓ US citizens, US nationals, or foreign nationals with a visa permitting permanent residence in the US
- ✓ Serve communities in Arizona, California, Hawai'i, Nevada, or US Affiliated Pacific Islands, including Native American tribes and Indigenous communities in these areas



Looking for Extra Hands?

Find Talented Interns to Support Your Work!

Is your organization in need of passionate, driven individuals to help you achieve your goals? By partnering with us, you can gain access to dedicated interns eager to contribute to your mission. Whether you're based in **Arizona, California, Hawai'i, Nevada**, or the **U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands**, including **Native American tribes** and **Indigenous communities**, we're here to connect you with the right talent!

Financially Supported Interns

The WEST EJ Center will provide the intern with a stipend. Students will apply their environmental and energy justice knowledge and skills under the mentorship of their internship supervisor. Selected students will receive a total of **\$5,000** after they submit a 250-500 word reflection of their experience, complete a feedback survey, and present a digital story of their final report. Interns have up to a year to complete their internship.

Reach Out to Us:

Let us know what type of help you're looking for, and we'll work to match you with interns who have the skills and enthusiasm to meet your needs.

Contact the WEST EJ Center:

 westejcenter.arizona.edu/student-internships

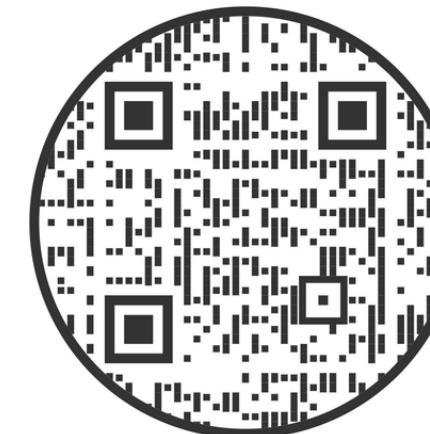
 WESTEJ-Center@arizona.edu  1-877-518-4634



Apply Now!

2024 COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS COHORT

The program will offer customized capacity building, leadership training, peer learning, and support using a cohort approach. Participants will be drawn from **Arizona, California, Hawai'i, Nevada, and the US Affiliated Pacific Islands**, including **Native American tribes and Indigenous communities**.



The program will equip cohort members with tools to lead on environmental and energy justice challenges, advocacy, and develop community policies and technical skills to address local issues.

This is a paid opportunity where cohort members are expected to commit **4 hours** per month for **12 months** virtually. You will be compensated a total of **\$1,200** for completing the program.



Leadership
Development



Accountability
Groups



Technical
Skills Training



Community
Building

Contact Us For More Information!

www.westejcenter.arizona.edu

WESTEJ-Center@arizona.edu (877) 518-4634

We are an Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC).

Drop-in Grants Support

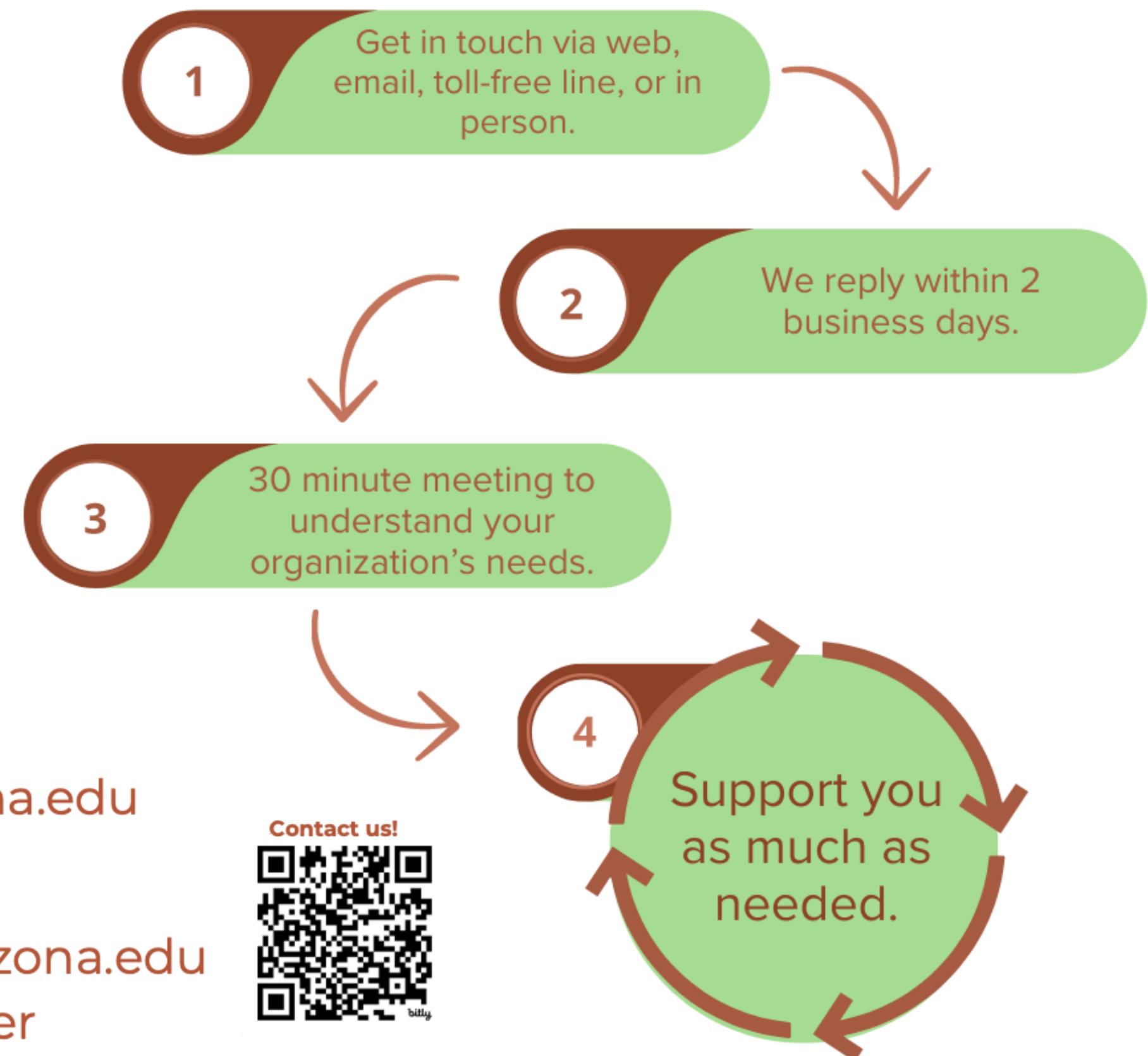
Sept 9th, 4-5 PM PT, 1-2 PM HST
(every other Monday!)

<https://arizona.zoom.us/j/8292415730>



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Steps to Get Support



-  WESTEJCenter.arizona.edu
-  1 (877) 518-4634
-  WESTEJ-Center@arizona.edu
-  @WestEJCenter

Discussion Questions

**What are the environmental challenges
facing your community that the WEST EJ
Center can help you with?**

Discussion Questions

What are the challenges you face with applying for, managing, or implementing federal grants that WEST EJ Center can help you with?

Discussion Questions

What support do you need in your organization, and how can WEST EJ Center help you to build that capacity?

Discussion Questions

**What is the best way for WEST EJ Center
to reach you? What are the challenges
and your suggestions for overcoming
them?**

IRes & WEST EJ CENTER Contact



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Thank You!



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Contact us!

