Community Transformation through Youth Leadership
A Case Study about Multi-Faceted Community Climate Engagement

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SEI Climate Education and Workforce Development Programs

ENERGIZE SCHOOLS

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

ENERGIZE COLLEGES

CLIMATE CORPS
Energize Schools
School of Environmental Leadership

www.thesel.org
Energize Colleges

www.energizecolleges.org
“We are committed to engaging youth in finding creative solutions to our climate crisis. By working closely with SEI, we have been able to deepen our commitments and broaden our impact by inspiring and empowering environmentally conscious leaders. SEI's Zero Waste Schools Program is helping our community get one step closer to achieving zero waste. The School of Environmental Leadership is engaging high school students at many different levels in community climate leadership. SEI is also actively helping local businesses and government, including the City of San Rafael, create new green jobs through the Climate Corps Fellowship program. Collaborating together we are supporting the San Rafael community, and really all of Marin, to meet ambitious sustainability goals.”

Cory Bytof, City of San Rafael Sustainability and Volunteer Program Coordinator
Case Study: San Rafael

Photo: Marin School of Environmental Leadership students meet with Governor Jerry Brown’s staff to discuss their proposition for a statewide Climate Report Card.
Case Study: San Rafael
School of Environmental Leadership

Photo: Marin School of Environmental Leadership students present to a local middle school about microbeads as a part of their LEAD project.
Case Study: San Rafael  
School of Environmental Leadership

“I really cannot speak highly enough of the MarinSEL Senior Internship Program. We have had 3 interns in the last 3 years, and each one has been a huge help to us in conceiving, planning, and implementing our green business practices. They have helped us to achieve our Green Business Certification from the County of Marin, and were instrumental in developing a comprehensive 5 year Sustainability Plan for our company, which we project will save us over $360,000 per year in reduced energy, water, and trash costs, and reduce our carbon footprint by 1.2 million tons per year. They have written press releases, conducted cost feasibility analyses, researched and purchased green products, created utility cost tracking models, and much, much more! And all of this is done at no cost to the employer, other than time spent mentoring and guiding the students. These kids are sharp, tech savvy, and want to make a difference in the world.”

Bob Herbst, Manager of the San Rafael Airport
Case Study: San Rafael
School of Environmental Leadership

Photo: Marin School of Environmental Leadership students present to the Board.
Case Study: San Rafael
Energize Schools

Photo: San Rafael High School students build watershed models.
Case Study: San Rafael Climate Corps

Photo: City of San Rafael Climate Corps Fellow presents project outcomes at the annual Climate Corps Symposium.
Case Study: San Rafael
Climate Corps

Photo: The 2017-18 MCE Climate Corps Fellows
Case Study: San Rafael
Energize Colleges

Photo: Intern Poster Symposium at College of Marin with Supervisor Dale Zigmant, Farm Manager Johnny Campbell, Marin Master Gardeners, and local high school students.
Regional Impacts

Partnership with EAH Housing

- EPA online benchmarking tool Portfolio Manager at 104 properties
- Developed protocol resulting in $14,000/year in savings
- Engaged over 6,500 residents in water conservation saving over 7,000,000 gallons of water

Photo: EAH Housing resident, Muhammad, who, “liked how nice everyone was. I joined the Green Team because it seemed like fun, and a valuable way to spend my time. I liked making the video and learning about water conservation.”
Regional Impacts

School of Environmental Leadership

- 85% of graduating seniors attend a four-year university
- Class of 2018 received over $520,000 in merit scholarships and institutional grants

“High school can be a really challenging time and the MarinSEL program not only empowers me to grow as an intelligent leader and empathetic person, but also provides support through the struggles of the intense academic and social demands of high school. In this way, MarinSEL provides a learning style that cannot be obtained in a general high school.”

Cameron Evans, Class of 2019
Energize Schools

- 230 schools
- 70,000 students

“The SEI program, specifically the Energy Audit lessons and tour of the SDG&E Energy Innovation Center, helped my AP Environmental Science students this year. All of my students said that the AP Environmental Science Test Free Response Questions were super easy thanks to the lessons and the field trip.”

Megan Jones, Teacher at Mt. Carmel High School

Photo: 2017 Schools
Regional Impacts

Energize Colleges

• 12 schools
• 300 student internships
• 40 faculty projects
• 15,000 high school students engaged

“This has been a wonderful experience for me. I feel that these past few months have been the most educational months of my life because I was learning both in and out of the classroom. My mentors offered great guidance throughout the internship and always encouraged me to put academics first. After seeing the green industry in action first hand, I have even begun to reevaluate my career choices, and am considering pursuing a profession within the realm of environmental sustainability now.”

Justin Yu, Energize Colleges Intern, Skyline College
Regional Impacts

Climate Corps

- 350 Climate Corps Fellows
- 450,000 hours at host organizations

“Climate Corps has been an amazing first career step for me. I appreciate the time Climate Corps gives its Fellows to pursue professional development opportunities. This fellowship helped me build a great professional network right out of college and has given me the knowledge and experience I need to confidently develop myself as a young sustainability professional. Through this experience, I reaffirmed my passions for education, environmental health, and sustainable living. The invaluable skills and connections I have gained through my fellowship will greatly serve me as I move onto being a Sustainability Specialist for the County of Alameda, where I will be leading waste management projects.”

Stacey Lee, Climate Corps Fellow at UCSF
Get Involved

SEI is looking to expand its programs!