

RRRISE Catalyst Fund Proposal BLBS GRID Workforce Training – Summary Sheet

Project Title: BLBS GRID Workforce Training Tiny Home Construction and Renewable Energy Systems

Lead Applicant: Building Lives By Building Structure Hoopa 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization (BLBS)

Collaborator(s) (if applicable): GRID Alternatives North Coast

Total Funding Request: \$331,702.00 (Staff: \$71,400.00, Staff Benefit Cost: \$21,420.00, Operating Expenses: \$10,000.00, Subcontracts and Subawards: \$126,000.00, Equipment and Materials: \$150,000.00)

Project Phase: ☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile

Region(s) Served: Humboldt County, Hoopa Valley Reservation, Yurok Reservation

Location of Headquarter: Hoopa Valley Reservation

Primary Sector: Renewable and Resilient Energy

Secondary Sector: Housing

Project Summary (~250 words): The BLBS-GRID Workforce Training project proposal combines affordable housing construction with renewable energy integration to address critical needs in the Klamath-Trinity region, while providing job training for Native American youth. The initiative, led by BLBS in partnership with GRID Alternatives North Coast, aims to complete two partially constructed tiny homes at the Hoopa Modular Plant while training 18 unemployed or underemployed individuals aged 16-24 in construction and solar energy system installation.

The project aims to address significant community challenges, with 73% of Hoopa's population being Native American and experiencing a 28% unemployment rate – more than double the national average. The program looks to restore and certify the facility's integrated cranes to establish an efficient assembly line production system, enabling increased construction capacity for future projects.

Each tiny home will be equipped with solar power and battery storage systems, combining affordable housing solutions with sustainable energy infrastructure. The comprehensive training program builds upon BLBS's track record of training approximately 150 individuals since 2020 and GRID's experience in providing no-cost solar installations and workforce development opportunities in Tribal communities.



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The project's funding will cover staff salaries, materials for home completion, solar system installations, and workforce development implementation. The completed homes will be sold at market value, with proceeds supporting program sustainability. This initiative sets out to address housing shortages, unemployment, and renewable energy adoption while creating pathways to thriving-wage careers in construction and renewable energy sectors.