

## **Grants to Green Community Initiative**

**Opportunity:** Grants to Green provides environmentally focused knowledge and funding to strengthen nonprofits. This partnership between The Community Foundation, Southface and Enterprise Community gives metro Atlanta nonprofits the opportunity to renovate or build healthier work places that are energy and water efficient, and are environmentally efficient. The ultimate goal is to improve a nonprofit organization's building structure to not only have less of an environmental impact, but also to increase the cost-efficiency of operations, ideally saving more finances to provide more services.

**Process & Grantmaking:** Nonprofits in the 23-county region of metro Atlanta can apply for Assessment Grants or Implementation Grants. Assessments allow the nonprofit to bring in experts to conduct an environmental efficiency scan of the building structure to determine areas for improvement. Implementation Grants allow the nonprofit to receive funding for specific environmental efficiency recommendations.

To include a broad perspective in this work, Grants to Green has created an Advisory Committee of members including representatives from academia, community development corporations, donors, foundations, nonprofits, real estate specialists and related corporate entities. The committee provides consultation, input and perspective on the Grants to Green progress.

Grant proposals are accepted twice annually. For those nonprofits that receive grants, Southface will conduct assessments of existing or planned facility improvement and recommend opportunities to achieve environmentally friendly operations, particularly related to energy and utility use. It is estimated that 20-30 diverse agencies (size, budget, location, etc.) will receive assessments annually. Once an assessment has been completed the nonprofit will be eligible for implementation funding up to \$50,000. The Foundation will manage grantmaking for implementation of the recommendations. All partners will contribute to nonprofit education, monitoring and evaluation.