

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Partnership for Southern Equity Receives Bezos Earth Fund Grant:
Funding will support initiative to curb the Global Climate Crisis**

ATLANTA, GA – The Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE) has received a \$6 million grant from the Bezos Earth Fund. Thanks to this grant, PSE will be able to expand the work of the [Justice40 Accelerator](#), a nationwide effort designed to help community-led environmental justice projects compete successfully for federal funding flowing from the Biden/Harris administration’s Justice40 Initiative.

The Justice40 Initiative mandates that at least 40% of the benefits from federal investments in climate and clean energy solutions be directed to disadvantaged communities, including communities of color and low-income communities that have had to bear the worst impact of climate change and dirty energy.

The Justice40 Accelerator is independent of the federal government. It is a partnership among leading climate justice and community development nonprofits and social impact firms, [Elevate](#), [Groundswell](#), [The Hummingbird Firm](#), and [The Solutions Project](#).

The Justice40 Accelerator received over 300 applications and has identified 52 organizations working on the front lines to address the impacts of climate change in their communities as the inaugural cohort. There are dozens of worthy projects in the Justice40 Accelerator pipeline, and this funding will provide additional resources and support to a much larger number of frontline organizations than were initially anticipated. The accelerator is designed to help these groups apply for Justice40 initiative funding as federal agencies release grant opportunities in the coming months.

“With this important funding, we’ll be able to increase our capacity to support climate and clean energy solutions to Black, brown and other disadvantaged communities of color who have been left out of the process when it comes to addressing these critical issues,” Nathaniel Smith, PSE’s founder and Chief Equity Officer said in reaction to the news. “Addressing climate change must be a community-led process if we are to realize a Just Transition to clean energy. The Justice40 Accelerator represents the kind of frontline work that is needed to provide true equitable clean energy solutions in our communities if we are to hold the Biden Administration accountable to investing in communities that have been negatively impacted by climate change.”

About The Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE)

Based in Atlanta, PSE (www.psequity.org) is nonprofit organization that advances policies and institutional actions that promote racial equity and shared prosperity for all in the growth of metropolitan Atlanta and the American South. Through forums, research, and organizing efforts, PSE brings together the regional community to uplift and encourage just, sustainable, and civic practices for balanced growth and opportunity.

About The Bezos Earth Fund

Launched in 2020, the Bezos Earth Fund is a \$10 billion commitment to fund scientists, activists, NGOs, and private-sector entities that are taking critical action to combat the climate crisis, preserve and protect the natural world, and support climate justice.