

4CORE serves Southwest Colorado by promoting resource conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy through education and programs that strengthen the local economy and foster a healthy, sustainable environment.

What We Do

Energy Efficiency & Weatherization

Our programs provide the path to safer, healthier and warmer homes with cost-savings for lower income residents, as well as supporting businesses with energy efficient upgrades.

Zero Emission Transportation

Through education, events and assistance for communities, residents, and businesses, 4CORE's programs directly impact the adoption of electric vehicles, clean fleets, eBikes, support infrastructure development and reduce harmful emissions.

Water Conservation

Saving water in the arid Southwest, often in severe drought is essential and accomplished through education, workshops and tools for rainwater harvesting and graywater systems.

Renewable Energy & Beneficial Electrification

Clean, renewable energy and transitioning to the new energy economy is critical to reducing the effects of climate change. We provide solar and beneficial electrification installations for lower income residents in the region.

Offsetting Carbon & Green Business Certification

We create online tools, funds and certification to ensure individuals and businesses reduce their carbon footprints with best practices, support efficiency practices and provide funds that benefits our lower income neighbors.

Why We Do What We Do

Because we need a laser-focused organization like 4CORE in the region working to reduce the harmful effects of climate change.

Because we know that serving lower income families with energy and cost-saving programs keeps dollars local, reduces their utility burden, reduces emissions and provides life-saving health and safety upgrades.

Because the climate crisis is the persistent and underlying crisis that affects every aspect of our lives — health, environment and social justice.



In our arid Southwest, a household can collect as much as 6,000 gallons per 1,000 square feet of roof. With over 200 rainwater harvesters in our area that equates to 1.2 million gallons of precious rainwater.



"This is a program where you can't lose...people come and help you out. It's such a benefit to daily life... it can put money in your pocket!" CARE recipient



"In 2019, greenhouse emissions from transportation accounted for about 29 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, making it the largest contributor of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions" EPA



"This ebike has helped me in so many different ways having a mode of transportation to work and school, and a way to do my part lowering my carbon emissions." eBike recipient



"Homes built to outdated criteria will cost owners and renters an extra \$1.1 billion, emit 6 million metric tons of unnecessary CO2, and reduce employment by 18,000 job-years"-ACEEE



2020-2021 Sponsors, Partners and Supporters: First Southwest Bank, Ballantine Family Fund, La Plata County, Next50 Initiative, Energy Outreach Colorado, Colorado Energy Office, Drive Electric Colorado, Community Foundation Serving SW Colorado, City of Durango, Energy Smart Colorado, Living Solar, Moniker Foundation And many individual donors

How Do We Accomplish Our Goals?

Through thoughtful, timely and mission-driven programs and projects we're able to deliver measurable results in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reduce costly utility bills and provide greater resiliency to those vulnerable families who stand to benefit the most from cost-savings and energy efficiency.

By partnering with other organizations, state and local governments, utilities, businesses and individual donors for funding and grant opportunities we can develop programs that bring real change to the region.

Energy Efficiency & Weatherization

We serve between 25-33 families annually through **CARE** (Colorado Affordable Residential Energy). This free income-qualified residential weatherization program provides audits, health and safety inspection and upgrades to lower income families. **Energy Smart** provides commercial business and residents energy efficiency upgrades without income qualifications.

Zero Emission & Clean Transportation

4CORE provides electric vehicle(EV) programs; **ReCharge** and **Drive Electric Colorado** and eBike grants to encourage zero emission travel. We support businesses and governments to install EV charging infrastructure and fleet conversion. 4CORE is helping Colorado achieve a measurable reduction in harmful tailpipe emissions through clean transportation.

Water Conservation

Through our **Home H2O** program we've brought rainwater harvesting education to the region, an annual group buy for rain barrels, and informative demonstrations sites. In our drought-stricken region providing water conservation tools and practices is critical to saving water. We're currently working on graywater codes for La Plata County.

Renewable Energy & Beneficial Electrification

4CORE is the region's only organization offering renewable energy and solar projects to reduce the energy burden and high cost of utilities for low-income residents. The cost-savings in utility bills over time creates ongoing operational savings providing a more sustainable, healthier environment for vulnerable residents otherwise unable to afford the upfront cost of solar.

Four Corners Carbon Offset Fund & Green Business Certification

4CornersOffset.org program encourages individuals and businesses to offset their carbon footprint by donating to the offset fund. Offsetting calculated carbon footprints is another tool 4CORE uses for reducing harmful greenhouse gases. Donations to the fund provide grants to qualified local, lower income homeowners for beneficial electric efficiency upgrades.

