**2020-2021 ICA USA Story**

**GreenRise Becoming National Demonstration**

Since 2015 the 485 GreenRise solar panels reduce electricity use by 25% per year. We are anticipating a January 2021 closing of $11M on the GreenRise Historical Restoration Project. Then GreenRise will strengthen its **address on the climate crisis** by being the first national demonstration of a vintage building to approach net zero. Low carbon buildings can reduce building energy use by 50%. Using Passive House guidelines for restoring the infrastructure GreenRise will demonstrate how energy, water, space and light usage in an old building lowers its footprint.

**GreenRise continues to provide affordable housing** to its 1*9* non-profit tenants who serve low income and the homeless (e.g., Heartland Health Center, Sarah’s Circle women’s shelter, and the GreenRise and Praxis intentional communities).

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The GreenRise is self-sufficient so no fundraising dollars are needed for its development. Instead, program dollars are needed to expand staff and programs in 2021 for:

**Facilitation for Sustainability and Training**

In 2020 Denver colleagues are leading the way in addressing the environment with their **Climate Action Forums** now online. They have completed twelve forums in Denver (click [on Neighborhood Forums](https://accelerateclimateaction.org/) to see documents) and are adding three Boulder communities in 2021. Their processes can be seen on Boulder City website (<https://bouldercolorado.gov/climate/anca>).In 2021 ICA staff are anticipating facilitating sustainability conversations/forums in Chicago communities.

In 2020 ICA and ToP trainers have [collaboratively launched four online courses](https://www.ica-usa.org/news/creativity-and-innovation-embedded-in-virtual-facilitation-trainings), with more in development. In June ICA staff in Chicago partnered with the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition training leaders in ten organizations; they now use ICA methods to engage communities to bring renewable, clean energy benefits and jobs to Illinois. In 2021 the creation of a global calendar will enable wider participation in training, studies (Courage to Lead), dialogue with speakers (Katharine Hayhoe [Connecting Global Change to Local Solutions](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHkZ7aOE3hQ&list=PLAuXCoA7UI68fY_2b2E5NwYOvUqCmW6mI&index=1); Rob Hopkins [on imagination](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycEi3oUNwGE)); ICA TED Talks on social issues; and creating new programs with online teams.

**Global Research Network Outreach**

The ICA Archives website ([www.icaglobalarchives.org](http://www.icaglobalarchives.org)) has shifted its documentation of the past to sharing approaches that work. Meida McNeal used 5th City documents to produce “5th City Revisited”. Two online events were facilitated with one hundred participants in May and fifty in November. A Global Research Assembly is anticipated in May 2021, focused on sharing what is working globally and targeting future research arenas.

**ICA Interim Director: Phil Waitzman**

Phil brings new energy, perspective and contacts to the ICA as it envisions the future and begins closing gaps in its financial and operational systems. He is looking for ways to Celebrate 2021 with the GreenRise 100th Birthday of its construction and the 50 Year Celebration of ICA’s move into the GreenRise in 1971.