

## (Em)powering Our Neighborhoods: Bringing Clean Energy Home

April 21, 2021

### Panelists



**Carlos Garcia** is the Energy Planner for the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA), a network of grassroots organizations from low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. NYC-EJA advocates for improved environmental conditions and against inequitable environmental burdens. Garcia's work supports renewable energy investment in low-to-moderate-income communities and energy transitions that lead to a low-carbon pathway. His role involves data analysis, advocacy, project management, and policy and economic modeling.



**Gabriel Jamison** is a co-founder of the Brownsville Residents Green Committee (BRGC), a BIPOC environmental justice community organization focused on stopping the construction of a fracked-gas pipeline running through the neighborhood. He also leads BRGC's solar community fridge project, a sustainable mutual aid project. He coordinated Solar Pioneers, a work development program to provide green job training in the solar industry, and has served as program manager of the Flatbush Leadership Academy and on Brooklyn Community Board 16.



**Max Joel** is the Program Manager of the NY-Sun Initiative at the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA). NY-Sun is a statewide initiative to build 6 Gigawatts of distributed solar by 2025 and includes a program to benefit low- and moderate-income households, affordable housing, and environmental justice communities. Previously, Max was Director of Community Solar Initiatives at Solar One, a nonprofit organization in New York City. He lives in Brooklyn and is a frequent borrower from the Cortelyou branch library.



**Summer Sandoval** is Energy Democracy Coordinator at UPROSE, a Sunset Park-based group that promotes sustainability and resiliency through community organizing, education, indigenous and youth leadership development, and cultural and artistic expression. She is working on the development of Sunset Park Solar, New York's first community solar cooperative. She also organizes against new peaker power plants and is part of the team implementing UPROSE's Green Resilient Industrial District, a community-led waterfront jobs and development plan.



**Moderator:**

**Daphny Rose Sanchez** is founder and executive director of Kinetic Communities, a certified Benefit Corporation that provides energy efficiency consulting to energy and affordable housing partners. By partnering with local government, private sector entities, and nonprofit institutions, Kinetic Communities enhances community engagement with energy efficiency. Kinetic Communities works with partners to expand communication and expose information on energy efficiency for New Yorkers