



SEE A

SOUTHEAST ENERGY EFFICIENCY ALLIANCE

Promoting Knowledge and
Engagement – Addressing Energy
Insecurity in the Gullah Community

OUR MISSION

To optimize the use and impact of energy to enhance the quality of life in the Southeast.

OUR VISION

All people in the Southeast live and work in healthy and resilient buildings, utilize clean and affordable transportation, and thrive in a robust and equitable economy.

OUR VALUES



Take Initiative

We take responsibility for realizing a better quality of life in the Southeast.



Value Others

We seek, respect, and promote diverse perspectives.



Earn Trust

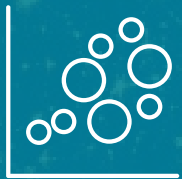
We pursue our work with benevolence, competence, and reliability.



Pursue Equitable Solutions

We recognize, acknowledge, and account for a history of prejudice and inequality in Southeastern communities.

OUR CORE SERVICES



Research



Facilitation



**Consultation &
Education**



**Program
Management &
Financial Services**

Stakeholder Recommendations for Reducing Energy Insecurity in the Southeast United States

AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

01

Develop a public-facing **one-stop shop** that outlines which programs individuals are eligible for, houses a centralized application for aid, and provides collaborative program implementation.

02

Develop a **database of programs** addressing energy insecurity in the Southeast.

03

Develop one **centralized application for aid** starting with weatherization and urgent repair programs.

04

Launch an **awareness campaign** to educate energy insecure individuals and decision makers.

Today's Speakers



Chriscilia Cox
Suma Consulting LLC



Marilyn Hemingway
*Gullah Geechee Chamber
of Commerce*

PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE AND ENGAGEMENT



Addressing energy insecurity in the Gullah community





Gullah Geechee Chamber of Commerce
Makin' Somet'n from Not'n

- To create global awareness, profitability and sustainability of African American businesses and other entities impacting the Gullah Geechee community.



Gullah Geechee Chamber
FOUNDATION

- To raise funds supporting the educational programs of the Gullah Geechee Chamber of Commerce



Descendants of enslaved Africans from West Africa who were brought to the Caribbean Islands, North and South America because of their knowledge of **HOW TO CONTROL THE WATER AND MANAGE THE LAND** to grow the rice, indigo, sugar and sea island cotton.

We are a language but so much more: food, medicine, engineers, builders, historians, storytellers, music, entrepreneurs, spiritual practices, environmentalists...keepers of the water and land

WE are an Evolutionary and Foundational Culture located in SC, NC, GA, FL

WHO ARE THE GULLAH GEECHEE?



SUMA Consulting is a resource to help business owners, administrators, and leaders make their organizations more environmentally aware. For the best interests of the local and global environment, we support the community and economy dependent on a healthy planet. Being an ecologically conscious business, we consider more than just profits — our impact on society.

We have numerous platforms and partnerships we are proudly affiliated with to bring awareness and cultivate others to our call to action, which includes Co-chairing an Environmental and Energy conference.



GreenHome By Suma is the residential arm of the Georgia -based consultancy SUMA Consulting LLC. It provides tailored solutions to families (including our pets) who desire to become more environmentally aware. We customize options that work within your budget to get you closer to your desired eco-friendly goals.

Green Home by Suma offers consultation services to people who are seeking a home. We provide assessment and recommendations to assure your improved quality of life.

CHALLENGES

Listen to the Community

Climate Change

Energy Justice

Environmental Justice

Lack of access to information regarding Energy

Lack of Infrastructure

Access to financial and People Capital

- Brain Drain; People leave for educational and economic opportunity
- Absence of Generational Wealth

Cultural Appropriation

- Not of the community; selling community assets

SOLUTIONS

Community Based Solutions

- Create education opportunities through community outreach
- Develop and implement focus groups, workshops
- Address Impact of Climate Change with community-embedded solutions
- Address Energy Justice with community-embedded solutions
- Develop Citizen and Community Scientists
- Build Relationships with the Scientific Community
- Support Community-based Leadership

BUILDING CITIZEN SCIENTISTS

- A member of the general public who collects and analyzes data relating to the natural world, typically as part of a collaborative project with professional scientists.
- Citizen science is **the practice of public participation and collaboration in scientific research to increase scientific knowledge**

Gullah Geechee Environmental & Energy Programming

Gullah Geechee Environment & Energy Roundtables – Small focus groups of 12 - 15 persons hosted by the Gullah Geechee Chamber Foundation throughout our community to determine the levels of knowledge and the work being done in regarding the impact of climate change, career and business opportunities in green, renewable energy, and environmental justice.

Gullah Geechee Environment & Energy Conversations – Monthly conversations between environment/energy organizations and the Gullah community to “be a resource to each other” through the exchange of ideas, missions and to advocate with and for the community.

The Gullah Geechee Environment & Energy Conference - an annual Conference hosting Environment, Energy and Cultural speakers and panels with a focus on sharing knowledge regarding the impact of Climate Change, career and business opportunities in green, renewable energy, electric vehicles and the training of activists to advocate for the community and its role in the future of solar, wind, green hydrogen and other energy sources



BY THE NUMBERS

Conversations

- Inperson: Four
- Hybrid: 12 plus

Roundtables:

- Nine along the SC Coast and Midlands

Conference

- Year Five in Brunswick, GA 2023
- Three Tracks: Cultural, Energy, Environment
- Pre-Conference Excursion
- Two days
- More than 600 persons have attended in five years
- Attendees from United States and eight countries

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Get
Engaged?

- **Contact: Marilyn L Hemingway**
 - 843-318-8644
 - Marilyn@GullahGeecheeChamber.org
 - **Contact: Chriscilia Cox**
 - 912-302-4284
 - Chriscilia@sumaconsulting.org
 - Contact
 - www.SumaConsulting.org
 - Join. Volunteer.
 - www.gullahgeecheechamber.org
 - Donate. Volunteer.
 - www.gullahgeecheefoundation.org
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Questions?

Future Webinars Topics	Future Webinar Dates
Working Group: Awareness and Community Engagement	End of January
Working Group: Housing	End of February
Working Group: Systemic Change	End of March
Working Group: Data Access and Improvement	End of April
Working Group: Programs and Access to Financing	End of May
Working Group: Utility Solutions	End of June

Thank You



SMART ENERGY. STRONG ECONOMY. FOR ALL.

WWW.SEEALLIANCE.ORG