

Grant Impact Report



Executive Summary

The New Jersey Puerto Rico Commission's Inaugural Energy Grant provided funding for eight organizations to complete off-grid energy projects on the Island of Puerto Rico targeting vulnerable populations. These solar and generator projects help power a variety of locations including a domestic violence shelter, homes of seniors with chronic health conditions, a residential group home for children with developmental disabilities, municipal community shelters and public resiliency hubs throughout majority-rural regions of Puerto Rico. Over 11,000 individuals will gain access to reliable energy independent of the grid through this initiative.

Historical Context & Grant Purpose



Established in the wake of Hurricane Maria and based on recommendations from the exploratory relief committee, the New Jersey Puerto Rico Commission (PRC) is a 35-member advisory Commission within the New Jersey Department of State that serves to maintain and improve ties with the government and people of Puerto Rico. The compounded effect of Hurricanes Maria and Irma unleashed catastrophic devastation, forcing over 30,000 displaced Puerto Ricans to flee, relocating to the Garden State. A staggering 4,550+ Puerto Ricans are estimated to have perished as a result of the natural disasters and mismanagement of emergency response. The Commission recognized the responsibility to elevate and bridge Puerto Rico residents' concerns with New Jersey policy discussions.

In 2025, the NJPRC launched a first of its kind competitive grant program through which eight organizations, including one New Jersey based non-profit, received \$25,000 each in funding to complete off-grid energy projects on the Island of Puerto Rico targeting vulnerable communities. From Commission idea to material implementation, this grant is the product of collaborative research and needs assessments of the Island’s top priorities, with a focused mission of providing continuation of services and daily life with independence from the unstable grid system.

Performance Metrics

This grant successfully achieved its objectives of promoting dignity and well-being of Boricuas by:

- Ensuring reliable energy access
- Enhancing community resilience and emergency preparedness
- Reducing risks associated with food spoilage, heat exposure, and medical device interruptions

Project by Organization

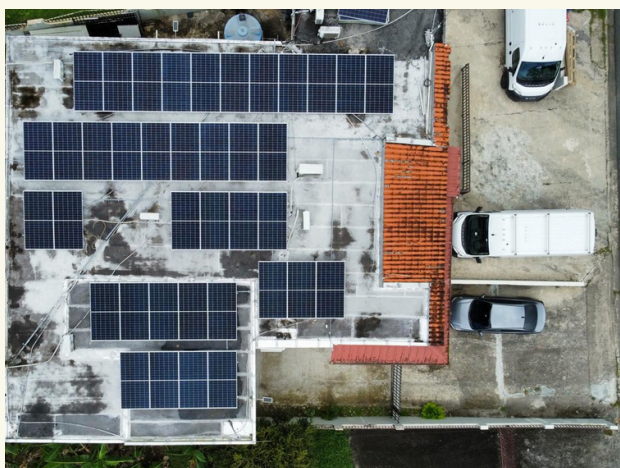
Organization Name	Individuals Impacted	Location/ Region
Let's Share the Sun	25	Humacao
HASER Inc	169	San Juan
Asociación de Residentes de La Margarita	300	Salinas
Empowered by Light	500	Ponce
Puerto Rican Association for Human Development	50	Various
Techos Pa Mi Gente	380	San Juan
Municipio de Toa Baja	10,838	Toa Baja, North Coast
The Salvation Army	500	Caguas & Loiza



The Puerto Rican Association for Human Development (PRAHD) sent an all-female team from New Jersey to distribute solar panel powered generators to 19 households of low-income families with medically vulnerable members in Puerto Rico. PRAHD also partnered with nonprofit, Hogar Tus Pasos, which is a group home for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to provide a larger-capacity generator along with three solar panels to meet its operational needs.



La Margarita is a residential community located in Salinas, PR, the organization successfully completed the procurement, installation, and operational readiness of a community emergency generator to support 300 unduplicated residents during power interruptions and emergencies. The project emphasizes environmental resilience planning and equitable access to reliable energy for low-income and medically vulnerable elderly populations in Salinas.



Let's Share the Sun completed installation of a solar battery and storage at Casa de la Bondad, a domestic violence shelter serving women, children, and families across the Humacao region. The system provides reliable, renewable energy to ensure continuity of critical services, strengthen operational



Empowered by Light completed installation of a solar energy system with battery backup at El Pesebre, Inc., a certified community hub and kitchen. El Pesebre serves 500 unduplicated individuals per week through their community kitchen.

resilience during power outages, and reduce electricity costs.

The project is part of Let's Share the Sun's mission to equip all shelters in the La Red Nacional de Albergues de Violencia de Género association with solar energy.



Photo below showcases volunteer preparation of 300 breakfasts for a nearby community during a power outage on February 21, 2026.



Techos Pa Mi Gente (TPMG Corp)

successfully expanded the clean energy capacity of their headquarters by installing a photovoltaic system that allows for laundry service and community charging stations. The availability of laundry services during emergencies addresses a significant public health concern that became especially evident after Hurricane María, when many families endured months without running water. While usage depends on disaster frequency, approximately 380 unduplicated clients and volunteers benefited during the contract term.



HASER Inc installed a solar energy system at their shared building in San Juan that serves as the operational hub for five nonprofit organizations, over 100 grassroots initiatives, and an emergency response center for vulnerable communities serving as a cool down center during extreme heat waves.

Over the grant period 217 individual unduplicated clients were positively impacted.



The NJ Puerto Rico Commission looks forward to continuing its mission to embrace, uplift, and support Puerto Ricans. To learn more about the Commission: prc.nj.gov