

Serve on the Research Advisory Council

We need your help!

The LIFT project is looking for experts in finance, social science research, solar development and utility management and regulation to serve on the LIFT **Research Advisory Council**.

The RAC will advise and guide LIFT's research and the creation of a Tool Kit that provides optimal community solar program designs for LMI households nationwide.

LIFT: Innovation for Equitable Solar Access

<https://groundswell.org/liftsolar/>

What is LIFT?

In May 2019, the US Department of Energy awarded funding to a collaboration of energy organizations to conduct research and create practical, unsubsidized, optimal community solar program designs that will rapidly expand solar access for low- and moderate-income households.

We call it LIFT: "Accelerating **Low-Income Financing & Transactions** for Solar Access Everywhere." **LIFT** will use actual low- and moderate-income (LMI) customer data from energy efficiency, solar and community solar projects, analyzing both financing and customer experience (behavior) patterns. Based on its analysis, LIFT will deliver tested, effective, transparent service designs that integrate building energy efficiency with solar/community solar benefits for distressed ratepayers.

Core Partners (Team LIFT):

- Groundswell (www.Groundswell.org)
- Elevate Energy (www.ElevateEnergy.org)
- Southface Institute (www.Southface.org)
- Clean Energy Works (www.CleanEnergyWorks.org)



What Will LIFT Accomplish?

- LIFT will standardize effective clean energy program elements that, when adopted, will equip emerging, advancing, and maturing state marketplaces to rapidly accelerate LMI solar photovoltaic access AND implement solar/energy efficiency programs that benefit LMI communities.
- LIFT's tool kit will enable utilities, municipalities and developers to work from a tested playbook, quickly launching new community solar programs that are fully subscribed and unsubsidized.

How You Can Help: Join the LIFT Research Advisory Council

To design its research approach and deliver well-informed, practical and effective Tool Kit program recommendations, LIFT is establishing a **Research Advisory Council (RAC)**. The RAC, as voluntary advisors, will work with LIFT partners to increase and rapidly expand access to solar PV generation and its economic benefits for low-and moderate-income households.

Who Can Serve on LIFT’s Research Advisory Council?

The Research Advisory Council will represent a diversity of stakeholders including experts in the fields of finance, data science, and social science. The LIFT RAC may also include experts in regulatory and legal matters impacting community solar, solar/DER and low-to-moderate income ratepayer policy, including staff with appropriate expertise from electric utilities and state or regional/national energy regulatory bodies, and solar developers and related solar-focused organizations. The RAC will include no fewer than **eight** committed members.

What Role Will RAC Serve in the LIFT Project?

RAC members will advise LIFT partners on the design and implementation of research and will also help design LIFT’s outreach and engagement plan to disseminate research discoveries. RAC members serve as voluntary advisors to the LIFT project. We ask that RAC members serve for the full three years of LIFT’s research. RAC will meet twice each year, usually via conference call. LIFT will convene an in-person RAC meeting as a kick-off in Fall 2019.

What Are the Duties of RAC Members?

RAC members will review data sets, research designs and research analysis arising from the LIFT project team. RAC will also assist LIFT in reviewing analysis, and will share LIFT’s research through publications, social media, and public presentations.

RAC participation is voluntary and advisory, and LIFT cannot compensate RAC members for their efforts. Both LIFT and the Department of Energy, however, will acknowledge RAC members’ service to this important research effort in public reports and the Tool Kit, and in other public research dissemination/social media.

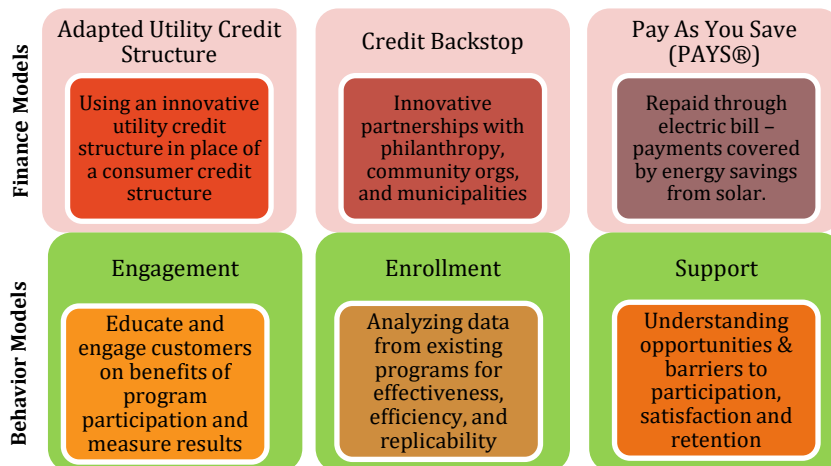
Interested in Serving? Have questions about LIFT or the RAC?

Email or call Chris Nichols, LIFT’s Program Manager, for more information on joining RAC.

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Initial LIFT Finance and Behavior Models for Consideration:



The LIFT Tool Kit solution will address at least three financing models and two subscription/enrollment designs in three different electric utility service environments.