



## AMERICAN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

# Power Shift

[powershift.org](https://powershift.org)

This guide offers a successful and stepwise model for you to replicate in your community. It is part of a series featuring the award-winning programs from the finalists of the American Climate Leadership Awards 2022 by ecoAmerica.

### OVERVIEW

Welcome to the pulsing heart of the youth climate justice movement. This next five years is a critical window to prevent a track of irreversible climate change — and to meet the urgency of this moment, we need you! You might feel overwhelmed by the scope of the climate crisis and not know where to start. The thing about climate anxiety is that the best way to overcome the anxiety is by taking action — however big or small.

### STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

1. Choose a local climate issue in your neighborhood, at your college/high school, or at your workplace.
2. Find out if there is already a local group working on this issue. Join them! You can find a list of current Power Shift Network (PSN) members [here](#).
3. If there isn't a group tackling this issue, start your own group or campaign. Talk to friends, classmates, teachers, and community members to see if they will join your cause.
4. [Join Power Shift Network](#) as a member organization, joining a vibrant network of collaborators to help you grow your organizing skills, find funding, and amplify your impact.
5. Attend the next [Power Shift Convergence](#) or explore our [workshops and resources](#) to increase your skills, learn how to effectively tell your story, and meet other like-minded youth activists.
6. Plan a direct action to draw attention to your cause. Watch PSN's video about our [2021 Day of Action](#) to see an example of a powerful youth-led direct action.
7. Debrief your action or campaign with your group — what worked? What would you change for next time? Experimentation and adaptability is key to running successful climate justice campaigns!
8. Share your story — with PSN, with your community, with media, and with funders. Let folks know the ways you're making change happen, and ways they can support your work.