

The 2023 CCAG
Nancy Benedict Social Justice Award Honoree
Leticia Colon de Mejias



Leticia Colon de Mejias is an activist, author, leader, and nationally awarded clean energy entrepreneur. She began her journey at Hartford Health Care as a young single mother, where she created a robust workforce development program that facilitates minority employees' advancement from entry-level positions to free onsite college programs. Through her 20 years with HHC, she was a direct witness to the health-related impacts of our energy demand. Later, Leticia's career trajectory took a passionate turn after experiencing first-hand the inaccessibility of clean energy programs for middle-class and low-income homeowners, prompting a pivot toward environment, energy, and building science.

As the founder of Energy Efficiencies Solutions (EES), one of the country's largest Latino-owned energy demand reduction companies, Leticia continues to be an effective advocate for empowering people of color, working families, marginalized voices, and historically underrepresented communities. In her current workforce development efforts, Leticia shares her success with minority entrepreneurs and further safeguards human health, by advancing diversity and inclusivity in the clean energy industry. By 2020, four EES employees had moved on to start their own energy-efficiency businesses. Under Leticia's leadership, EES has provided energy efficiency assessments and upgrades to 14,000+ households and completed full energy efficiency retrofits in over 10,000,000 ft² of multifamily housing, drawing down energy pollution where it matters the most in our homes.

Leticia is the recipient of multiple awards and honors related to her Environmental work and DEI accomplishments. She is the founding president of Green Eco Warriors, which has provided climate and energy education to over 500,000 individuals. She is a board member for numerous local and national non-profit organizations including the National Environmental Justice advisory board for the EPA, and CEEJAC Energy Commission. Leticia's work has been highlighted by the US Congress, the US Department of Energy, the US Department of Education, Time Magazine, TEDx, WNPR, The Hartford Courant, Hartford Business Journal, the National Small Business Association, the National Building Performance Association, and many others. She has testified before multiple US congressional committees to drive sustainable policies. Leticia is a renowned public speaker and celebrated author of over 20 children's books exploring the environment, pollinators, plastic waste, energy, and social-emotional awareness.

Leticia's accomplishments are ever-growing. All of us at CCAG are excited to be in the fight for energy justice with her and see the continued progress of her work, and its benefits to all Connecticut residents.