

Sustainability Peer Advisory Group



The **Sustainability Peer Advisory Group** is a network for professionals working to advance sustainability through services, products or organizational design in businesses, philanthropies, non-profits, municipalities, or other organizational contexts.

This program is available to Business Owners, Sustainability Directors, Managers and Entrepreneurs in organizations with shared core values, seeking reliable and actionable advice from a trusted community of results driven leaders. **Through peer group discussions participants gain perspectives and share expertise with others** who have faced similar challenges and broaden their exposure across a range of sustainability issues.

Group members learn how to **improve organizational performance** and reach organizational goals to achieve their vision, with support from high caliber business leaders, subject matter experts and experienced conveners and facilitators. Thoughtful discussion will **challenge your thinking** to become a more effective leader and decision maker while being held accountable by yourself and group members in a **trusting environment**.

Sustainability Integration Program Outcomes

- **PEER TO PEER** work sessions, sharing best practices, team building activities, industry speakers, and peer accountability.
- **ADULT LEARNING TECHNIQUES** used throughout to enable you and your organization to successfully muscle your way through the sustainability challenges and problems.
- Develop **NEW NETWORKS** with mentors from outside your organization.
- Set **PERFORMANCE GOALS** for your organization and metrics to measure them.
- Develop customized strategic approaches to **SUPPORT INTERNAL SUSTAINABILITY AND EXTERNAL BRAND ELEVATION AND DIFFERENTIATION** within and outside your organization.
- Growth, progress and insight both **PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY**.

Program Facilitation

- The Sustainability Peer Advisory Group will provide you with an **experienced group of advisors and a seasoned facilitator** - who can offer you advice, feedback, and critical thinking around the challenges you all share in common.
- The professional facilitation of peer roundtables results in candid discussion and practical advice.
- **The confidential setting and third-party perspective** allows for a true exchange of ideas and observations that leaders need to hear.
- The role of the facilitator is to chair the meetings, keep meetings on time and on point, **ensure there is strong motivation behind the group**, help each member understand one another's unique contribution, and deliver the outcomes each member is striving for as part of their being involved.

Sustainability Peer Advisory Group

Guided by Experience – Josie Plaut of the Institute for the Built Environment



Josie Plaut is Associate Director for the Institute for the Built Environment at Colorado State University where she guides companies, municipalities and organizations through developing capacity and action plans for regeneration.

Josie is a strategic facilitator with a proven track record for guiding teams to realize their visions, goals and strategic priorities. Her recent work spans **domestic and international clients** across a variety of scales including buildings, municipal programs, master plans, district scale projects, and in

organizational development. She brings a unique combination of **subject matter expertise** in regeneration, effective facilitation, and systems thinking, resulting in shared purpose, clarity of vision and **engagement from project constituents**. Josie is a published and cited author on the topics of sustainability, green building, and regeneration and has been a featured speaker at multiple local and national events.

Program Details and Membership – What you can Expect

- Member organizations work together transparently to help each other achieve new sustainability success and to learn from one another. Individuals will **walk away from these sessions with action items to help resolve issues** affecting their particular organization, and report progress of change in future meetings.
- This focus group launches on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 and **is limited to 15 participants** from a variety of diverse organizations. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis. Additional applications will be reviewed as space becomes available in the program.
- Members meet on the second Wednesday, every other month from 9am-2pm in Fort Collins.
- **Membership is \$295 per session** and includes meeting facilitation, program monitoring and feedback, administrative support and lunch during sessions. **Membership consists of six sessions** and may be renewed annually.
- Option for **one-on one coaching** with program facilitator is available for an additional fee and may be scheduled at any time.
- All members are required to **sign a non-disclosure agreement** in order to ensure that proprietary company information remains strictly confidential and exclusive to group activity.
- Peer Group participants agree to complete brief, periodic feedback **surveys**. The results will help SLA make necessary improvements to the program.



Sustainability Peer Group Application

Name: _____ Company: _____

Title: _____ E-mail: _____

Office Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Civil Society Sector: _____ Number of Employees: _____

Annual Revenue or Budget (allows us to appropriately group participants):

< 500 thousand

500k - 1 million

1-5 million

> 5 million

Potential group participants must submit an application no later than August 23rd in order to be considered for inclusion in the cohort-learning group beginning Wednesday, September 11th.

Please include a copy of your **current resume** and answers to the **essay questions** below with your application; this information will be reviewed by SLA staff, board members and program facilitators only. Participation is **limited to 15 participants**, from **non-competing organizations**. **Membership includes six sessions at \$295 per session and may be billed bi-monthly.** Members have the option to renew annually.

I understand that my full participation is requested in this program and if applicable my employer has authorized my time away from work as required by this program.

Signature

Date

Essay Questions: Please limit your answers to 150 words per question.

1. Describe the complex social, ecological, or economic sustainability challenge in your organization that inspires your interest in joining the cohort.
2. What strengths and/or unique perspective would you bring to the group?
3. If your organization has a Sustainability Report, please provide a copy with your application. If not, please provide your CSR or sustainability policy or otherwise describe your organization's sustainability practices.
4. What do you hope to get out of this program and how will you apply it to your organization?
5. What areas of sustainability are you looking to improve and/or learn more about?

Please submit your resume, application and essay questions to: Kellie@SustainableLivingAssociation.org
or mail to Sustainable Living Association, PO Box 1095, Fort Collins, CO 80522