



## Rebecca Sanders

Executive Director, Clean Energy Jobs and Justice Fund

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### Position with Firm

2024–present **Executive Director, Clean Energy Jobs and Justice Fund (CEJF).** Leads CEJF, a newly formed green bank managed by Public Sector Consultants and incorporated to serve Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, environmental justice, and low-income communities throughout Illinois with financing solutions for energy-efficiency and renewable energy improvements. Oversees organizational governance issues, operations, fundraising, marketing, human resources, technology, and programmatic strategies. Supports the team in creation of financing instruments and solutions. Responsible for the fiscal management of the organization.

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### Previous Professional Experience

2023–2024 **CEO, Natural Resources Council of Maine,** Augusta, Maine. Served as executive leader of a well-established environmental advocacy organization in Maine, focusing on advancing clean energy solutions, preserving Maine’s forests and waters, and promoting sustainability policies. Established a collaborative leadership model, oversaw a 22-member board and approximately 30 staff, and managed a \$16 million endowment and \$4 million annual budget.

2019–2021 **Chief Field and Strategy Officer, National Audubon Society,** Washington, D.C. Drove strategies for national initiatives and operations while leading Audubon’s field programs. Managed a \$68 million annual operating budget and \$155 million in land and facility assets across 17 field offices serving 31 states, 34 nature centers, and extensive sanctuary network with a staff of over 500.

2016–2019 **Vice President, Great Lakes and Upper Mississippi Flyway National Audubon Society,** Chicago, Illinois. Elevated Audubon’s brand and influence across the Midwest through conservation delivery and fundraising across eight states with a \$6M operating portfolio, 60 staff, and 85 grassroots chapters. Provided guidance to executive leadership on national strategies for conservation, community engagement, and operations.

- 2013–2016 **Executive Director, Audubon Great Lakes, National Audubon Society, Chicago, Illinois.**  
Transformed Audubon’s Great Lakes office from a small, metro-focused program into an influential regional nongovernmental organization serving Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin and increased the budget ten-fold.
- 2007–2013 **Executive Director, Chicago Cultural Alliance (CCA), Chicago, Illinois.** Was inaugural director to a consortium of the metro-area’s heritage-based organizations that served a broad diversity of Chicago’s community. During tenure, CCA achieved semifinalist status for the Lodestar Collaboration Prize by demonstrating a new model of cross-cultural exchange.
- 2007–2008 **Executive Director, International Business Council, Chicago, Illinois.**
- 2005–2006 **Instructor, University of Maryland University College, Catania, Italy.**
- 2001–204 **Postsecondary Coordinator, Maine State GEAR-UP, Augusta, Maine.**
- Education BA, Anthropology and Environmental Science, University of Notre Dame  
MA, Ecological and Environmental Anthropology, University of Georgia

## Awards

- Fulbright Fellowship, Israel, 1998
- Chicago Community Trust Emerging Leader Fellowship, 2012

## Associations

- The Wetlands Initiative, vice chair and board member, 2022–present
- Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, development committee member, 2021–present
- Faith in Place, development committee member, 2024–present