

## ARIDLANDSINSTITUTE

@ Woodbury University

7500 Glenoaks Blvd  
Burbank CA 91510-7846  
818 394 3335  
aridlands@woodbury.edu  
www.aridlands.woodbury.edu

Project Brief:

### **Design Assistance for Water-and Energy-Wise Communities**

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US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of University Partnerships, Hispanic-Serving Institutions Assisting Communities  
Grant Period: October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2012  
Grant Number: HSIAC-09-CA-39

### **Project Description + Major Objectives:**

Design Assistance for Water- and Energy-Wise Communities unifies local governments, community stakeholders, and higher education faculty and students in an effort to address urgent water and energy problems that are undermining the quality of life in low and middle income communities. The proposed project will impact thousands of low- and middle-income residents who live in the targeted communities/areas of the City of Burbank, California and Rio Arriba County, New Mexico through innovative solutions to water and energy conservation and public education events.

Objective 1: Engage at least 150 students in CDBG-eligible service learning experiences that offer local communities at least six (6) feasible planning and design solutions to conservation challenges. ALI teams provide planning/design services focused on the water-energy nexus in the context of respective Comprehensive Plans in the two partner communities. Projects in both locations follow three phases: Year 1: Research + Analysis; Year 2: Infrastructure + Landscape Strategies; and Year 3: Building Systems + Policy Implications.

Objective 2: Deliver five major public education events on urban energy and water conservation to reach at least 1,250 residents of targeted communities, including low- and middle-income residents. ALI hosts workshops, symposia, exhibits, and conferences on water- and energy-smart design strategies for arid and semi-arid environments.

Objective 3: Disseminate web-based public information resources and a print resource on university-community conservation collaboration, including planning and design strategies for affordable water and energy conserving development. ALI's public programs are published online as a free video archive.