Bringing Just Transition Home

The framework of just transition is simply a way to organize ideas about how to create a community that is good for us and for future generations. It can help us turn the future that we imagine into reality.

First, examine the five bubbles in the living economy and envision the future of your community. Think about these guiding questions: What are people doing for work in your community in the future? How are people working together? How are decisions being made? What type of healing and support is available for community members? What regenerative resources are being used? How are people taking care of the land? In the circle below, write or sketch your thoughts.

Now think of a project you are doing or would like to do that fits in the vision you created. What are the first steps or the next steps you need to make it happen? Which season is the best time to take those next steps?

Project:

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Now think about who else you need support from. Let’s say you would like to start an indoor garden to grow food for your community. Maybe you could reach out to someone at the Tribal office or the school to see if there might be some space you could use. List out the people who could support your idea and how they could help you make it happen.

1. Name: ____________________________  Contact info: ____________________________
   How can they help? ______________________________________________________

2. Name: ____________________________  Contact info: ____________________________
   How can they help? ______________________________________________________

3. Name: ____________________________  Contact info: ____________________________
   How can they help? ______________________________________________________

Write down some reasons why the idea you are proposing is something good for your whole community. Going back to the indoor garden, it could be a good source of vegetables for people in the winter time. This list will help you explain to your community why this is a good idea. List out some benefits to your community.

Now you’re ready to reach out to those support people and ask them to work with you on this idea together. Consider asking the Tribal council for time to present your idea at a meeting or ask a teacher at school if you could present your idea to your classmates or talk to a friend at the next basketball game.

There are so many ways to get other people excited about just transition. Don’t be afraid to start small! Your big goal might be to find funding to build and run a greenhouse for growing lots of vegetables. But even taking the first step of growing a small garden at home can be a great way to show other people around you that the future that you envision is possible.