

## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Collaboration among four San Antonio entities leads to the creation of SolarJobs SA, an education, training, certification, and workforce initiative**

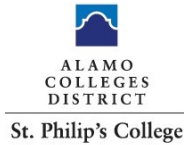
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS – Today representatives from OCI Solar Power, St. Philip's College, Project QUEST, and the San Antonio Area Foundation announced the establishment of SolarJobs SA, an education and workforce initiative to help prepare students for careers in the renewable energy industry.

"We want to help more San Antonians benefit from the booming solar energy industry," said Charles Kim, President & CEO, OCI Solar Power. "We already had a working relationship with St. Philip's College so we built on it, added a couple more partners, and created SolarJobs SA to help students learn, train, test, and get certified without ever leaving our city."

The 3-year, \$500,000 initiative has helped St. Philip's College's Power Generation and Alternative Energy program increase its offerings, from one to two solar-related associates degrees and from two to six solar-related certifications. Testing for those certifications can now happen in San Antonio as opposed to Austin or El Paso as was done before. Additionally, SolarJobs SA covers scholarships for students, stipends for instructors, classroom supplies and equipment, textbooks, tools, testing fees and more. Eight students are currently enrolled in the program.

"Helping to spearhead the SolarJobs SA initiative is a great honor for St. Philip's College. Our Power Generation and Alternative Energy program uses leading-edge technology in labs and coursework with an emphasis on hands-on experiences to prepare a new generation for the workforce," said Dr. Adena Williams Loston, President of St. Philip's College.

As part of the SolarJobs SA collaboration, Project QUEST is available to help students with support services like housing and utility assistance, online connectivity, and childcare. It will also develop a job bank containing solar-related opportunities and help students secure a career in the industry by helping them with their resumes and interviewing skills.



“Project QUEST is honored to be a part of the SolarJobs SA initiative and bring our 30 years of experience to help ensure the success of the students,” said Molly Biglari, President and CEO of Project QUEST.

The San Antonio Area Foundation will manage the SolarJobs SA fund and ensure accountability from all entities.

“We’re grateful to OCI Solar Power for placing their trust in the San Antonio Area Foundation as our region’s most trusted and impactful philanthropic partner,” said Lisa Brunsvold, Vice President for Marketing, Development, and Donor Services at the Area Foundation. “We take pride in being part of this effort that will help close opportunity gaps for those who need it most through the creation of new educational and workforce opportunities.”

Today’s public announcement took place at 9:00 a.m. at St. Philip’s College - Southwest Campus, 800 Quintana Rd. Representatives from each SolarJobs SA partner, students, the City of San Antonio, greater: SATX, Workforce Solutions Alamo, and other local solar-related companies were in attendance.

The development of more solar energy projects in the United States is on the rise, and over the next five years, Texas is expected to rank first for the highest amount of solar installed in the country, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association. For more facts about solar in Texas, go to <https://www.seia.org/state-solar-policy/texas-solar>.

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*About OCI Solar Power LLC*

OCI Solar Power is a leader in the solar power industry. Headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, OCI Solar Power develops, constructs, finances, owns, and operates solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities, specializing in utility-scale solar and energy storage projects throughout the U.S. OCI Solar Power is a wholly-owned subsidiary of OCI Company, Ltd., a publically-traded company in South Korea that provides solutions to customers worldwide through business portfolios ranging from basic chemical products to renewable generation and urban development. For more information, visit [www.ocsolarpower.com](http://www.ocsolarpower.com).

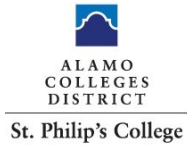
*About St. Philip’s College*

St. Philip’s College, founded in 1898, is a comprehensive public community college whose mission is to empower our diverse student population through educational achievement and career readiness. As a Historically Black College and Hispanic Serving Institution, St. Philip’s College is a vital facet of the community, responding to the needs of a population rich in ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic diversity.

*About Project Quest*

QUEST is a nationally recognized nonprofit for its unique model, outcomes and economic impact to the individual participants and region. To learn more about Project QUEST and training programs offered visit [www.questsa.org](http://www.questsa.org).

*About The San Antonio Area Foundation*



The San Antonio Area Foundation (SAAFdn) has served as the city's community-giving headquarters for nearly 60 years, growing to become one of the top 20 community foundations in the nation. The Area Foundation serves as San Antonio's most trusted and impactful philanthropic partner, managing more than 500 charitable funds nearly \$1 billion in assets. Beyond serving hundreds of nonprofit organizations every year through training and grantmaking, where total impact exceeded \$71 million in 2020, the Area Foundation operates a strong student scholarship program. Over \$37 million has been invested in our future leaders since 1969 through more than 100 scholarship funds. Learn more at [saafdn.org](http://saafdn.org).