**PROJECT MANAGER - Kristen Poppleton, Director of Programs**

Kristen Iverson Poppleton is the Director of Programs for Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy. Kristen develops a vision for and provides strategic coordination, budget oversight and support for all Climate Generation programs focusing on youth, policy, educator and influentials engagement. She has managed two previous ENRTF projects. She served on the recently disbanded Federal Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment, and the City of St. Paul’s Climate Action Planning Committee. She currently serves on the CLEAN (Climate Literacy) Network’s Leadership Board, and Minnesota’s Science Standards Revision Committee. Kristen has worked at the Science Museum of Minnesota, the International Wolf Center, and taught environmental education in Argentina. Kristen holds a BA in Biology and Hispanic Studies from St. Olaf College, a MEd in Environmental Education from University of Minnesota, Duluth and a MS in Conservation Biology from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

**Organization Description**

Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy empowers individuals and their communities to engage in solutions to climate change. Based in Minneapolis, MN, Climate Generation has been a high-quality and trusted source of STEM, climate change and energy education resources and training since 2006. We deliver high-quality education, public engagement and youth leadership programming, reaching over 17,000 educators, 75,000 people, and 35,000 students since 2006.

For over 10 years we have established ourselves as a state and national leader in STEM and climate change education, and have been recognized twice by the White House Climate Education and Literacy Initiative. Our first ENRTF funded project, Minnesota’s Changing Climate received an award from Environmental Initiative in recognition of the partnerships developed and utilized. More than 10,000 individuals have downloaded our original, standards-based curriculum from our suite of six, reaching over 75,000 students. In addition, we have provided over 1,500 educators from 30 states with in-depth training on how to integrate climate change in the classroom. Our long-term, sustained approach is unique: we strive to provide teachers with multiple opportunities to build on their understanding of climate change education and inspire their students to action. Teachers must be confident in their knowledge of climate change science and also competent in their ability to empower student action. In order to build this confidence, teachers need sustained learning and practice in climate change education, as well as exposure to student leadership and action. Our curriculum resources and training are interdisciplinary and experientially designed to foster problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and culminate with a solutions-oriented lesson. We reach educators through our social media presence, email list, and a large network of partners.