



# **US Environmental Protection Agency**

## **Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA)**

### **Environmental Justice Small Grants FY2012 Summaries By Region**

**December 6, 2012**

## Region 1

**Recipient:** The Way Home, Inc.

**Project Name:** Integrating Tenant Services in Pest Management

**Project Location:** Manchester, NH

**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

### **“The Way Home, Inc. Seeks Healthier Solutions for Chronic Pest Problems in Low Income Rental Housing”**

The Way Home, Inc. will provide education to help tenants and property owners understand healthier alternatives for pest control and to reduce incidences of adverse health effects due to the mishandling of pesticides and pesticide residue. The project, which targets multi-family residential buildings, seeks to promote the safe use of household pesticides and healthy pesticide alternatives resulting in reduced exposure to pest infestations that may cause asthma in children and allergic reactions. The Way Home, Inc. will further its objectives by partnering with certified pest management professionals to establish a residential building inspection and monitoring system to detect household pests and train residents and property owners to safely use pest control products while providing comprehensive plans for long term pest control.

**Recipient:** JSI Research and Training Institute

**Project Name:** Latino Youth Lead Environmental Awareness and Action

**Project Location:** Lawrence, MA

**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

### **“Youth Empowered to Fight Toxic Exposure through Public Outreach”**

The goal of this project is to build the capacity of Latino youth in Lawrence, MA to take a leadership role in identifying and addressing toxic exposures in the home. Youth leaders will teach community members to conduct in-home assessments to identify health hazards such as lead and other asthma triggers and how to safely store and use household pesticides and chemicals. Project participants will also develop the skills necessary to engage in outreach opportunities by hosting community workshops, facilitating peer-to-peer trainings and presenting the project and related findings to the Mayor’s Health Task Force.

**Recipient:** Partners for a Healthier Community  
**Project Name:** Springfield Community Air Mobilization Project  
**Project Location:** Springfield, MA  
**Issue:** Air quality, reducing exposure to outdoor air pollution

**“Partners for a Healthier Community Committed to Reducing Environmental Risks through Collaborative Partnerships”**

The Springfield Community Air Mobilization Project (SCAMP) will work with residents in several Springfield, Massachusetts neighborhoods impacted by high levels of outdoor air pollution and other environmental hazards. The goal of this project is to foster full resident participation in efforts to educate community residents on how to assess air quality, understand associated health concerns, conduct air monitoring/assessment and implement strategies to reduce exposure and health risks. SCAMP will also partner with area schools to educate youth on strategies to address air quality issues and prepare them to become community leaders.

**Recipient:** Groundwork Lawrence  
**Project Name:** Safe Soil: Gardening in Lawrence  
**Project Location:** Lawrence, MA  
**Issue:** Contaminated soil

**“Groundwork Lawrence Educates Low-income Residents about the Dangers of Gardening in Contaminated Soil”**

Groundwork Lawrence seeks to educate low-income residents about the importance of safe soil and steps to reduce their exposure to contaminated soil. They will work with residents to test the soil in their backyard for contaminants such as lead and map these soil tests along with existing data made available as part of the city’s home de-leading program. Maps that identify contaminated hot-spots will be used for future city planning. The project will also work with partners in the community to replace the contaminated soil in one of the vacant lots currently being used for gardening by local residents.

**Recipient:** Regional Environmental Council

**Project Name:** Weatherize Worcester: Community Mobilization for Weatherization and Energy Efficiency

**Project Location:** Worcester, MA

**Issue:** Air quality, energy efficiency and weatherization

### **“Low-income Residents in Worcester Learn to Improve Indoor Air Quality”**

The Regional Environmental Council (REC) seeks to educate and mobilize residents in Worcester neighborhoods to address environmental and health issues associated with poor indoor air quality. REC will engage and encourage community support by hosting a series of locally based workshops, door to door canvassing events, and partnering with area small businesses and faith-based organizations. REC will work with residents to improve ventilation and air circulation in older homes, identify and reduce excessive moisture and reduce potentially harmful biological agents as they relate to indoor air quality. The project will also provide residents with resources and information necessary to access local and state energy efficiency programs in an effort to reduce carbon emissions as well as lower energy and heating costs.

## **Region 2**

**Recipient:** Clean Air Coalition of Western New York

**Project Name:** Building Community Capacity to Reduce Air Pollution

**Project Location:** Buffalo, NY

**Issue:** Air Quality, monitoring

### **“Coalition Addresses Adverse Impacts of Freight Transportation on Minority Communities”**

The Clean Air Coalition of Western New York will educate community leaders in Buffalo about the adverse health impacts of freight transportation on communities closest to freight transport hubs. The project will build the capacity of local leaders to understand and advocate for solutions to reduce their community’s disproportionate exposure to diesel exhaust. This project also educates residents about the possible health risks from exposure to pollution associated with high freight traffic. Residents will learn how to take air samples and share air quality data with the broader community.

**Recipient:** Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.  
**Project Name:** The Peekskill Urban Watershed Initiative  
**Project Location:** Peekskill, NY  
**Issue:** Water quality

**“Project Seeks to Improve Water Quality through Community Engagement and Youth Empowerment”**

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc., working closely with a broad range of partners, will lead a collaborative, community-based watershed planning and protection initiative focused on the urban watershed of the City of Peekskill, New York. These local bodies of water provide various uses for the community including subsistence fishing, swimming, and recreational uses. Through training, technical assistance and hands on activities, the community will develop the knowledge and tools to address the needs of the watershed and learn to become actively involved in government decision making. Residents will also learn about environmental hazards and health risks associated with polluted local waterways. The project will foster youth involvement through the creation of an Urban Watershed Steward program, promoting peer-to-peer learning, neighborhood cleanup projects and sustainability.

**Recipient:** Leaders for the World, Inc.  
**Project Name:** Watermark  
**Project Location:** San Juan, PR  
**Issue:** Solid waste, water quality

**“Puerto Rican Youth Learn to Reduce Wastes and Protect the Environment”**

This project seeks to raise awareness of the environmental and public health effects of improper solid waste disposal in the Cantera Peninsula of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Area youth will learn practices that promote the elimination of water pollution and sustainable environmentally-friendly behaviors. These changes in behavior will lead to the reduction of waste and contaminants in the estuarine ecosystems that are part of the Cantera Peninsula. Youth participants will receive more than 60 hours of environmental education about the Clean Water Act and Solid Waste Disposal Act, learn waste management strategies, and acquire the tools to make informed decisions that promote sustainability.

**Recipient:** Onondaga Environmental Institute, Inc.

**Project Name:** Promoting Healthy Homes in Syracuse through Public Awareness and Training

**Project Location:** Syracuse, NY

**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

**“Onondaga Environmental Institute Trains Low-income Residents to Address Residential Hazards”**

Onondaga Environmental Institute’s (OEI) project seeks to address elevated blood lead levels and high asthma rates affecting low-income, minority residents in Syracuse, New York.

This initiative will educate residents about the dangers of living in unhealthy homes and provide residents with available corrective actions. The primary vehicle for raising public awareness will be four community meetings in economically stressed neighborhoods with high incidences of lead poisoning, asthma hospitalization and pre-1978 housing stock. Residents will receive training on the dangers of toxic substances such as lead, asbestos, radon and mold which may be present in residents’ homes. The project will also offer OSHA and EPA certification training to under-employed and unemployed city residents seeking employment opportunities in the building and construction trades.

**Recipient:** Scuba Dog Society, Inc.

**Project Name:** Community Engagement in Solid Waste Management, Recycling and Coastal Conservation in Loiza

**Project Location:** Loiza, PR

**Issue:** Solid waste, marine protection

**“SDS Fights Marine Debris in Puerto Rican Coastal Community”**

This project will address the environmental and public health threats posed by marine debris surrounding the Loiza coastal communities in Puerto Rico. The residents of Loiza will assess the barriers to protecting local waterways and soil from the illegal dumping of solid waste and address deficiencies in the current waste management services. Through a hands-on educational program including workshops and community forums, residents will learn to conduct environmental assessments, monitor environmental conditions, create a viable community recycling program and establish other safeguards against the negative effects of marine debris on waterways used for subsistence fishing and recreation.

## Region 3

**Recipient:** Southern Appalachian Labor School  
**Project Name:** Coalfield Environmental Health Project  
**Project Location:** Fayette County, WV  
**Issue:** Water quality

### **“Southern Appalachian Labor School Seeks to Reduce Health Impacts of Large Scale Surface Mining”**

Through its Coalfield Environmental Health Project, the Southern Appalachian Labor School will educate residents of the Loop Creek and Laurel Creek area on the possible health impacts of large scale surface mining. Residents will be trained by environmental and surface mine experts and learn how to identify and report statutory violations. The project’s overarching goal is to build a permanent group of knowledgeable residents who will lead citizen efforts to promote enforcement of existing laws on surface mines.

**Recipient:** Natural Lands Trust  
**Project Name:** Addressing Sea-Level Rise in Downe Township  
**Project Location:** Downe Township, NJ  
**Issue:** Water quality

### **“Natural Lands Trust Seeks to Tackle Threats Against Downe Township Water Supplies”**

Natural Lands Trust will examine potential threats and vulnerabilities to the septic systems and drinking water supplies in Downe Township, N.J. This project will examine strategies for responding to climate change with a focus on Sea Level Rise (SLR) and extreme storm events in economically depressed communities along the Delaware Bay. This project is intended to serve as a pilot study about strategies for responding to the potential impacts of climate change on water supplies and infrastructure for bayshore communities throughout the Delaware Estuary.

**Recipient:** Clean Air Council

**Project Name:** South Wilmington Air Quality Assessment Study

**Project Location:** Wilmington, DE

**Issue:** Clean air

**“Clean Air Council Combats Air Pollution in South Wilmington, Delaware”**

The goal of this project is to examine Wilmington, Delaware City Ordinance 02-116 which is intended to prevent or limit fugitive dust. The project also seeks to ensure the ordinance is effectively implemented and enforced in the community where residents are burdened by a number of air pollution sources including industrial, manufacturing, and transportation sources. The Clean Air Council will conduct interviews with local government officials in an effort to understand the background behind the current ordinance and how it has been implemented. The Council will also conduct interviews with members of the South Wilmington community to learn about ways in which the law could be implemented more effectively.

**Recipient:** Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (RCAP)

**Project Name:** Delaware Homeowner’s Associations Onsite Wastewater Sustainability Project

**Project Location:** Delaware (Sussex and Kent Counties)

**Issue:** Clean water, safe drinking water

**“RCAP Seeks Solid Waste Management Solutions for Financially Burdened Delaware Communities”**

Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (RCAP) RCAP seeks to create a sustainable system of solid waste management and removal in ten rural, low-income Delaware communities. This project will address the environmental, public health and financial burdens of each community and provide assistance in properly maintaining wastewater treatment systems. The project will ensure functional sustainability of the wastewater treatment systems, compliance with local and federal regulations and explore ways to address health hazards due to improperly treated wastewater.



## Region 4

**Recipient:** Legacy Village, Inc.,

**Project Name:** Reach Two-Teach Two: Building Environmental Education Outreach Capacity

**Project Location:** Cary and Rolling Fork, MS

**Issue:** Water and air quality

### **“Legacy Village Helps to Identify Contaminants in Vulnerable Communities”**

Legacy Village seeks to organize, educate and build capacity among Cary and Rolling Fork residents and property owners, helping them to identify and address potentially harmful contaminants found in drinking water, homes, and air. The project addresses these concerns in a two-phase approach that incorporates community education and research to address environmental vulnerabilities and health risks among residents. Activities include community forums, neighborhood outreach, networking with faith-based organizations and data collection and analysis.

**Recipient:** Mobile Baykeeper, Inc.

**Project Name:** Threemile Creek Environmental Awareness and Action

**Project Location:** Mobile, AL

**Issue:** Water quality

### **“Mobile Baykeeper Works to Reduce Contamination of Local Waterway”**

Mobile Baykeeper will train residents in communities surrounding Threemile Creek to conduct long-term monitoring of local waterways. Through data collection and analysis, the community will develop strategies to reduce impacts from stormwater runoff. The project will meet its goal by establishing a comprehensive outreach and education campaign, community cleanup efforts and a coalition of residents dedicated to sustaining clean waterways.

**Recipient:** Cape Fear River Watch, Inc.

**Project Name:** Lower Cape Fear River Basin Eco Camp

**Project Location:** Wilmington, NC

**Issue:** Water quality, education, stewardship

### **“Cape Fear River Watch Fosters Future Environmental Leaders”**

Cape Fear River Watch, Inc. intends to address the lack of affordable environmental education for children living in the Greenfield Lake and Burnt Mill Creek watersheds in Wilmington, North Carolina. The organization will establish environmentally-focused camps for underserved children ages 8 to 17. The camps, with activities focused on learning about the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, will

teach participants to be excellent stewards of the environment through personal action. Students will gain experience in scientific methods related to the survey of water quality and field work. Learning data analysis will lead to finding solutions to minimize negative impacts on local waterways. Students will also be encouraged to make real-world connections and develop critical thinking skills through the exploration of New Hanover County watershed.

**Recipient:** Toxic Free North Carolina

**Project Name:** Beyond Education to Engagement: North Carolina Farmworkers and Workplace Pesticide Exposure Regulations

**Project Location:** Raleigh, NC

**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

### **“North Carolina Immigrant Farmworkers Learn About Federal Worker Protection Standards”**

Toxic Free NC seeks to improve the health and safety of migrant and seasonal farmworkers through education about pesticide exposure by creating a plain-language analysis of EPA’s Worker Protection Standards available in both Spanish and English. The project will develop and deliver a series of training sessions throughout North Carolina. These sessions will cover workers’ rights as they relate to pesticides in the workplace and EPA’s proposed revisions to the Worker Protection Standard. The project hopes to encourage immigrant and low-income workers to become engaged in local and federal rulemaking processes that may impact their health, safety and welfare.

**Recipient:** Farmworker Association of Florida, Inc.

**Project Name:** Pesticide Safety and Environmental Health Project

**Project Location:** Apopka, FL

**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

### **“Florida Farmworkers Learn to Reduce Exposure to Pesticides”**

The Farmworker Association of Florida seeks to find a resolution to the under-reporting of pesticide related illnesses and lack of health education for area farmworkers. The organization will fund a special initiative of its Pesticide Safety and Environmental Health (PSEH) project. The work of this initiative, which involves monitoring working conditions and education on toxic substances, aligns with the Toxic Substances Control Act and Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. Through the PSEH project, the Farmworker Association will help to reduce pesticide exposure, improve the health of farmworkers and train healthcare providers to address health issues that stem from pesticide exposure.

**Recipient:** Museum of Science, Inc.  
**Project Name:** Hydroponic Urban Garden Project  
**Project Location:** Miami, FL  
**Issue:** Urban gardens, healthy foods

**“Environmentally-friendly Gardens Promote Healthy Eating Habits for Urban Youth”**

The Museum of Science will support a Hydroponic Urban Garden (HUG) Project designed to raise awareness regarding healthy eating in Miami’s ethnically-diverse Coconut Grove/Coral Way community. The HUG Project will highlight the broad environmental benefits of urban hydroponic systems as well as the nutritional benefits derived from incorporating more fresh produce into urban diets. The Museum of Science will develop a field trip curriculum focused on a hands-on learning approach. By establishing hydroponic gardens at five local elementary schools, the HUG Project will educate young people, area schools and families about viable alternatives to the potentially-harmful fertilizers and pesticides used in modern industrial agriculture.

## Region 5

**Recipient Name:** Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation  
**Project Name/Title:** Neighborhood Lead Survey and Education Program  
**Project Location:** Youngstown, OH  
**Issue:** Lead exposure

**“Project Focuses on Lead Education for Youngstown Residents”**

This project will address the need for community education about the risks and sources of lead exposure in children while also addressing lead exposure from dilapidated housing conditions. The project will test for lead and other contaminants left in the soil by residential demolition. Residents of the City of Youngstown will perform outreach to connect neighbors with programs and services that can help them abate dangerous lead conditions in their homes. This project will also provide soil testing for neighborhood vacant lots in an effort to identify lead hot spots and assist community groups in planning gardens and other vacant land reuse projects.

**Recipient Name:** Metropolitan Tenants Organization  
**Project Name/Title:** The Suburban Cook County Healthy Homes Network (SCCHN)  
**Project Location:** Cook County, IL  
**Issue:** Chemical exposure

**“Low-income Cook County Residents Empowered by Healthy Homes Initiative”**

The SCCHN will take proven healthy housing methods into impoverished areas of suburban Cook County, Illinois by creating a regional network of health care providers, housing advocates, and other social service providers. The project will work to improve the lives of tenants by educating and empowering them to have a voice in decisions that affect their ability to live in safe, decent, and affordable housing. Area families will be provided with a variety of tools and services including information about home-based health hazards, a healthy home inspection and training in identifying health hazards such as lead paint, mold and household pests.

**Recipient Name:** Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians  
**Project Name/Title:** *Ezh N’bamendamen Nibi* (How We Think About Caring For the Water)  
**Project Location:** Pokagon, MI  
**Issue:** Water quality

**“Youth Work to Clean and Restore Tribal Waterways”**

The Pokagon Band Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the Pokagon Band Department of Education, will train tribal youth ages kindergarten through 12th grade on the cultural importance of water, water pollution, natural purification methods, and the current state of tribal waters. Students will also investigate the extent to which non-traditional practices have polluted tribal waters, monitor tribal water resources, and provide recommendations to the Tribal Council on the prevention, reduction, and elimination of pollution in tribal water. Kindergarten – 6th graders will investigate the importance of clean water to humans, fish, and wildlife and will educate the community through artwork on the causes, effects, prevention, and elimination of water pollution.

**Recipient Name:** Hoosier Environmental Council, Inc.  
**Project Name/Title:** Community Assistance for Sustainable Livestock Farming  
**Project Location:** Carroll, Decatur, Jay, Kosciusko, Randolph, Wabash, and White counties, IN  
**Issue:** Sustainable agriculture, water quality

**“Local Communities Empowered to Speak Out Against Pollution”**

The Hoosier Environmental Council’s (HEC) project will empower local communities to address pollution impacts caused by nearby concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). The HEC

will educate residents on how to become actively and meaningfully involved in environmental permitting, compliance and enforcement, zoning, land use, and open government processes applicable to existing and proposed new CAFOs. The project will also provide information about water pollution and human health impacts associated with CAFOs, offer solutions to address those impacts, and explore legal and regulatory requirements applicable to CAFOs.

**Recipient Name:** Ohio Environmental Council

**Project Name/Title:** Understanding Deep Shale Gas Drilling and Water Quality Concerns in Appalachian Ohio

**Project Location:** Appalachia, OH

**Issue:** Water quality

### **“Ohio Environmental Council Educates Citizens on Possible Impacts of Deep Shale Drilling”**

The Ohio Environmental Council will plan, coordinate and execute two “Fracking 101” trainings and two citizen town hall meetings in Appalachian Ohio designed to educate citizens on the possible public health and environmental impacts of deep shale drilling and to give those citizens access to decision makers. Trainings will address four key topics including testing drinking water, examining state regulations governing fracking, farm and landowner issues and possible health implications of fracking.

## **Region 6**

**Recipient:** Atchafalaya Basinkeeper, Inc. (ABK)

**Project Name:** Atchafalaya Basin Environmental Stewardship and Community Empowerment Program

**Project Location:** Baton Rouge, LA

**Issue:** Water quality, wetland protection

### **“Environmental Stewardship and Community Empowerment”**

ABK will develop a stewardship program for community stakeholders to improve water quality and decrease industrial pollution, including litter and wetland loss in the Atchafalaya Basin. The program will provide training workshops focused on teaching fishermen and other users of the basin effective monitoring and reporting methods for possible violations of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The project will also educate residents on alternative ways to eliminate trash, reduce dumping in the Basin and educate fishermen on the impacts of littering. A network of concerned citizens and commercial fishermen will be created to monitor the waterways in an effort to work with local governments to better protect and improve the water quality and habitat of the Basin. The surrounding residents represent a diverse population such as French-speaking Cajun families, Laotian, African American, Vietnamese, Native American and Hispanic communities.

**Recipient:** Ben Archer Health Center  
**Project Name:** Breathe Easy  
**Project Location:** Hatch, NM  
**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

**“Farmworkers ‘Breathe Easy’ by Learning to Minimize Exposure to Pesticides”**

The Breathe Easy project will provide pesticide training to farmworkers and their families. Through home-based, personalized health education, the project’s goal is to minimize exposure of pesticides, allergens and asthma triggers in Luna County, a rural community, populated by predominantly Spanish-only speaking residents. The Breathe Easy Project will educate farmworkers on pesticide safety in the work place and help them understand how to limit exposure of pesticides to their families.

**Recipient:** Chimayo Conservation Corps (CCC)  
**Project Name:** Empowering Lower Embudo Valley Residents and Youth  
**Project Location:** Chimayo, NM  
**Issue:** Air quality, water quality

**“Organization Addresses Poor Water Quality in Hispanic Communities”**

Chimayo Conservation Corps (CCC) will conduct a series of workshops to address local environmental and public health concerns associated with impaired water quality. The workshops will focus on ways to reduce sediment from accelerated erosion entering the local streams and the solid waste dumping into the dry washes. The workshops will be held in the Lower Embudo Valley which includes a number of small villages, largely of Hispanic heritage and will feature site tours and presentations focusing on public education. The project will leverage existing community networks and local partnerships to establish a local waste and pollution action team. The project targets community awareness and education on small erosion control techniques, reducing solid waste, and litter in the community.

**Recipient:** Familias Triunfadoras, Inc.  
**Project Name:** Familias Saludables Project  
**Project Location:** San Elizario, TX (El Paso County)  
**Issue:** Air quality, solid waste

**“Familias Triunfadoras Seeks to Protect Border Families Against Public Health Threats”**

The Familias Saludables Project is a culturally relevant, bilingual outreach and education project that will engage residents of Texas border communities and local government in an effort to address environmental concerns affecting the quality of life along the United States-Mexico Border region. These threats to human health include poor water quality, illegal dumping of

wastes and toxic substances and incidents of lead and chemical poisoning. Specifically, the project focuses on communities lacking wastewater utilities and residents living in poor housing conditions constructed from salvaged materials. The project will train and educate residents about various environmental hazards, linking residents to governmental resources to aid in the reporting of illegal dumping and other threats to public health.

**Recipient:** Mossville Environmental Action Now, Inc. (MEAN)

**Project Name:** Understanding Environmental Illness: A Community Health and Wellness Workshop

**Project Location:** Calcasieu Parish, LA

**Issue:** Reducing toxic exposure

### **“Mossville Residents Learn to Reduce Exposure to Toxins”**

MEAN will host workshops which will help residents of Mossville, their physicians and medical providers better understand the connection between exposure to toxic substances and public health. The residents of Mossville live and work within close proximity to more than 14 industrial plants that emit high levels of toxic pollutants. The physicians and health professionals will receive training on how to administer an environmental health assessment which will lead to better diagnoses and treatment of the health impacts experienced by the community. The project will also provide information about the types of health effects that may be a result of exposure to toxic substances and how the community can reduce residents' exposures.

## **Region 7**

**Recipient:** Migrant Farmworkers Project

**Project Name:** Proyecto Re-medioambiente (“Environmental Change Project”)

**Project location:** Kansas City, MO

**Issue:** Solid waste, recycling

### **“Environmental Change Project”**

This project will improve the solid waste disposal practices of the local migrant and seasonal farmworker community in Lafayette County, Missouri and expand an existing aluminum recycling project. Through a series of classes, presentations and experiential learning, the community will learn about the effects of solid waste pollution and the action strategies, including recycling, to mitigate it. Problems associated with solid waste are poorly understood by residents and there is not currently a viable, adequate system for recycling.

**Recipient:** Iowa Consortium for Comprehensive Cancer Control  
**Project Name:** Radon-Free Homes Initiative  
**Project location:** Des Moines, IA  
**Issue:** Toxic substance, exposure reduction

**“Project Addresses Radon Exposure in Local Neighborhood”**

The Iowa Consortium for Comprehensive Cancer Control seeks to facilitate community efforts to reduce residential exposure to radon in the Drake Neighborhood in Des Moines, Iowa. The average indoor radon level in Iowa is six times higher than the national average. Indoor radon exposure is a particular threat to the health of Iowans. This project will facilitate community forums, provide radon education, and distribute approximately 1,000 educational brochures. It also will provide radon testing to the occupants of 48 housing units, and coordinate radon control services for homes with radon levels above the EPA's designated safety threshold. Low-income home owners and renters often lack the awareness and resources to test for radon in their homes.

**Recipient:** Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas  
**Project Name:** Plugging Abandoned Wells on the Kickapoo Watershed  
**Project location:** Horton, KS  
**Issue:** Water quality, groundwater protection

**“Tribe Works to Close Hazardous, Abandoned Wells”**

The purpose of this project is to close and “plug” abandoned wells in the Kickapoo Watershed. Closing abandoned wells will reduce the amount of contaminants that enter the groundwater as surface runoff into the open wells. Educational and outreach materials will also be used to increase the community members’ awareness of groundwater contamination. The Kickapoo Tribe has recorded elevated levels of E.Coli bacteria and nitrates in the groundwater.

**Recipient:** Highway 63 Gateway Community Development Corporation  
**Project Name:** ReNew Chamberlain Neighborhood  
**Project location:** Waterloo, IA  
**Issue:** Pollution protection, redevelopment

**“Organization helps Community Focus on Sustainable Redevelopment”**

The Highway 63 Gateway Community Development Corporation project will work towards addressing the environmental and public health issues affecting the neighborhoods surrounding a 22-acre former manufacturing site in Waterloo, Iowa. The project will focus on helping the affected community plan a redevelopment strategy including an appropriate re-use for the site based on existing conditions. It will also educate the neighborhoods surrounding the site through the dissemination of information and sustainable redevelopment planning initiatives.



The Development Corporation will also assist residents to better understand their rights in regards to contamination exposure.

**Recipient:** Nebraska Families Collaborative (NFC)

**Project Name:** Fostering Healthy Homes Project

**Project location:** Boys Town, NE

**Issue:** Lead exposure prevention

### **“Foster Families Educated on Prevention of Lead Poisoning”**

The project will identify and reduce the incidents of lead poisoning in foster homes by implementing a three pronged approach: 1) “Healthy Home Assessments” will be offered to 445 foster families residing in four high lead concentration zip code areas; 2) environmental hazards education will be offered to 130 staff in nine foster care agencies, 220 NFC staff, and 1,379 foster homes where NFC case manages children; and 3) environmental hazards education will be offered to families in the general community who reside in the four high lead-level concentration zip code areas, as well as, other families residing in low income, underserved communities in Douglas and Sarpy Counties who may be at high risk for environmental hazards. Over 200 children are poisoned by lead in Omaha each year as a result of interior lead-based paint hazards. Families will be educated on problems in their homes and provided information and referrals for services through the Omaha Healthy Kid Alliance.

## **Region 8**

**Recipient:** Citizens for Clean Air in Pueblo

**Project Name:** The PuebloCARES Healthy Homes Initiative (PHHI)

**Project Location:** City and County of Pueblo, CO

**Issue:** Toxic substances, air quality

### **“Pueblo Residents Prevent Health Risks Through Education”**

The PuebloCARES Healthy Homes Initiative (PHHI) will educate community members to reduce exposures to toxic chemicals and indoor air pollutants. This project will provide resources and education to low-income, minority residents in an effort to prevent and help alleviate threats to public health. By introducing a complete Healthy Homes concept through a series of community presentations in the city and county of Pueblo, residents will learn to assess their indoor air quality, analyze health and safety hazards, and report and address exposure to toxic substances. Residents will also be educated on how to prevent health risks through safe and low-cost maintenance and sanitary practices.

**Recipient:** Conejos County Clean Water  
**Project Name:** Health and Environment Launch Project  
**Project Location:** Conejos County, CO  
**Issue:** Clean air

**“Organization Works to Establish Community-based Air Monitoring Station”**

The project will establish an air monitoring station that will have the ability to collect toxic particulate matter for laboratory analysis. The project will educate and train community members on the air monitoring process and collaborate with partners to analyze the data. This baseline data will be used to enable the community to influence decisions that impact residents’ health and the environment in the future. Conejos County Clean Water also seeks to create a baseline data set for environmental and health data in Conejos County. Environmental data will be collected on the quality of ambient air, water, soil, and health in Conejos County. Health data collected will focus on degenerative diseases such as reproductive cancer and asthma.

**Recipient:** Environmental Learning for Kids  
**Project Name:** Environmental Learning for Kids’ Youth in Natural Resources – Our Water, Our Air  
**Project Location:** Denver, CO  
**Issue:** Air and water quality

**“Youth Learn Environment Responsibility through Nature-based Training”**

Environmental Learning for Kids will educate youth on local clean water and air impacts through outdoor and nature-based activities. Local youth will participate in activities including outdoor and nature-based education relating to local causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of water and air pollution. This project also aims to educate the community about environmental justice issues and build consensus through youth-led community forums in low-income and minority communities in metropolitan Denver.

**Recipient:** The Utah Society for Environmental Education  
**Project Name:** Understanding and Engaging in Community Driven Environmental Justice  
**Project Location:** Rose Park Community, Salt Lake City, UT  
**Issue:** Air and water quality, toxic substances, and waste management

**“University Students Partner with Communities to Promote Environmental Justice”**

This project educates University of Utah students interested in environmental justice to respond to pollution problems. The goal will be accomplished through the following actions: (1) providing a greater understanding of environmental justice by creating an environmental

justice simulation program; (2) engaging University of Utah graduate students in the analysis of previously conducted Rose Park needs assessments that will shape service learning projects; (3) engaging undergraduate students in service learning opportunities based on the needs assessment analysis; (4) ensuring the longevity of serving community needs by creating lasting partnerships between local service providers and students.

## Region 9

**Recipient:** Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment

**Project Name:** Leadership Development Institute: Growing Leaders for a Healthy San Joaquin Valley

**Project Location:** Allensworth and Wasco, CA

**Issue:** Air quality, access to healthy foods

### **“Residents of San Joaquin Valley Gain Increased Access to Healthy Foods”**

The Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment Leadership Development Institute will focus on building community skills that teach residents how to access and participate in local decision-making on issues impacting the community's health. The project will provide training on environmental laws, the regulatory process and environmental health policy in the San Joaquin Valley. The Institute will also assist in establishing sustainable, organic community farms to increase access to healthy food. The Valley is home to high rates of air pollution from pesticides, transport and confined animal feeding operations as well as soil and water contamination from industrial farming and waste dumping.

**Recipient:** Fresno Metropolitan Ministry

**Project Name:** Building Community Capacity to Address Environmental Health Hazards in Fresno County

**Project Location:** Fresno, CA

**Issue:** Pollution exposure, environmental hazards

### **“Fresno County Residents Learn to Report Environmental Hazards”**

The Fresno Metropolitan Ministry will help community members in Fresno County to better understand their disproportionate exposure to multiple environmental harms through a series of workshops and presentations during community meetings. As a result, the communities will learn about the health impacts of environmental hazards, existing laws designed to mitigate exposure and how to recognize and report violations. The project will also establish the Fresno Environmental Reporting Network (FERN) website, a countywide community friendly site that

allows residents to report environmental hazards and allows the responsible local and state agencies to investigate potential violations.

**Recipient:** East Bay Asian Local Development Corp

**Project Name:** Empowering Community Members to Address Air Pollution in their Community

**Project Location:** Oakland, CA

**Issue:** Air quality

### **“Chinatown Community Examines Link between Air Quality and City Planning”**

The East Bay Asian Local Development Corp. (EBALDC) will empower community members to address environmental and public health issues associated with planned local development projects. The project will engage community members in the process of collecting local data on air quality to better illustrate the potential impacts that planned development and resulting increases in traffic will have on the area. The project will develop a Chinatown Community Platform to articulate the community’s health priorities around air pollution and establish criteria for future development as it relates to traffic, air quality, and neighborhood design.

**Recipient:** The Sierra Fund

**Project Name:** Gold County Circuit Rider

**Project Location:** Nevada City, CA

**Issue:** Toxic exposure

### **“Collaborating to Addresses Mining Pollution in California’s Sierra Foothills”**

The Sierra Fund Gold County Circuit Rider will reach out to area health care providers and community leaders in an effort to prevent and mitigate exposure to legacy mining toxins such as mercury, arsenic, lead and asbestos in California’s Sierra Nevada. The workshops and training will present information about mercury in fish and findings about other toxins in mine tailings. There will also be information about potential health impacts and measures to reduce exposure. Community residents, health professionals, tribal leaders and scientists will work together through this project to bring information and tools to individuals in the rural Sierra Nevada region of California. The project will conduct outreach in four communities by providing residents with educational materials including data analyses to address legacy mining pollution in the region.

**Recipient:** Boat People SOS, Inc.

**Project Name:** Community Awareness Campaign on Occupational Safety

**Project Location:** Westminister, CA

**Issue:** Chemical exposure

### **“Creating a Healthy and Safe Environment in Nail Salons”**

Boat People, SOS (BPSOS) will use a multi-pronged approach to addressing the environmental and public health threats posed by hazardous work practices in nail salons. The project will educate health providers, regulators, salon owners and technicians, and community leaders about safe practices and health impacts associated with exposure to chemicals in salon products. The organization will also examine ways to reduce exposure to these toxins. The program design will include four types of activities: (1) community outreach using the mass and small media, (2) training workshops for nail salon owners and workers, (3) technical assistance for both workers and employers exposed to workplace hazards, and (4) building long-term capacity for salon owners and technicians to be involved in local and federal decision making processes.

## **Region 10**

**Recipient:** Immigrant Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)

**Project Name:** Empowering African Communities to Reduce Exposures to Environmental Health Hazards

**Project Location:** Portland, OR

**Issue:** Pesticide exposure

### **“Immigrant Community Learns Chemical Safety”**

The Immigrant Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) will work to reduce environmental exposure to harmful toxic cleaning chemicals and residential exposure to pesticides for the growing number of African immigrants and refugees living in the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area. Multilingual, multicultural staff from the IRCO, experts, and project partners, will take a “train-the-trainer” approach to provide community leaders from smaller ethnic organizations, such as Burqaa Lami Oromo Community Organization, Burundian Community Association, and Liberian Community Association, with the necessary information and tools to take ownership and thereby improve the health of their families and community. Trained community leaders will engage African families in culturally and linguistically sensitive problem-solving activities at community workshops introducing them to risks associated with over-the-counter products commonly sold and used in the U.S.

**Recipient Name:** OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon  
**Project Name/Title:** Portland Air toxics Environmental Justice Solutions Project  
**Project Location:** Portland, OR  
**Issue:** Clean Air

**“OPAL Addresses Pollution Risk in Low Income Communities”**

This project will incorporate community-based participation and scientific research to identify and prioritize risks from hazardous air toxins that disproportionately impact low-income, minority communities in metropolitan Portland, Oregon. OPAL will work to educate community members on air quality standards, awareness of air pollution and land use through trainings and surveys focused on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality’s environmental justice disparate impact analysis which showed that communities of color and low-income communities are disproportionately impacted by air toxics in the Portland area. OPAL will conduct outreach to community groups, partners and leaders and facilitate workshops to identify and advance community priorities and air pollution risk reduction strategies.

**Recipient Name:** Seattle Tilth  
**Project Name/Title:** The Youth Soil and Wetland Restoration Project  
**Project Location:** Seattle, WA  
**Issue:** Clean water, solid waste disposal, pesticide exposure

**“Youth Education Programs Address Environmental Hazards”**

Seattle Tilth and its partners will combine youth employment training with education on environmental justice issues in Southeast Seattle, one of Seattle's poorest and most diverse neighborhoods. This project will use youth development and education programs to help residents reduce their exposure to environmental hazards facing the community. The environmental improvements in the neighborhood will include organic food production and community gardening, wetland restoration, and composting, as well as community outreach and engagement.

**Recipient Name:** Verde  
**Project Name/Title:** Let Us Build Cully Park  
**Project Location:** Portland, OR  
**Issue:** Clean water, solid waste disposal

**“Cully Park Youth Help Clean Up and Restore Local Park”**

The "Let us Build Cully Park" Project focuses on North East Portland’s Cully Neighborhood, which suffers from multiple environmental harms. This project will coordinate outreach and training activities that include a public education program related to the Clean Water Act and

storm water management techniques. Outreach activities will target Cully Park's youth residents and will encourage them to participate in the design of park improvements aimed at avoiding potential exposure to methane and groundwater contamination. Additionally, the project will educate community youth about landfills, park development, environmental protection and green careers to empower students to design a community garden and nature play area.

**Recipient Name:** Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

**Project Name/Title:** "Investigating Extent of Dioxin Impacts to Subsistence Resources in the Ankau Saltchucks"

**Project Location:** Ankau Saltchucks, Alaska

**Issue:** Marine protection, toxic substances control

**"The Yakutat Tlingit Tribe Researches the Impact of Dioxin Contamination on Subsistence Resources Near Yakutat, Alaska"**

The Yakutat Tlingit, a federally recognized tribe located on the Gulf of Alaska, plans to research the impact of toxic substances on area marine wetlands. Historically, the project area, Ankau Saltchucks, provided up to 30 % of the Tribe's food supply. Dioxin contamination has limited the food supply, disrupted a significant source of traditional foods and has had a negative impact on Tribal cultural practices. Tribal members will be involved in a sampling effort to determine the nature, extent and sources of the contamination with an emphasis on determining if there are uncontaminated areas that are safe for Tribal subsistence activities. This project will also build community capacity through outreach, involvement and education of Tribal members and others.