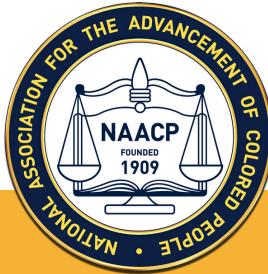


# ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE PROGRAM



2009 - 2018  
TIMELINE OVERVIEW





# 2009

The first NAACP Delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties #19 in Copenhagen, The Netherlands was met with critical acclaim as our blog was followed by thousands and we enjoyed scores of media hits. Since then, the NAACP's engagement has expanded and deepened with participation in the UNFCCC COPs in Cancun, Durban, Doha, Warsaw, Lima, Paris, Marrakech, and Bonn subsequently with the peak of our engagement being having a delegation of 7 NAACP representatives from Mississippi, New York, California, Indiana, Texas, Maryland, and Minnesota, including a youth delegation at COP #21 in Paris where the NAACP hosted 5 side events in partnership with the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and the HBCU Climate Change Consortium. The NAACP's engagement has resulted in raised visibility and demands of communities of color in the United States, often missing from the UNFCCC dialogue, and pushing of the US Government in ambitious commitments.

**Learn More:**

[Youth Delegation at COP #21](#)

[NAACP Climate Justice Initiative Blog](#)

# 2010

The launch of Gulf Oil Drilling Disaster Campaign consisted of: 1) The release of the report, "BP Oil Drilling Disaster—NAACP Investigation" which detailed findings on the impact of the disaster and concluded with 10 demands including cessation of reckless drilling the gulf, fair compensation for the families of the deceased workers, commitment to transition to energy efficiency and clean energy in the region, sovereignty for the Houma Nation, and more; 2) Convening of multi-stakeholder meetings including a strategy meeting including EPA, FEMA, Department of the Interior and others, as well as an HBCU meeting on advancing a sustainability research agenda in the Gulf, which led to the development of a consortium ; 3) Organizing for ongoing information gathering through facilitation of focus groups and Interviews with individuals for continuous documentation of the short and medium term impacts of the disaster; 4) Hosting of Financial Literacy Forums to assist with post-disaster financial recovery; 5) Publication of an article, Gulf Oil Drilling Disaster—Gendered Layers of Impact; 6) Development of a follow up report and companion video, both entitled My Name is 6508799: An NAACP/Gulf Coast Fund Special Investigation One Year After the Gulf Oil Drilling Disaster; and 7) Ongoing advocacy on fair compensation and distribution of recovery funds.

**Learn More:**

[BP Oil Drilling Disaster – NAACP Investigation](#)

[Gulf Oil Drilling Disaster: Gendered Layers of Impact](#)

[My Name is 6508799: An NAACP/Gulf Coast Fund Special Investigation One Year After the Gulf Oil Drilling Disaster](#)



**BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE  
POST-DISASTER**

A Guide For Affordable Housing and Community Economic Development Practitioners

DORCAS R. GILMORE AND DIANE M. STANDAERT  
EDITORS

Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law

AA

# 2011

The Launch of Equity in Emergency Management Initiative was in response to experiencing the 2010 crisis of the BP Oil Drilling Disasters and the April 2011 incidence of intense flooding and tornadoes in the South and observing the civil rights implications of disasters, especially with the knowledge that climate change means an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events. The initiative has consisted of: 1) Development of Report on Tornadoes and Flooding of 2011; 2) Development of an Emergency Management Resource Webpage on the NAACP Website; 3) Signing of Memorandum of Agreement with Federal Emergency Management Agency; 4) Authoring of Book Chapter "Equity in Disasters: Civil and Human Rights Challenges in the Context of Emergency Events" in BOOK: "Building Community Resilience Post Disaster"--; 5) Development of Human and Civil Rights in Emergency Management Monitoring Tool; 6) Hosting of Emergency Management Summits in Maryland and Florida to equip NAACP unit representatives to be civil rights stewards in disaster times; 7) Co-organized African American Leadership in Disasters Summit with FEMA; 8) Published article in Ebony Magazine on African American Disaster Preparedness; 9) Development and submission of comments on the National Flood Insurance Program; 10) Establishment of the NAACP Emergency Management Taskforce; and 11) Certification of 25 Florida NAACP branches and chapters in the Community Emergency Response Team Training and issuance of a challenge to other NAACP State Conferences to do the same. All of these have resulted in the NAACP state and local leadership playing a stronger role in upholding equity in the emergency management continuum with local government and first responders as well as with developers and city planners in the development phase.

**Learn More:**

[Signing of Memorandum of Agreement with Federal Emergency Management Agency](#)  
[Building Community Resilience Post Disaster](#)

[Ebony Magazine on African American Disaster Preparedness](#)  
[Florida Area State Conference CERT Challenge](#)

# 2012

The launch of Coal Blooded Campaign heralded a groundbreaking initiative that named pollution from coal plants as a civil rights issue. Campaign components included: 1) Coal Blooded: Putting Profits Before People Report; 2) Coal Blooded Community Mobilization Tour; 3) Coal Blooded Action Toolkit; 4) Coal Blooded Film; 5) Coal Blooded Trainings in over 30 coal impacted communities; 6) Clean Air Ordinance Projects; as well as 7) Testimony and Comments on the Mercury and Air Toxics Rule and Clean Power Plan. Action by NAACP state and local leadership over the years has contributed to transitioning at least 20 communities from coal pollution through unit action. The ECJ Team is working on researching and writing the Coal Blooded 2.0 Report.

**Learn More:**

[Coal Blooded: Putting Profits Before People Report](#)      [Testimony and Comments on the Mercury and Air Toxics Rule & Clean Power Plan](#)  
[Coal Blooded Action Toolkit](#)  
[Coal Blooded Film](#)



# 2013

The launch of our Leadership Initiative on Strengthening Diversity, Inclusion, and Organizing Across Movements came out of observation and experience of fissures in the movement resulting from divisions and under-representation. As such, the NAACP found itself in the position of both calling out disparities in representation, as well as providing coaching/training on how to have a more integrated movement. This struggle continues. Example of work in this area includes: 1) Authoring And the People Shall Lead: Centralizing Frontline Community Leadership in the Movement Towards a Sustainable Planet; 2) Designing and conducting Anti-Oppression Training with Energy Action Coalition and other groups; 3) Designing and Facilitating ECJ Simulation Exercises; 4) Conducting multiple presentations on Organizing Across Movements; 5) Authoring Huffington Post Article, Diversity is Not Enough: And Done Alone, It Can Be Counterproductive; and 6) Participating on multiple advisory groups and boards of directors including, Green Leadership Trust, River Network, and US Climate Action Network.

**Learn More:**

[And the People Shall Lead: Centralizing Frontline Community Leadership in the Movement Towards a Sustainable Planet](#)  
[Diversity is Not Enough: And Done Alone, It Can Be Counterproductive](#)

# 2014

The launch of Just Energy Campaign paved a way for the alternative for coal, oil, and gas burning to generate energy while also incorporating principles and practices of economic justice and democracy. Key components of the campaign included: 1) Publishing the seminal report, "Just Energy Policies: Reducing Pollution, Creating Jobs", a 590+ page compendium providing a state by state review of the policy landscape on energy; 2) Hosting our signature summits-- Bridging the Gap: Connecting Black Communities to the Green Economy; 3) Convening Energy Justice Roundtables; 4) Launching State Level JEP Campaigns. 5) Developing a set of recommendations for corporate social responsibility in the solar industry; 6) Launching PowerUP Workforce Development Project which trains and places formerly incarcerated persons in jobs in the new energy economy with the initial pilot project in Colorado Springs, CO; 7) Conducting Regional Energy Justice Trainings; 8) Releasing the Just Energy Toolkit; 9) Releasing Guide on Engaging with Public Utilities Commissions; 10) Publishing Lights Out in the Cold: Reforming Utility Shut-Off Policies as if Human Rights Matter Report; 11) Launching Power to the People Campaign; and 12) Publishing Arizona Local Leader article, Utility Greed Locked Me Out of the Grid But Solar Panels Set Me Free. These actions have resulted in passage of progressive energy policies. (IN, IL OR, MS), launching of demonstration projects in Fairbanks Alaska, Gainesville, Florida, Kansas City, Kansas, Saginaw, MI, and beyond. Also, companies and trade associations have adopted equity measures due to our intervention. In 2018, we've launched our Solar Equity Initiative to increase solar installations in communities of color and increase access to jobs in the solar industry, as well as support policies on solar access and affordability.

**Learn More:**

[Just Energy Policies: Reducing Pollution, Creating Jobs](#)  
[Bridging the Gap: Connecting Black Communities to the Green Economy](#)  
[Launching PowerUp Workforce Development Project](#)  
[Power to the People Campaign](#)

[Guide on Engaging with Public Utilities Commissions](#)  
[Lights Out in the Cold: Reforming Utility Shut-Off Policies as if Human Rights Matter](#)  
[Utility Greed Locked Me Out of the Grid but Solar Panels Set Me Free](#)



# 2015

The launch of Equity in Resilience Building for Climate Adaptation Planning Project was by far our most externally embraced project by far because it fills such a glaring gap in the climate adaptation field around how to measure equity in climate adaptation planning. The release of the Equity in Resilience Building for Climate Adaptation Indicators Document was met with critical acclaim and it has been cited in multiple state climate action plans as well as national organization materials. Other activities in this initiative include 1) Hosting Annual Resistance and Resilience Convenings; 2) Administering Resilience Grants for local adaptation projects; 3) Working with NOAA and Climate Central on conducting 10+ Sea Level Rise Forecasting and Planning regional workshops; and 4) Serving on multiple advisory groups to deepen work on equity in resilience/adaptation planning with groups including the American Society of Adaptation Professionals Board of Directors, the Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Advisory Group, and Fresh Coast Capital Board of Directors. In 2018, the program will release the Equity in Resilience Building for Climate Adaptation Toolkit, Pilot our inaugural Equity in Climate Adaptation Finance Popular Education Training, and welcoming 10 more grantees for our Resilient Communities Subgrantee Cohort.

**Learn More:**

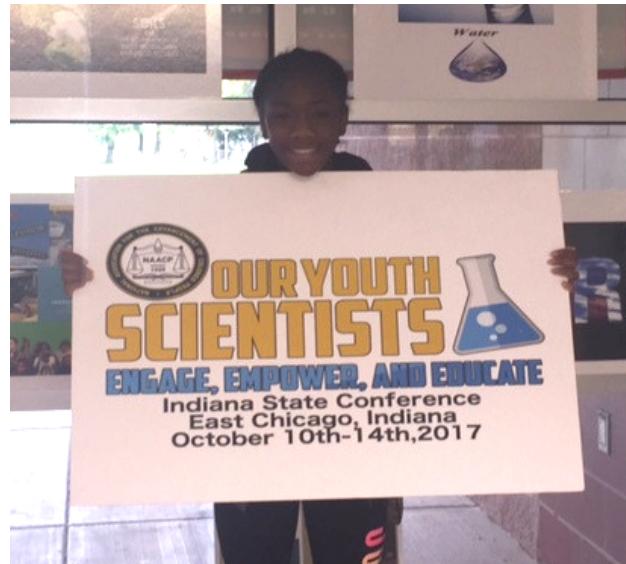
[Equity and Resilience Building for Climate Adaptation Indicators Document](#)  
[Working with NOAA and Climate Central](#)

# 2016

The execution of the NAACP We Stand With Flint Campaign in response to the water crisis consisted of convening multiple Community Meetings, hosting a Town Hall Meeting, conducting multiple individual and organizational meetings, doing intake of complaints at the Flint Branch Office, hosting an action at the state capital in Lansing MI, putting demands to the Governor, EPA, and others, and to developing the Flint Community 20 Point Plan which included components such as youth job development, water infrastructure system replacement, and restoration of democracy. This process laid the groundwork for conducting a very similar process in response to the East Chicago Toxic Crisis which also resulted in a community plan with a list of demands to the powers that be for resolution. In both situations, our work continues, including linking both communities with technical partners to resolve infrastructure concerns, and building strategy and power to exact justice.

**Learn More:**

[NAACP We Stand With Flint Campaign](#)  
[Flint Community 20 Point Plan](#)  
[NAACP Leaders Host East Chicago Lead Crisis Panel](#)  
[East Chicago Toxic Crisis Stakeholder Roundtable and Listening Session REPORT](#)



# 2017

The Youth and College Leadership Initiative received a boost this year with the Launch of the inaugural Youth Citizen Science Project in East, Chicago, IN where students from two schools impacted by the toxic crisis learned how to sample and test their air, water and soil. Other components of the Youth and College Initiative include: 1)Release of Teaching Environmental Justice in the Classroom, one of our most downloaded documents ever; 2)Black Green Pipeline project which consists of a listserv and a quarterly career fair; 3)Beasts of the Southern Wild Film Screenings and Discussion Guide to help youth talk about climate resilience; 4) Youth Delegation to UNFCCC; 5) Don't Believe the Fossil Fuel Hype Video Contest; and this year's Youth Strategy Convening and relaunch of the 10K Steps Youth Action Toolkit and Contest.

**Learn More:**

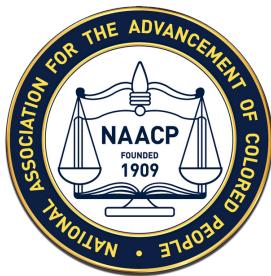
[Youth Citizen Science Project, East Chicago, Indiana](#)

# 2018

The execution of the NAACP We Stand With Flint Campaign in response to the water crisis consisted of convening multiple Community Meetings, hosting a Town Hall Meeting, conducting multiple individual and organizational meetings, doing intake of complaints at the Flint Branch Office, hosting an action at the state capital in Lansing MI, putting demands to the Governor, EPA, and others, and to developing the Flint Community 20 Point Plan which included components such as youth job development, water infrastructure system replacement, and restoration of democracy. This process laid the groundwork for conducting a very similar process in response to the East Chicago Toxic Crisis which also resulted in a community plan with a list of demands to the powers that be for resolution. In both situations, our work continues, including linking both communities with technical partners to resolve infrastructure concerns, and building strategy and power to exact justice.

**Learn More:**

[NAACP Black Church Leadership Initiative](#)



# NAACP

**ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE PROGRAM**

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