

Summary of 2017 Accomplishments

CHEJ has had a very busy and exciting year. Although Washington is full of conflict with little getting done the field is moving and local community groups are winning significant goals. Leaders understand that they need to create change and find the solution to their problems closer to home because the federal government is not likely to move or can't with the proposed budget cuts. Historically, local groups faced with serious environmental health risks often would wait for Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to act instead of working with local and state legislators to either act or demand that EPA acts.

Today, community leaders are much more engaged in strategies and organizing much closer to home. Groups that we have trained or worked with to advance their goals have had remarkable success. For example, West Virginia has withdrawn their permit for the Mountain Valley Pipeline. North Carolina has paused the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline for more study of the impact on surface and groundwater. Texas Health and Environment Alliance in Houston, TX won total removal of the wastes in the local Superfund sites. The Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, a multi chaptered group, successfully stop fracking in the state via local ordinances.



CHEJ trained 563 leaders through our training program series which included: Fundraising; Can Health Studies Help Your Community?; Strategic Planning; Media Framing & Messaging; Beyond Flint- Drinking Water Testing; MD Fracking Ban- Lessons Learned; Running for Office; Dealing With Trouble/Community Organizing Clinic; Superfund and the Trump's Task Force; and Social Media.

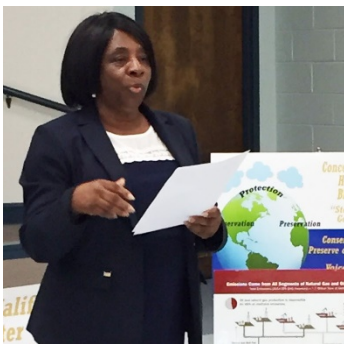
CHEJ utilized our small grants program to provide resources to grassroots groups who received training and needed seed money to act on what they learned and other organizations. We provided fifty six grants to organizations across the country ranging from \$2,000 to \$20,000.

We successfully merged with People's Action Institute allowing us to expand our reach into the field and build cross issue efforts. For example, when encouraging leaders to call their legislators around the EPA budget cuts, we suggested they also mention their opinion around health care reform.

The Center for Health, Environment & Justice Specific 2017 Goals and Accomplishments

CHEJ goal to conduct planning sessions in three different regions of the country.

NC/VA/WV - Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League held a regional strategic planning session to build a campaign around pipelines from West Virginia (Mountain Valley Pipeline) through Virginia and North Carolina (Atlantic Coast Pipeline). CHEJ facilitated this multi-state strategy over three days with core leaders working in the field.



Three concrete actions resulted from the strategy development and later executing the plan. 1.) The Governor of NC paused the permitting of the pipeline while further study takes place around sensitive water resources; 2.) West Virginia withdrew their permit for the pipeline all together; and 3.) A strong network of grassroots leaders agreed to continue to work together to halt all pipelines

signing a pledge to one another.

Dallas/Houston Texas – CHEJ spent three days with Texas groups to develop a five-year plan to move policies and grow the base of organized communities throughout the region. Texans



Together, Downwinder and Texas Health and Environment Alliance. This involved one on one with Board members and core leadership and then a three-day retreat. They developed a plan which is moving forward on schedule. Their issues are water from oil and gas extraction industry and air pollution as the Dallas Forth Worth air pollution containment area has never reached it goals.



Ohio/West Virginia Two meetings were held in the region. The first was in Athens Ohio which allowed the West Virginia participants easy access and the second was in North Eastern Ohio. Injection wells for fracking wastes, pipelines and fracking wells were the issues people were most concern with. The meetings focused on developing a plan to stop the injection, fracking wells and to use the pipeline spill in Ohio to raise the treats of pipelines and improve access to information in Ohio.

CHEJ will recruit community leaders and staff to coordinate a national campaign.

The Trump Administration's is cutting programs, policies and regulations in EPA with one exception Superfund. CHEJ's network has participated in actions to stop the dismantling of EPA our proactive efforts is around Superfund. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt decided to focus and make "EPA's core program" the Superfund program. Consequently our proactive efforts are focused on Superfund, which is a perfect fit with many of our network organizations.

In coordination with 39 community leaders, CHEJ produced and coordinated the release of the report, "The People's Task Force Report." This report outlined the important elements that the EPA Superfund Program must not eliminate and suggestions how the agency can move forward given its function as a core program.



CHEJ's community leaders and staff have met several times with the director of Superfund, Albert Kelly that has resulted in positive actions. Houston, TX is one such Superfund site. After the Hurricane Harvey rains the San Jacinto River waste pits were totally underwater. Mercury beads were left on residential properties after the water receded. EPA administrator Pruitt, after being ambushed by local leaders when he visited to assess storm damage, agreed to removal all the wastes to a safe place.

In St. Louis, Missouri the community group, Just Moms STL, hosted an accountability meeting with several hundred leaders and Superfund Director Kelly. Over forty residents testified to the problems including an underground fire in one landfill moving toward the adjacent radioactive waste sites, cluster of childhood cancers, respiratory problems and more. This resulted in the site being listed as one of the top sites to be addressed by EPA and a clean decision promised the first week of January 2018.



Minden, West Virginia site also received attention through CHEJ's/Superfund Campaign work. This community is faced with contamination from an old transformer plant that used PCBs. The city was ready to dig through the PCB contamination to install new sewer lines which could move the PCBs into the general environment, the creek and the New River. EPA has stop the construction of the sewer lines and has begun to take soil samples to define the extent of the contamination in and around the community.

In addition to organizing our network to stop budget cuts at EPA and the Superfund program, we also worked to get over 75 people to travel to Charleston, WV to testify around the importance of keeping the Clean Power Plan and expanding it to include eliminating natural gas infrastructure.

At least 500 community members seeking guidance, information and resources will receive mentoring and technical assistance to better understand and address environmental harms by end of project.

CHEJ trained 563 leaders through our training program series on the following topics: Fundraising; Can Health Studies Help Your Community?; Strategic Planning; Media Framing & Messaging; Beyond Flint - Drinking Water Testing; MD Fracking Ban - Lessons Learned; Running for Office; Dealing With Trouble/Community Organizing Clinic; Superfund and Trump's Task Force; and Using Social Media.

In addition, CHEJ worked one-on-one with dozens of communities leaders that we mentor. Sometime leaders called us to bounce ideas and strategic plans off experienced staff and others want a strategy meeting as they reach a plateau or are not sure how to move forward.

CHEJ's science and technical assistance program provided advice, comments or written critiques for 75 organizations/leaders who called for technical assistance on water sampling results, disease clusters, landfills, Superfund sites and contaminated air and water.



CHEJ will conduct four on-site skill-based training sessions for at least 200 community leaders in targeted areas by end of project.

St. Louis, MO – Just Moms STL who are fighting EPA to relocate and clean up a landfill that is burning beneath the surface and the fire is moving towards radioactive Manhattan Project wastes. CHEJ helped them to secure a meeting with Albert Kelly head of the Superfund program in D.C. which led to a commitment to visit their community for a better understanding of the problems. CHEJ held a training with leaders to develop a strategy for the meeting and skills around media, facilitation and getting leaders messages across. Forty people practiced giving testimony the day before.



Toxic Action Center, Boston, MA – CHEJ conducted a workshop with about 250 people (too many) on strategic approach to winning on your issues. Due to the large number of participants the workshop was done in a participatory manner. This workshop included exploring the strength of using science, the laws and regulatory processes, and organizing political power to win on issues. The evaluations indicated that participants found the workshop to be extremely helpful.

Charlottesville, VA; Greensboro, NC – This was an advanced leader’s training that covered the following issues: dealing with conflict, community organizing and strategic planning. This was two and half day training with leaders from across the two states.



Lackawanna, PA – Our staff worked with Friends of Lackawanna to do training on messaging and strategic approach to getting the Governor to meet. When the governor agreed we had a follow up meeting to assist leaders in defining how they might move the gov. at the meeting. This landfill accepts up to 7,250 tons per day of municipal waste and fracking drill cuttings. Over two-thirds of the incoming waste is from surrounding states. And to top it all off, this landfill is sited in an Environmental Justice

Community.

CHEJ will engage at least three groups/coalitions from its network to support state, local and federal environmental campaigns and policy reforms by end of project

Through People’s Action CHEJ has worked with not only our network on the ground fighting on multiple fronts but also the over 50 affiliates of People’s Action Climate Justice Program. Some highlights are working with the Volkswagen Settlement given to each state to reduce air pollution, green energy, and climate adaptation.

Our work with southern groups this past summer was extraordinary. Beginning in Fayetteville, NC and traveling north following the proposed Atlantic Coast and Mountain Valley pipeline routes on an eight-day organizing effort. This effort resulted in a pause in the North Carolina proposal until additional water studies can be done. West Virginia's Governor retracted the states permit for the Mountain Valley pipeline.

Small Grants Program

This program was designed to meet the needs of differing sized grassroots community based groups. Three tiers were used: Tier One for all-volunteer organizations; Tier Two for organizations with budgets of \$250,000 or less; and Tier Three for organizations with budgets over \$250,000. Additionally, we set aside a small amount of funds for Rapid Response grants to assist groups with timely needs such as dealing with the contamination caused by Hurricane Harvey.

Three foundations supported this program in 2017, The JPB Foundation, Cloud Mountain Foundation and Tides/Tikva Funds. See attached list of grantees supported by the program.

A total of 124 organizations qualified for support and CHEJ was able to provide support to 56 organizations with our pool of funds. The break out is as follows:

Tier One -- 34 organizations
Tier Two --12 organizations
Tier Three --7 organizations
Rapid Response Grants -- 3 organizations

See next page for organizations that received support.

CHEJ'S 2017 SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM GRANTEES		
Organization's Contact Information	Organization's Purpose	Project Goals
A Community Voice New Orleans, LA	Strengthen and build the neighborhood group, develop allies and mobilize to prevent a through-way in the African American communities of the 9th ward that will bring increased truck traffic and other environmental pollutants into several densely populated communities and stop the widening of the industrial canal that will damage property and harm small businesses.	To build strong community leadership and allies for power to educate and fight environmental racism that will be leveraged to challenge and change existing policy to prevent large environmental damage and racist consequences in the 9th ward.
Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) Anchorage, AK	We believe everyone has a right to clean air, clean water, and toxic-free food. Driven by a core belief in environmental justice, ACAT empowers communities to eliminate exposure to toxics through collaborative research, shared science, education, organizing, and advocacy.	To build a powerful cohort of Alaska Native women who have the skills they need to become powerful advocates for a toxics-free future for their families, their communities, and their cultures. Participants will have created a plan of action to address their region's concerns and find community-driven solutions.
Benton Township Quarry Dumping Opposition Graytown, OH	As a small, rural community our funds are quite limited. In order to continue to fight for our water quality, we need backup to strengthen our community participation. Engaging the community is imperative to making our voice heard. We know that we are stronger together if the contaminants reach the aquifer there is no way of telling how many wells could be adversely affected.	Our goal is ultimately to get this landfill situation shut down and protect our local water supply. We are making some headway by sheer persistence and fortitude. NOTE: The group update: the county prosecutor has file a lawsuit against the landfill operator. Group understands that now is the time to intensify the pressure.
Black Belt Citizens Fighting for Health & Justice Uniontown, AL	Develop partnerships and projects with schools, colleges, students, and allies for research and documentation of pollution and environmental health in Uniontown and AL's Black Belt	Educate residents on environmental risks and empower citizens towards needed solutions. BBC will host and facilitate visits from schools and manage projects to document residents' health. Host 6 community-based programs to educate and empower the most impacted residents.
Buckeye Environmental Network Athens, OH	Buckeye Environmental mission is to support grassroots environmental justice and protect Ohio's native forests and their inhabitants through education, organizing, and advocacy.	Achieve both local and a statewide moratorium on Class 2 Injection Wells in Ohio.

<p>Center for Coalfield Justice Washington, PA</p>	<p>We work primarily in Washington and Greene counties in southwestern Pennsylvania, with a mission to improve policy and Regulations for the oversight of fossil fuel extraction And use; to educate, empower and organize coalfield citizens; and to protect public and environmental health. CCJ was formed as the “Tri--State Citizens.”</p>	<p>CCJ hopes to build an Environmental Justice Action Team lead by frontline community members fighting for environmental justice in Greene & Washington Counties. This Environmental Justice Action Team will build collective power to pressure decision makers to protect human and environmental health. Through trainings and support we intend to develop at least 3---5 frontline, impacted community leaders.</p>
<p>Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ) Jurupa Valley, CA</p>	<p>Organizing for environmental justice in the Inland Valley is critical due to the severe health consequences of diesel pollution in areas near the logistics operations that have risen exponentially in the last decade. Lying along some of the most extensive road and rail networks in the United States and being uniquely positioned only an hour east of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the Inland Valley is now home to the largest concentration of warehousing and logistics space anywhere in the world.</p>	<p>Our Community Voices Project will challenge the dominant narrative that promotes low-wage jobs, deregulation, and massive development projects as the answer to economic insecurity in our region; and promote a parallel vision that calls for good jobs, clean air and water, low-mortality rate, and opportunities to succeed for everyone.</p>
<p>Citizens for a Healthy Jessup Jessup, PA</p>	<p>Increase the awareness of the potential impacts from Marcellus Gas Expansion and power plant generation.</p>	<p>Citizens for a Healthy Jessup has a multi-tiered mission of protecting human and non-human health, safety, and welfare and preserving an environment with high quality air and water and educating our community on the potential impacts of Marcellus Gas Expansions and power plant generation from fossil-fuel facilities.</p>
<p>Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB) Merrimac, WI</p>	<p>Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger unifies and strengthens citizens working for a healthy and sustainable future for Wisconsin’s Badger Army Ammunition Plant and other contaminated military sites.</p>	<p>We will engage, empower and unify rural communities near the Badger Army Ammunition Plant to assure that affected waterways are free of mercury and other environmental toxins resulting from the historical discharge of hazardous industrial waste water. Lead, copper, arsenic, ammonia, nitro-glycerine, PCBs and methylmercury. Exposure to elevated levels of mercury can permanently damage the brain, kidneys, and developing fetus.</p>
<p>Citizens to Preserve Ligonier Valley (CPLV) Ligonier, PA</p>	<p>CPLV works on educating citizens on the health and environmental risks to rural communities from horizontal gas drilling (i.e. fracking) in Marcellus and Utica Shale. We work to inform our citizens about the township rezoning which</p>	<p>Through the use of large and small visual materials, we hope to (1) alert the citizens of the Ligonier Valley of the dangers of fracking to our environment, and (2) encourage people to support and become members of CPLV to join us in our effort.</p>

	<p>changed many residential properties to agricultural land to allow this drilling in 70% of the township.</p>	
<p>Clark Fork River Technical Assistance Committee Missoula, MT</p>	<p>CFRTAC's ultimate goal is to achieve the best Superfund cleanup possible with the least impact and most benefit to landowners. CFRTAC is a volunteer citizens' organization whose mission is to help landowners participate in Superfund remediation, restoration and redevelopment of the mine-waste contaminated Clark Fork River and its affected communities. The Milltown Reservoir/Clark Fork River Superfund Site extends 100 miles along the river from Warm Springs to Milltown, Montana and is contaminated with toxic metal-laden wastes from historic mining and smelting upstream.</p>	<p>To provide technical information in understandable language to landowners and other interested members of the community and link them to other resources and agency personnel as needed. To encourage landowners to participate in Superfund cleanup and help them understand their rights and responsibilities. To attend (and convene) public meetings, produce a newsletter and website, and meet individually with landowners to help guide them through the Superfund process.</p>
<p>Cleburne Cancer Concerns Frithurst, AL</p>	<p>The group, Cleburne Cancer Concerns, is working collectively to help determine what is causing so many cases of leukemia and other types of cancer to be diagnosed in Cleburne County, Alabama. This group was formally organized in January 2017.</p>	<p>There has been a tremendous amount of leukemia cases in the community. There have been four children diagnosed within the past year. This number is higher than what the CDC issues for the whole county in a four-year span. The group is working to find a possible cause for so many cancers in our community. Dr. Lee is doing 10 water samples for free to begin with.</p>
<p>Communities United for Action Cincinnati, OH</p>	<p>Communities United for Action (CUFA) is a multi-issue, grassroots organization that brings diverse people together to affect change. CUFA develops low and moderate income citizens to participate fully in civic life and influence public policy and business practices impacting their communities.</p>	<p>The People and Planet Coalition is an outgrowth of CUFA's longstanding commitment to fight environmental justice. This project will address the racism and classism that have led to environmental genocide by building a powerful coalition of people of color and low-income residents to influence the public processes to protect health.</p>

<p>Concern for the New Generation Buckingham, VA</p>	<p>To stop the proposed 57,000 horsepower compressor station for the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline which directly affects the majority minority community of Union Hill/Union Grove, where the members of Concern for the New Generation live.</p>	<p>To have the Local Board of Supervisors rescind the illegally issued special use permit for the compressor station; to seek help from the EPA to overturn the special use permit; and to ensure the VA DEQ rescind Buckingham's illegally issued special use permit and deny the air permit for the proposed 57,000 horsepower compressor station for the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline directly affects the majority minority community of Union Hill/Union Grove, where the members of Concern for the New Generation live.</p>
<p>Concerned Citizens of Richmond County (CCRC) Hamlet, NC</p>	<p>Our group wants to increase community involvement concerning multiple environmental injustice issues and stop their assault and damage to our children and residents through capacity building, training, outreach, protests, advertising, and other events and activities.</p>	<p>To have the state and the EPA to rescind Duke Energy's permit that adds more turbines and an extreme amount of pollution at their power plant facility in Hamlet, NC. Increase membership by 50%, capacity and strengthen our leadership in order to educate more people in our community about this critical issue.</p>
<p>Concerned Steward of Halifax County Whitakers, NC</p>	<p>Our goal is to stop the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and to validate the spirit of Independence that was born in Halifax County but the actualization of Freedom from pipelines started here against the trap of manipulating circumstances and exploitation of people and private land for a non-public use.</p>	<p>Stop the Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project. Increase community awareness about the negative impacts of the pipeline and eminent domain. Increase the "power" by building capacity and increasing membership by 35% We do this by providing informational and planning meetings to prosper public awareness of the pipeline and the implications, impact and hazardous conditions which would threaten the environment.</p>
<p>Eastern Connecticut Green Action (ECGA) Coventry, CT</p>	<p>To increase the number of towns in Northeastern Connecticut who pass municipal bans on fracking waste.</p>	<p>To engage and assist at least 9 more towns in Northeastern Connecticut in the effort to enact ordinances against treating, storing, utilizing and disposing hydraulic fracturing waste from natural oil and gas drilling. To put political pressure on the State to permanently ban, not permit, importation of oil& gas extraction waste and by-products into Connecticut.</p>
<p>Elyria and Swansea Neighborhood Association Denver, CO</p>	<p>Community Outreach, education and organization regarding construction in the Vasques Blvd/Blvd-I-70 Superfund Site in Elyria neighborhood of Denver, CO.</p>	<p>Determine the extent to which any Health Risk Assessment (HRA) was done prior to the GLO removal action; and if not, to mobilize ESNA and other neighborhood groups to petition U.S. EPA Region 8 to halt the removal action until such HRA is completed. Build an organizational structure to educate and give voice to the concerns of residents.</p>

<p>Frackfree America National Coalition Hubbard, OH</p>	<p>One of our main goals is to protect public health and safety and the environment. We advocate for people experiencing injustice. To create strategy and educational activities, networking possibilities with activists in Ohio and states.</p>	<p>To raise awareness of the public health and safety dangers of fracking, injection wells, and man-made earthquakes in order to demand that “regulators” and corporations halt these dangerous processes. Alternatives must be immediately sought.</p>
<p>Friends of Buckingham Buckingham, VA</p>	<p>Stop the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) planned to not only build a new large interstate pipeline through Buckingham County but also to locate the only Virginia ACP 68-acre compressor station with 14 engines here at the intersection of the existing 4 pipeline corridor of Transco, to also build 2 underground and 1 above ground storage tanks, a metering station, and wireless transmission tower.</p>	<p>Complete Door-to-Door compressor station neighborhood campaign to get exact demographic, health issues (anonymized following HIPA), current land uses for farming and business; and outreach, capacity building as evidence for comments and legal challenges to the special use permit timeline. We will now organize strategic events and direct actions that are laser sharp, targeted best uses of our time that directly serve specific aims.</p>
<p>Friends of Lackawanna (FOL) Dunmore, PA</p>	<p>Friends of Lackawanna (FOL) is a Pennsylvania non-profit committed to protecting the health and safety of the local community, as well as the regional image and the environment. Friends of Lackawanna consists of, and represents, the interests of citizens concerned with environmental matters, including Keystone Sanitary Landfill (KSL) Inc. ongoing operations and its proposed Phase III expansion.</p>	<p>The purpose of this activity is to educate the public on how they can become engaged in FOL’s ongoing fight against Keystone Sanitary Landfills proposed 50 year expansion. We would also continue to inform the community on ways to be more environmentally conscious (increasing recycling efforts, community gardens, composting, etc.).</p>
<p>Idaho Organization of Resource Boise, ID</p>	<p>The Idaho Organization of Resource Councils (IORC) is a non-profit grassroots organization working to protect Idaho’s unique way of life by empowering citizens to improve the economic well-being of their communities by preserving family farms and ranches; supporting local, sustainable agriculture; developing small businesses and clean energy; and being responsible stewards of Idaho’s water, land, air, and nature.</p>	<p>IORC is embarking in its first strategic planning process and needs funding for materials, staff time, travel, and a staff and member leader planning retreat. The organization has operated on annual plans and is in need of setting a five-year vision.</p>
<p>IXCHEL Cicero, IL</p>	<p>To focus on capacity building for Ixchel, to increase our leadership base, create awareness on environmental justice and continue to require transparency as well as accountability from local industries.</p>	<p>Mitigate odors from the Metropolitan Waste Reclamation District of Greater Chicago in Stickney. Monitor and address environmental violations. Build a strong base of 60 leaders, 30 supporters and 3 new core leaders. Through leadership development, mobilize and organize</p>

		around EJ issues in Berwyn and Cicero.
Just Moms STL Maryland Heights, MO	Just Moms STL are working to obtain immediate relocation assistance for homeowners that want to move and are located within one mile of the West Lake Landfill fence line, paid for by the landfill owner, Republic Services. Fair market property value assurance for homeowners living within five miles of the West Lake Landfill for a minimum of five years after fair value assurance is initiated. Put the Army Corps of Engineers FUSRAP in charge as this will remove the significant influence that financially responsible parties currently enjoy while it is an EPA Superfund site.	There is a bill pending in the Missouri Senate, SB-22 Hazardous Waste Home Acquisition Program. If passed, this bill would help us reach our goal of voluntary relocation. We expect to travel to our state capitol in Jefferson City to educate elected officials and offer a better understanding of the situation. This includes educating any incoming elected officials under the new administration. We also anticipate two trips to Washington D.C. to meet with our federally elected officials to discuss options and how to proceed with our issue. We will also need to do more educating in D.C. with the new administration. We would also like to set up a meeting with the new administration of CEQ.
Kentucky Environmental Foundation Berea, KY	The Kentucky Environmental Foundation is dedicated to sustainability, safeguarding human health, promoting environmental justice, and preserving ecological systems for a better future for all Kentuckians	Preventing the Tennessee Gas pipeline repurposing project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventing the expansion of hydraulic fracturing in Kentucky; • Cultivating informed and engaged citizens with respect to natural gas extraction, pipeline transportation & toxic fracking waste; • Assisting counties with the adoption of protective memorandums and resolutions; and • Reducing the region's contribution to climate change.
Lancaster Against Pipelines Holtwood, PA	Lancaster Against Pipelines has been working relentlessly to oppose the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline (ASP) in order to protect our land and preserve our environment. Support from CHEJ will enable us to grow community opposition to the ASP through local direct action, including a large-scale encampment.	Our ultimate goal is to stop the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline through a massive public outcry against this unjust project. Intermediate goals include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Training of 100+ LAP members and volunteers in non-violent direct action. 2) Establishment of the encampment at The Stand, with 100+ volunteers encamped by spring 2017. 3) A series of protests and actions conducted from The Stand, engaging hundreds of community members and volunteers and resulting in delays for Williams. 4) Public awareness of The Stand, as evidenced by local/ national media coverage, as well as social media exposure.

<p>Liveable Arlington Arlington, TX</p>	<p>Our group is working on health and safety risks faced by Arlington resident's due to hydraulic fracturing taking place at our 56 drill sites and more than 400 gas wells. We have been active for two years.</p>	<p>Our ultimate goal is to end gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing in our densely populated city. Due to legal prohibitions against these goals, we work to educate residents, and local officials, of the dangers posed by drilling, and to work toward more monitoring, and control of these facilities, and to keep them away from schools, and neighborhoods.</p>
<p>Local Environmental Action Demanded Vinita, OK</p>	<p>Educate Residents on Methods to Reduce Exposure to Tar Creek Superfund Site Contaminants and lower lead levels in children.</p>	<p>To take actions to counter environmental hazards that put residents at risk, financially and physically To take a lead conducting environmental workshops and seminars concerning issues, and to provide a linkage with other organizations throughout the state and the nation.</p>
<p>Midwest Environmental Justice Org Madison, WI</p>	<p>To expand community participation and build MEJO's capacity to prevent exposures among the most at-risk groups to toxic pollution from Madison-Kipp Corporation.</p>	<p>MEJO's broad goals are 1) to educate the community about environmental and public health risks from toxic chemicals, and 2) to work with the people most affected by these risks to reduce and eventually eliminate them.</p>
<p>Neighbors Allied for Good Growth (NAG) Brooklyn, NY</p>	<p>NAG Strategic Planning Process to Organize for Environmental Health and Justice in North Brooklyn</p>	<p>Our goal is to develop and begin implementation of a strategic plan for NAG and our merger with GWAPP. This will help us increase our organizational capacity to become a more effective organization to organize and fight for environmental health and justice in our neighborhood.</p>
<p>Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance Buckhannon, WV</p>	<p>Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance is working on various social and environmental issues in our area. We promote clean water through clean energy and strive to make pipeline and fracking education available to the public in order to stand against the pipelines threatening our communities.</p>	<p>We are a local group of citizen advocates working to protect West Virginia's environment, culture, and heritage for future generations. We have hosted numerous meetings for landowners and the public to inform them about the pipelines and their rights, informing them and the general public of how to make comments FERC.</p>
<p>No ACP Richmond, VA</p>	<p>To perform a workshop tour in communities around Virginia actively organizing and resisting the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and similar fossil fuel infrastructure projects</p>	<p>To provide frontline communities around Virginia tools and perspectives of direct action to further inform their organizing and activism, while cross-pollinating information and techniques throughout the tour. Facilitate a community-created "Timeline of Resistance".</p>

<p>No Pipeline JoCo Clayton, NC</p>	<p>Use our grassroots, newly-formed organization to oppose the ACP pipeline in a united way that is supportive of our member landowners and our neighbors affected by the pipeline's dangers and disruptions and by the process of eminent domain.</p>	<p>Use educational, advertising, and community outreach efforts to inform ourselves and our affected neighbors, as well as the media and public agencies, about the dangers and injustice of using eminent domain to take our agricultural land for use by a private corporation. To build our membership and multiply our efforts.</p>
<p>People for Safe Water Urbana, OH</p>	<p>Our project will 1) build our group's and our county's capacity to win an acceptable modified cleanup plan; and 2) expand community participation in the TCBF cleanup process.</p>	<p>Our goals are: 1. To protect our water source by advocating with our local government and agency partners for a more protective remedy at the TCBF. 2. To inform and engage Clark County residents in this effort.</p>
<p>Philly Thrive Philadelphia, PA</p>	<p>Bring together 10-15 frontline community members who are emerging as leaders in Philly Thrive's refinery campaign to be trained by social movement veterans in community organizing skills, knowledge of campaign strategy and the effective use of nonviolent direct-action tactics.</p>	<p>1) Deepen the commitment, organizing skills and strategic thinking of our base of emerging frontline leaders, and 2) Expand our base of community membership through application of organizing skills and through participants' organizing their neighbors, friends and networks to attend these actions</p>
<p>Protect Our Water (POW) Lovingson, VA</p>	<p>To guide our community and local Board of Supervisors to move to renewable energy with the goal of distributed solar.</p>	<p>To work in and with our community to guide our Board of Supervisors to adopt a Community Choice Agreement which would support efforts to move our community to solar energy and stop supporting utilities that continue to use fossil fuels to electric generation. We have joined other community groups fighting the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline.</p>
<p>Save Our Illinois Land (SOIL) Bartlett, IL</p>	<p>Stop the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure through Illinois.</p>	<p>Inform landowners along proposed pipeline. Build capacity. Recruit and support 10 pro se intervenor's. Gain support from at least 10% of the Illinois legislators along the pipeline route.</p>
<p>Save our Salem Greensburg, PA</p>	<p>To educate the residents of Salem Township, a community of farms and residential homes in Westmoreland County, about 30 miles east of Pittsburgh, how to protect themselves and their families from the inundation of gas development and proposed pipelines in our community.</p>	<p>To educate on the impact of gas development on health by providing facts and resources; foster citizen engagement in the government process that has the ability to protect us on local, county and state levels.</p>

Stop Plains All American Pipeline Norman, OK	Stop Plains All American Pipeline/NoPlainsPipeline	To uphold tribal sovereignty and stop construction on Plains All American Pipeline LP's various interstate pipeline projects impacting tribal jurisdictions in the state of Oklahoma.
Keep Wayne Wild - Columbus Group Columbus, OH	build anti-fracking leadership in Appalachia, specifically focusing on Wayne National Forest; and expand our group efforts into southeast Ohio.	To help build strong community connections and leadership in Appalachia, with the ultimate goal of protecting Wayne National Forest from hydraulic fracturing.
Texas Health & Environment Alliance Houston, TX	As a new 501 c 3 organization dedicated to educating the public and policymakers to support a clean, toxin-free watershed in our region.	Build a broad-based movement to remediate toxic contamination and clean up the Galveston Bay watershed by engaging communities, building coalitions, commissioning high-quality scientific research.
The Southside Coalition to Ban Petcoke Chicago, IL	To permanently rid our neighborhood of toxic substances and to work towards a future that includes safe, sustainable employment opportunities in the area; also, to ultimately be an example for & provide assistance to other urban areas striving to achieve the same goals.	1) To increase awareness, support, participation & leadership among community members; 2) To organize community meetings, forums, workshops, and, if necessary, peaceful direct actions; 3) To conduct additional research and initiate action achieving a permanent injunction/ban and complete moratorium on the storage & transport of toxic chemicals throughout our neighborhood and other residential areas; 4) To begin to address the many health concerns that community members have as a result of exposure to petcoke, manganese, and other toxics. .
Torch CAN DO Coolville, OH	To bring awareness to fracking and frack waste. Demand our federal government acknowledge and change the lack of regulations oil and gas has in place.	Continue to receive training under a grant from the Sugar Bush Foundation and Ohio University on becoming community activists. We will take this training and become train the trainers. We will also be co-sponsoring a Human Rights Tribunal on fracking.
West Virginia Rivers Coalition Charleston, WV	To provide essential support to advance the goal of the newly formed Appalachian Gas Working Group, which is to end public harm from fracking and fracked oil and gas infrastructure and to support healthy communities, property rights, and a just transition to clean, renewable energy.	Provide the structure, coordination and skill-building opportunities needed to carry out the short-term strategies of four working teams of the AGWG; This will be done by providing staffing to the teams, contracting with a coordinator for the working group, coordinating quarterly in-person meetings. Capacity building workshops for local organizers and groups.

<p>Wilson County – No Pipeline Kenly, NC</p>	<p>Rapid Response: To stop the pipeline, educate the community about the negative impacts of the pipeline; support affected landowners and neighbors; and build membership by 50% to assist with projects.</p>	<p>Our goal is to develop a clear message for educational, advertising, and community outreach efforts. We will inform our affected landowners and neighbors, as well as the media and public agencies about the negative impacts to the environment and life-threatening dangers of natural gas pipelines and the injustice of using eminent domain to prevent the taking of our agricultural land for use by a private corporation.</p>
<p>Toxic Action Center Boston, MA</p>	<p>Rapid Response: To provide travel costs to attend a critical meeting to join nationwide in developing a plan for climate change related work</p>	<p>Explore, center and coordinate our plans with other organizations working nationwide on climate change issues.</p>
<p>Buckeye Environmental Network Athens, OH</p>	<p>Rapid Response: To provide resources for low wealth community leaders to travel to Charleston West Virginia to testify on not repealing the Clean Power Plan.</p>	<p>Turn out as many people as possible to testify at government hearing to speak about why the Trump Administration should not repeal the Clean Power Plan but leave the plan in place and expand it to include natural gas related risks to climate change.</p>
<p>Headwaters Defense Oak Hill, WV</p>	<p>Rapid Response: USEPA has found that there are dangerous and actionable levels of PCB contamination throughout the community of Minden, WV. In order for us to bring light to the negligence and in Minden and develop a local strategy, we are asking for funds to pay for a expert to come to Minden to talk with residents and media, and facilitate a relocation workshop. We believe that this issue is inherently urgent because for every moment that residents are living in this contaminated town, they are being put at risk.</p>	<p>The goal of this project is to come out of the relocation workshop with a clear definition of what Minden residents need, who our targets are, tactics we can use, a timeline with actionable items. Also what other non-residents can do to advocate for the people of Minden. Ideally participants will come out of this meeting ready to pressure targets directly to get what they need, as well as being able to tell anyone else what they can do to support justice for Minden. We will remain organized to achieve our goals.</p>
<p>Texas Health & Environment Alliance (THEA) Houston, TX</p>	<p>Rapid Response: THEA request follows Hurricane Harvey’s devastating impact to the Gulf Coast. THEA’s Harvey Response Efforts to ensure public safety near the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site. The Waste Pits and the surrounding area received over 51 inches of rain during the unprecedented flood event. Two thirds of the site remains under the river’s water.</p>	<p>THEA will take a few samples of ground and drinking water at what we believe are hot spots and test them for chemicals from the superfund sites. No one is doing this and if test prove positive for chemicals we can leverage that to get EPA to do further testing and we can warn residents about the public health related risks.</p>

<p>Energy Justice Shale Initiative Scranton, PA</p>	<p>Stop shale gas infrastructure expansion in the rural Pennsylvania portion of the Marcellus Shale formation.</p>	<p>We aim to change the political conditions in Pennsylvania in order to move Pennsylvania away from fracking, as New York and Maryland have already banned. We're raising landowner and resident opposition to natural gas pipelines and related Marcellus Shale gas infrastructure in Northeast Pennsylvania, and supporting communities impacted by shale gas development, particularly in Dimock and along the Mariner East, Penn East, and other major gas pipeline projects.</p>
<p>Clean Water for North Carolina Asheville, NC</p>	<p>To promote clean, safe water and environments and empowered, just communities for all North Carolinians through community organizing, education, advocacy and technical assistance.</p>	<p>Empowering NC Communities to Combat Coal Ash Injustices</p>
<p>Downwinders At Risk Education Fund Dallas, TX</p>	<p>Downwinders at Risk Education Fund is dedicated to effective action on behalf of those being harmed by air pollution. Our goal is to build a strong grassroots constituency and create new strategies for clean air in North Texas. We do this by informing, connecting and mobilizing citizens to become active participants in the decision-making that affects the air we breathe. In doing so, we improve both the quality of our air and the quality of our democracy.</p>	<p>Funding part-time position to assist in volunteer, donor, and social media development.</p>
<p>FLOW (For Love of Water) Traverse City, MI</p>	<p>Our mission is to safeguard the Great Lakes, the planet's largest freshwater lake system and the very lifeblood of the Midwest, by engaging and activating citizens to join us to advance <i>public trust</i> solutions informed by our cutting-edge policy work.</p>	<p>We propose to develop an active partnership with the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA), an alliance of five Indian tribes to combine the power of sovereign tribal rights to protect the Great Lake and public health. In partnership with CORA, we will: (1) collaborate and coordinate our efforts to address two priority issues in the Great Lake (Line 5 pipeline and Nestlé's water privatization efforts); and (2) use Line 5 and Nestle as practical examples to create and lead water rights trainings.</p>

Promote PT, Inc., DBA, Protect PT Trafford, PA	Promote PT, Inc. is a non-profit organization working to ensure the safety, security and quality of life for residents of Penn Township, Trafford and surrounding communities in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. We are a grassroots organization led by socially and environmentally conscious members and volunteers who reside within the impacted community.	To educate citizens on the importance of protection from environmental and health impacts from shale gas development and train them on different technologies to help mitigate the pollution this industry causes.
Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment Knoxville, TN	SOCM is a member-driven organization that encourages civic involvement and collective action so that the people of Tennessee have a greater voice in determining their future. Our mission is to empower Tennesseans to protect, defend and improve the quality of life in their communities across the state. We work for social, economic, and environmental justice for all. We are committed to the journey of becoming an anti-racist organization. Recognizing our interdependence, we are committed to overcoming social and institutional racism and embracing our diverse cultures.	Stop the odor pollution, illegal blasting, and expansion of Middle Pointe Landfill and conduct a health survey of surrounding neighborhoods to expose health impacts from landfill pollution. Implement a robust recycling program in Rutherford County.
East Michigan Environmental Action Council Detroit, MI	Addressing environmental health and justice issues from Detroit's Trash Incinerator.	The goal for this project is to stop the pollution coming from the Detroit incinerator, and to provide residents living around the Detroit incinerator with the knowledge, and opportunity, to improve their community's health and environment.
Steps Coalition Biloxi, MS	Develop environmental justice leadership by working collaboratively to reduce toxic exposures from oil chemical activities in at-risk communities.	The goal of the project is build the capacity of the Cherokee Concerned Citizens to reduce exposures from oil-chemical activities in their community.

Challenges faced in 2017

The biggest challenge for CHEJ was integrating our institution with People's Action Institute. There was no real conflict we all agreed on the end product but there were many moving parts that needed to happen. That said we have completed the process and have moved all corporate papers/filings and programmatic work over to People's Action Institute. CHEJ is now a project of People's Action as we wanted to maintain the name and reputation.