



Scan To Save

MARCH NEWSLETTER

www.michiganej.org

A word from our new Executive Director, Jamesa Johnson-Greer



Over the past four years, I have had the privilege of witnessing the growth of the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition, first as a participant of MEJC's Clean Air Council, then as a member, and eventually as a part of the staff. I've seen MEJC grow to meet the scale of the problems facing environmental justice communities by taking a multi-faceted approach to systems change and aligning on intersectional goals with statewide power-building organizations and small grassroots groups. MEJC is committed to building power and strengthening the movement. We strive to represent our communities through our programming, hiring practices and membership. Only together can we deal with the root causes of environmental injustice and climate change; racism, capitalism, and the hetero-patriarchy.

We've been busy this year welcoming new staff, gearing up for Get Out the Vote work, and launching our [Movement School](#) and [Clean Air Youth Council](#). In an effort to expand our reach and connect more people to Environmental Justice work in Michigan (and beyond), we are incredibly excited to introduce the MEJC Monthly Newsletter! The newsletter will allow folks to stay tuned into organizational updates, member spotlights, calls to action, events, and more. We are currently in the process of revamping our website as well, so keep an eye out for that announcement in the near future. If you have any questions about the newsletter please contact our Communications Specialist Katrina Hamann at katrina@michiganej.org. Looking forward to sharing our work with you in 2022 and beyond!

Jamesa Johnson-Greer, Executive Director

Member Spotlight: Jesse Deer In Water

Jesse is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and a leader at [CRAFT \(Citizen's Resistance At Fermi Two\)](#), a grassroots, Indigenous-led organization in Michigan dedicated to environmental justice and the well-being of the earth. CRAFT fights to protect Michigan and the Great Lakes from nuclear hazards while demanding a robust green renewable energy infrastructure.

"We are all intertwined by the various things that bring us together and tear us apart."

Coming from an impacted community in Oklahoma, this work is deeply personal for Jesse. For him, MEJC created a space that centers People of Color and is committed to identifying issues that affect his people *and* pushing for solutions. "My experience around white people has not been positive. Having a space to exchange information, connect with people across the state doing similar work, and calling out [false climate solutions](#) has been a big benefit of my involvement [as a member] with MEJC."



Become a Member!

[Click Here to Apply](#)

Policy Updates

In March, our policy staff met with officials from CEQ, EPA, and DOE to ensure that Michigan Environmental Justice communities and our local issues are not left out from the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#). If you are interested in providing feedback on this new tool, you can join CEQ's Public Listening Session on Friday, April 15, 2022 at 4pm ET. Register [here](#).

Stateside, MEJC and our partners at the Michigan EJ Caucus met with legislators to start a conversation about [Justice 40](#) as well as state and local funding from the [Infrastructure, Investments, and Jobs Act](#). We are looking for more grassroots and community-based organizations interested in seeing a just and equitable implementation of these investments. If you would like to participate in a statewide Justice 40 work group, please reach out to bridget@michiganej.org.

Our MEJC policy team continues to monitor all federal investments to advocate against projects that will harm our communities. The Infrastructure, Investments, and Jobs Act unfortunately also includes false solutions that threaten the health of our families, including the [government's largest investment in Carbon Capture, Storage, and Utilization \(\\$8+ billions\)](#). **Stay tuned** for the April relaunch of MEJC's Policy Committee where you can engage with these issues and more! In the meantime, feel free to email juan@michiganej.org with any questions.

[Donate to MEJC!](#)



Make sure you're following our [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)! In April we will be posting an Earth Week series celebrating "EJ Wins." We'll be highlighting the work of activists behind recent environmental justice victories locally and statewide. These wins would simply not be possible without folks doing on the ground organizing work.

[Click Here](#) to subscribe to future issues of our monthly newsletter (& encourage your friends, family, and comrades to subscribe, too!)



Our Mission

The Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition works to achieve a clean, healthy, and safe environment for Michigan residents most affected by inadequate policies. We build power and unity within our community, so we all can thrive.

[Website](#)



If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please (Unsubscribing is not supported in previews).