Synergy:  
(sin’ar.je) n.  1. a combined and correlated force;  2. united for action.

Building Community Power

Locally
Regionally
Statewide
Nationwide

Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice
Local Voices, Local Votes, Count!

CCAEJ’s voter mobilization was bigger and better this year. Dozens of residents in Riverside and San Bernardino wearing their bright red T-shirts took to the streets and phones to urge their friends and neighbors to vote on election day. Our goal was to contact 21,000 people and we exceeded that by reaching 27,918. We had a band of amazing volunteers that spent hours upon hours reaching out to encourage people to vote.

Each year we pick one proposition to focus on. CCAEJ joined with our state wide coalition—California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA) - to promote Proposition 39. Prop 39 will close a tax loophole that allows out-of-state corporations to do business in California without paying taxes in California. It will result in an additional $1 billion in new funds help fund upgrades in our schools and creating new jobs. CCAEJ felt this proposition offered the most direct and quickest opportunity to create good jobs and advance green technologies. It closes a tax loophole that allowed our of state corporations to do businesses in California but not pay taxes. Proposition 39 passed with a 60% majority.

This year, CCAEJ added new tools to our program by installing a 20 seat phone bank system with a predictive dialer allowing volunteers to more quickly and efficiently call voters. We also hired a dedicated staff person to merge our electoral work with our organizing work building our base of families. Another new addition is our local coalition. We recognize that the power to change the quality of life for all residents of our region depends on numbers—numbers of people and numbers of Votes! To leverage our numbers, CCAEJ has joined with other social justice groups in the two counties — Warehouse Workers Resource Center, which works with the temp workers in the warehouse industry to achieve justice; and a multi-racial youth group, 4E’s; to form Project CLEAR - Coalition for Local Engagement and Action for Reform.

CCAEJ has even bigger plans for the future as we move to ensure that everyone voice is translated into votes — and people power. We will expand Project CLEAR and create a new organization that is a 501 (C)(4) and is able to endorse candidates. Great thanks to everyone that helped with our program and to those who came out and VOTED!
CCAEJ and residents of Mira Loma Village joined together to challenge the proposal to place massive warehouse project at the fence line of homes. Just before Jurupa Valley became a City and would have been able to decide if we needed more warehousing, the County approved the project placing these families in more danger from the diesel pollution.

This is the neighborhood that has more than 800 trucks an hour passing less than 20 feet from their backyards along Etiwanda. We know from studies from the Keck School of Medicine at USC that Mira Loma children have the slowest lung growth and weakest lung growth of all children in southern California. The EIR states that there will be significant impacts to air and traffic, but the County used “overriding considerations” to approve it anyway.

CCAEJ filed a lawsuit under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) challenging the approval and was joined by California Attorney General, Kamala Harris. Once having an opportunity to talk directly with the developers, Obeyashi, they stepped forward with meaningful and substantial improvements to the project that will make a world of difference for the hard hit neighborhood. Obeyashi has redesigned the project placing smaller buildings—not warehouses nearest the homes. These buildings will not be serviced by heavy duty trucks. The lower height of the buildings ensure the residents’ view will not be blocked and that emissions from Etiwanda won’t be trapped in the homes.

They are providing several mitigation measures:

Special thanks to our attorney, Ray Johnson and staff Johnson and Sedlack Attorneys, and Sarah Morrison of the Attorney General’s office and to Attorney General Kamala Harris who’s courageous act of stepping in to stand with our families is greatly appreciated.
Westside Battles OmniTrans

OmniTrans the regional transportation agency, provides excellent bus service throughout San Bernardino county. We have no problems with their service. But we do have a problem in the LNG fueling station in the middle of our residential area and across the street from the Ramona Alessandro Elementary School. For years, residents have come together to protest the smells, leaks and safety hazard posed by having 60,000 gallon tanks of Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) next to our homes.

Despite the protests going back since the late 1990s; despite the ongoing history of explosions due to LNG and CNG, OmniTrans continues to operate their fueling station in our neighborhood in total disregard for the health and safety of our families.

Now we have the new SBx Project underway that will develop an express bus system connecting Cal State San Bernardino through downtown San Bernardino out to Hospitality Lane and onto Loma Linda University. A great idea—for everyone else. What does the Westside get out of this multi-million project? More buses fueling up at the Omnitrans fueling station on Medical Way and 5th Street. Instead of using a small portion of the funds to move the fueling station to an appropriate industrial area, Omnitrans has once again ignored the safety of the Westside and is simply expanding the fueling operation to meet the needs of servicing more buses.

Why are we concerned? The industry says that LNG is not flammable... as long as it stays in it’s “thermos bottle”. But upon breach of its container it rapidly becomes an ignitable vaporous cloud. Once the gas dispersion level reaches anywhere between 4% and 15% gas to oxygen it will ignite from any source it encounters— a spark from a cigarette, cell phone, etc.

In 2004, in Algeria an LNG blast killed dozens of people, injured 74 and was felt for miles away. And this was in an industrial area. What would the death toll be in a residential neighborhood like the Westside.

We keep being assured that Omnitrans has the strongest security measures in place—nothing can happen. But in a recent sampling project by the California Air Resources Board and Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) as part of our Inland EJ Task Force, their security failed! Researchers walked around the facility all day long raising the equipment called “sniffers” over the walls and NOT ONCE did anyone come out to investigate what was going on. They could have been anyone— even terrorists — and Omnitrans wouldn’t have known a thing. How secure is that? Westside residents aren’t asking for much. This fueling station would not be allowed anywhere else in the City — but it’s OK for the Westside. Westside Residents deserve better than this. We demand that the fueling station be moved out of our neighborhood!!

Danger Lurks in their Homes!

While the real situation is far from funny, this cartoon exemplifies how residents feel about their neighborhood in Wildomar. They report strong chemical odors and multiple continuing health problems. The situation got so bad four families have abandoned their dream homes in order to get their health back. They report headaches, rashes, nose bleeds, breathing ailments, gastrointestinal problems and other maladies. Four pneumonia cases, two which ended in death.

The biggest mystery is why governmental agencies haven't investigated the situation. They reviewed the test results provided to them dismissed them as not significant and questioned their validity but didn’t bother to come down and investigate themselves.

Some of the residents are in law enforcement and are puzzled by the reaction from DTSC and County Health. Floyd Villanueva explains, “When we get a call for help we go out and investigate it, especially if there’s a possibility of danger to people. Sometimes we get a false alarm but at least we make sure no one is in danger.” DTSC is just dismissing the residents’ concerns and allows the situation to continue. CCAEJ is committed to work with the families to get answers.
Outraged at the arrogance of Iddo Benzeevi, President of Highland Fairview and the Moreno Valley City Council, residents living near the proposed 41 million square foot industrial warehouse project called the World Logistics Center, gathered Saturday, September 29, 2012, on Redlands in Moreno Valley to protest the assault upon their property rights, health and quality of life. “We’re launching these balloons to demonstrate just how far the diesel pollution from this project will go”, said Tracy Hodge, a local resident.

“Pollution is a big issue”, stated Penny Newman Executive Director for the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCAEJ). CCAEJ is a 34 year old non profit organization that has been active on the issue of diesel exhaust for more than a decade. “It is unconscionable that Mr. Benzeevi propose this gigantic project next to these families”, said Newman. “Everyone knows the traffic limitations of Highway 60 through this area and backing up to the Bad Lands will only trap the imported pollution from these trucks creating a deadly bowl of pollution”. Research demonstrates that diesel exhaust is extremely hazardous resulting in respiratory problems such as allergies and asthma; cardiovascular illness; brain tumors, and even cancer.

Recently the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which is part of the World Health Organization (WHO) identified diesel exhaust as carcinogenic to humans (Group 1). This is an upgrade from the former listing as a “possible” carcinogen. Other research has demonstrated that the closer one is to a diesel source the greater the health risk.

“For Moreno Valley residents this means that the closer the warehouses are (and the diesel trucks that service them), the greater the risk to their families. The deadly part of diesel is not the particles, but the vapors and ultrafine particles that can cross through the cell wall and disperse through the blood stream to various organs of the body. That is why we see such wide ranging health impacts, like heart disease, brain tumors, etc.” Newman reported.

“We are also outraged at the City’s total disregard for our property rights”, said Dawn Newkirk. “We have lived here for 34 years investing in the community, both financially and socially. Last spring we became aware that Mr. Benzeevi and his cohorts on the city council plan to rezone our land as part of this project. Changing our zoning from residential to industrial will destroy our quality of life as warehouses will surround our property and toxic diesel emissions will reduce the air quality that will cause health impairments. We, nor other residents in or nearby the proposed World Logistics Center, deserve that reduction in quality of life,” Newkirk stated.

The proposed World Logistics Center is touted to be the economic engine for Moreno Valley. The area selected for this massive project is east of Redlands Blvd. the size of 722 football fields. More than 24,000 daily truck trips will spew deadly diesel emissions into our air.

“Before moving into my home I researched the area”, said Tracy Hodge a nearby resident. “According to the General Plan developed with city residents and adopted by the City Council, this area was to be high-end residential area – they even changed the name to Rancho Belago. Rancho Belago was described in the real estate papers as “generally the southeast portion of Moreno Valley. It was created in 2007 and is an upscale and newer part of Moreno Valley. With new stores, shopping centers and homes, Rancho Belago is a fast growing community with a lot to offer”. Now we find out Mr. Benzeevi and the City Council want to change the general plan and put in massive warehouses! The General Plan is an agreement with the city – a civic contract - that clearly outlined the development of our city. The city council, by changing the zoning and the general plan, will be violating its agreement with the residents of this city. We have a General Plan in place that outlines the development of our city. Don’t change the General Plan.”
Over the 34 years that CCAEJ has been in existence we’ve taken on many different issues—from hazardous waste and the Stringfellow Acid Pits, to groundwater contamination, pesticide use and sewer sludge; to air quality and diesel exhaust. While many would identify the common denominator as the environment, we would argue that its actually human rights.

CCAEJ is not an environmental organization but rather we use the environment as the lens by which to achieve social justice. In each of these cases the underlying issue was the lack of participation by people most impacted; the absence of their voice in the issues affecting them.

In Stringfellow battle, our community was flooded with chemicals from the acid pits because we didn’t have a place at the table to express our concerns and influence the decisions. Once we stood up and raised our voices we forced a place at the table. As a result we stopped the exposures to the chemicals; change public policy with the creation of the Federal and state Superfund laws. These laws provided legal avenues to pay for cleanups and provide a statutory right of affected communities to participate in decisions. We created tools for the public’s protection like the HazMat Teams and cradle to grave monitoring of chemicals. We created new institutions to deal directly with chemicals like Dept. of Toxic Substances coming out of Department of Health Services or Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry out of the Centers for Disease Control.

All of these efforts focused on giving voice to those directly affected; empowering individuals to find their full potential in order to participate meaningfully in their communities. To level the playing field so that its not just those with wealth that have a say in the public domain. To ensure that the most vulnerable amongst us aren’t targeted for all the bad stuff but that they too have the opportunities we all want for our families—good jobs, healthy food, safe streets, quality education, and clean air, water and land upon which to live.

It is this struggle for social justice that we strive for in all we do. Not by speaking for people but finding opportunities for them to speak for themselves. Developing leadership that offers access to new skills, experiences and lessons. It is creating an informed, involved and active citizenry that voices their opinions and demands that their voices be heard — in other words, it’s democracy.

As CCAEJ approaches 2013 and our 35th year of building healthy, thriving, empowered communities, we are conducting a strategic planning process to develop a 5 year plan and a 10 year vision. How will we build the organization’s (and our communities’) capacity to tackle the challenges that lie ahead — at the local, regional, state and national level. What steps do we need to take to move our world toward the one in which we all can be proud to live. Join us as we move forward. Whether we like it or not, our futures are all interconnected.

As 2013 arrives CCAEJ will be celebrating our “35 Year Journey for Justice” with events all year long, highlighting the people, communities and victories that led to social justice and changing the system that allows these horrendous situations to exist. Starting with a tour and visit of the Stringfellow history and accomplishments; our development of the Glen Avon Heritage Park and donation of the 13 acre park to the Jurupa Area Recreation and Park District; to the victory in Rialto on perchlorate contamination and in getting clean water and a reimbursement of fees local residents paid to clean up what others polluted; to recent victory of Mira Loma Village and its historic settlement with warehouse developers; to San Bernardino’s Westside battle to clean up the pollution from BNSF railyard and Omnitrans; to the most recent fight in Moreno Valley to stop 41 million square feet of warehouses in an area zoned for homes. We will culminate at the end of the year with a Dinner Gala to recognize all those that worked with us in making this historic change in the Inland Valleys. Please join us in celebrating your victories — CCAEJ is you!
Statement of Activities

Operating Support and Revenue

Foundation and Private grants $ 872,412
Government or Public grants $ 428,764
Other $ 7,155
Total Support & Revenue $1,308,331

Expenses

Program Expenses $ 589,717
Management and general $ 225,898
Fundraising $ 33,211
Total Expenses $ 848,826

Beginning net assets $ 401,052
Ending net assets $ 860,557

Supporters

We are grateful for the continued support by the following funders who have demonstrated their confidence in our work through their generous financial support.

Private Foundations
The California Wellness Foundation
The James Irvine Foundation
The Wm. & Flora Hewlett Foundation
The Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock
The Annenberg Foundation
The Kresge Foundation

Government or Public Grants
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
California Air Resources Board
Reformulated Gasoline Settlement Fund

*2008 and 2009 incurred expenses due to development of Glen Avon
Rialto Residents to Get Reimbursed

After years of fighting for their rights, residents of Rialto will finally get justice. Recent settlements with the polluters will provide funding to not only clean up the plume of pollution but reimburse residents who have paid a surcharge on the water bills since 2004 to cover the costs of legal actions and clean up by the city.

For nearly a decade CCAEJ has joined residents of the City of Rialto to demand justice for their families. The 160 acre B.F. Goodrich site allowed perchlorate - an ingredient in fireworks and rocket fuel - to seep into the groundwater that serves the Rialto residents. Corporations operating at the site included Goodrich; Emhart Industries, a subsidiary of Black and Decker; and Pyro Spectaculars, a fireworks company. Perchlorate causes disruption of thyroid affecting the physical and mental development and causing cancer.

The contamination wasn't discovered until 1997 but no one knows how long residents have been drinking contaminated water. It is unconscionable that it has taken until now to fully address this situation. “Not only was their drinking water contaminated with rocket fuel by the operations of these major corporations, but the residents had to pay for the clean up!” said Penny Newman, Executive Director of CCAEJ.

"While places like Redlands and Santa Monica, (higher income, white communities) had their drinking water contamination addressed quickly, this working class community of primarily African American and Latino residents has struggled for more than a decade to get justice." Newman stated.

CCAEJ started working with residents in 2004, when we heard about the surcharge on their water bills. “We couldn’t believe that in addition to having their health ruined by this dangerous chemical, those least able to pay were being charged for the clean up! CCAEJ and the residents stepped forward to demand that any money received in settlements must include reimbursement for the costs residents have paid. Today we have a commitment to reimbursing these families for the years of being taxed for what the corporations did.

Residents fought hard for this victory - they gathered on street corners every Friday waving signs and yelling to bring attention to the contamination and injustice; they demanded a voice at the table when the negotiations were taking place and even filed legal actions to be included in the legal proceedings. Residents traveled to Sacramento to attend Legislative hearings and lobby for clean up. They even held their own “People’s Hearing” to demand justice for their families. A report was written “The Tale of Two Cities” that compared the quick actions received by Redlands and Santa Monica while Rialto continued to suffer. We are thrilled that the settlement will include reimbursement for the Rialto families and hope the comes soon enough to save a new generation from harm.

Victory for Fontana

In July of 2012, residents of the unincorporated area near Fontana announced a settlement was reached in the long battle to address noise and other impacts from the drag strip at the Auto Club Speedway. Since 2007, Sal Lopez, his wife Liz, and their neighbors have battled the county and the Speedway over the noise from the drag strip. It was in 2007, when the drag strip which was approved to be located on the south end of the parking lot, was relocated to the area north of the oval racetrack—and near their home and Redwood Elementary School.

The local group, Concerned Community Members and Parents of Redwood Elementary School Students (CCoMPRESS) filed the complaint against the speedway and county. The families said that moving the drag strip to the north side brought it closer to homes and three schools. His house is a mere 570 feet from the drag strip. The families have suffered through temporary hearing loss as a result of race events. “We thought they were literally blowing up things because our house was shaking”. Many of the families bought their homes before the speedway opened in 1997. “It is unconscionable to place this type of operation without addressing the impacts on their families.”

The families won an earlier ruling in 2009. The county was directed to go back and re-do the environmental impact reports. In November of 2012 the county approved the supplemental EIR and again gave the green light to the drag strip operation. The county also gave permission for the speedway to hold louder events, raising the noise standards from 75 decibels to as high as 100 decibels for some events. As part of that approval the speedway was required to build a quarter-mile-long, 20-foot-high soundwall. But the Speedway never did!

That prompted the next filing. In February of 2012 the court ordered the Auto Club Dragway to suspend its operations. In July of 2012, the residents announced a settlement. Although the terms of the settlement are confidential the Auto Club Speedway may resume operations at the Auto Club Dragway if it first complies with a series of requirements intended to mitigate the environmental impacts to the surrounding community, including construction of a soundwall.
Regional

I Breathe....I Care...ICAN!

The Inland Clean Air Network (ICAN), is a group of community organizations from throughout Riverside and San Bernardino counties working to improve the air we breath and quality of life for all residents of the Inland Valley. CCAEJ has attempted over the last few years to bring the local assets of the Inland Valley (universities, professionals, residents and agencies) to begin to see themselves as a unit and build our capacity to work together; increase visibility of the region and attract resources to help solve our issues.

ICAN is a project of CCAEJ held a major summit on air quality and health on May 19, 2012 at the Riverside Convention Center. The Inland Clean Air Summit brought experts and residents together for a full day of discussions on how to deal with the increasing impacts from Goods movement industries.

The Inland Valley has suffered immensely from the diesel exhaust spewed from these transport vehicles. Bringing air pollution experts together with community advocates, the summit will explore the reasons for the severe air pollution problem and solutions to improving the situation. The Summit was designed to raise awareness to the unique air quality impacts facing the Inland Valley regions and highlight the actions being taken to address those critical impacts.

Trade, Health, Environment Impact Project

Joining with organizations from throughout southern California affected by Goods Movement and diesel pollution. THE Impact Project has worked to confront health and quality of life issues from logistics industries from the ports of LA and Long Beach out to the Inland Valleys of Riverside and San Bernardino. Members include East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice; Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LABACA); Communities for a Safe Environment (CFASE); CCAEJ as well as researchers USC’s Keck School of Medicine and the Urban & Environmental Policy Institute (UEPI) at Occidental College  The group is seen as the pioneers of challenging unbridled logistics industry and global trade. THE Impact Project has sponsored major conferences on the issue attracting participants from around the world. Southern California is seen as ground zero for Goods Movement activity and many of the lessons learned here resonate around the country. The individual groups serve as the resources for other communities facing the assault of warehouses, railyards, intermodal facilities and ports.

Project CLEAR

Three regional groups CCAEJ, Warehouse Workers Resource Center and 4E’s have joined together to form Project CLEAR (Coalition for Local Engagement and Action for Reform) to coordinate our electoral work in a more comprehensive and effective manner. WWRC assists workers in the warehouse industry confront the horrible working conditions they’re forced to work in. 4E’s is multi ethnic youth organization focused on education, excellence, entrepreneurship. We’re building our infrastructure with the additional of predictive dialing systems, dedicated staff, and trained, core leadership. Plans for next year is to establish a c4 organization to be able to endorse candidates and to focus on local proactive initiatives.
CEJA is a partnership with six organizations to advance statewide policy work. It is unique in that it combines the power-building method of grassroots organizing with the agenda-setting and enforcement strategy of policy advocacy. CEJA is currently waging two campaigns: the Climate Justice and Local Renewable Energy campaign, and the Green Zones Initiative. Both of these campaigns share common values, approaches and theories of change.

**Green Zones Initiative**

Imagine a state made up of thriving communities. Each urban neighborhood and every rural community across California has the means to generate healthy jobs, reduce and prevent industrial pollution, provide open space and organic food, develop affordable housing, preserve local culture, and conduct community-led planning to sustain this vibrant future. This vision can become a reality through the CEJA Green Zones Initiative. CEJA’s Green Zones Initiative is conducting community-led planning to turn pollution into people power creating thriving communities in California. We believe that by improving conditions for those most impacted by pollution and poor planning or development, we can improve conditions for all of California. With overburdened communities leading the way, communities, government, and businesses can collaborate to transition toxic hotspots into thriving green zones. Together we can cultivate dozens of vibrant communities and advance visionary policies, so green zones can become a model for strengthening local economies, environments, and democracies across California.

**Clean Energy and Climate Justice**

Our Clean Energy and Climate Justice program has taken leadership in advancing a shared equity analysis and set of policy goals for the transition to renewable energy policies for the state. We’ve brought together a wide ranging coalition supporting and even advocating for environmental health and justice within clean energy policy. As a follow-up to our advocacy work in 2009 and 2010 on the Renewable Portfolio Standard and the Community Benefits Fund, in 2011, we decided to host a series of “stakeholder meetings” to develop shared views and policy goals.

CEJA sponsored AB1990 “Solar for All” bill. The campaign provided an opportunity to educate a broad range of groups on the connections between environmental health, dirty energy production, and our proposed solutions. Over 100 organizations endorsed our policy proposal to see small-scale clean energy sited in low-income communities and communities of color. This process entailed not only simply getting sign-on to our policy proposal, but significant education and awareness-building around the needs of low-income communities and communities of color in clean energy. The bill met defeat at the last moment under a barrage of lobbying by the major utilities. We then joined together to pass Proposition 39 that closes a tax loophole to raise $1 billion that will go for advancing green energy and jobs.

CCAEJ also participates in discussions of state public policy. We are involved in conversations about screening methods to identify EJ communities and CCAEJ is on the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research’s Advisory committee on General Plan Recommendations.
For the past few years, CCAEJ has been part of The California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA), a statewide coalition comprised of six extraordinary base-building environmental justice organizations with strong community roots in critical urban and rural regions of California. The CEJA groups are: the Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN); the Center for Community Action & Environmental Justice (CCAEJ); the Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment (CRPE), Communities for a Better Environment (CBE); the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC); and People Organizing to Demand Environmental & Economic Rights (PODER).

Communities of color, low-income and immigrant communities have long struggled with a toxics crisis that has been exacerbated by discriminatory land use practices that diminish health, safety and quality of life. Residential communities have been opened up for industrial development near new freeway development while truck routes are targeted to low-income communities.

CEJA proposes that these communities be first in line for resources from state and federal levels, and implemented through programs that are truly community-led by community alliances with established and broad based memberships. CCAEJ’s Inland EJ Intervention and Revitalization Initiative is our version of a Green Zone.

We’ve moved the initiative from vision to implementation through meetings with the State at the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research and we just met with the new Secretary of Cal EPA on August 19, 2011. CCAEJ has met with the White House and presented a numerous national forums. With the recent focus on environmental justice through the President’s initiative where federal agencies (Dept. of Transportation, Health and Human Services, Dept. of Energy, etc.) have signed an MOU committed their agencies to addressing Environmental Justice, CCAEJ will be participating in a meeting with the federal Interagency Working Group sponsored by EPA and the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). A follow up meeting took place at The White House at the end of September 2011.

An outgrowth of CCAEJ’s work on Goods movement through our Trade, Health and Environment Impacts Project is a nationwide network of affected communities. The Moving Forward Network (taking its name from the three “Moving Forward” Conferences held by The Impact Project) seeks to engage and involve residents of communities impacted by international trade and goods movement, workers in the goods movement sector, and researchers and activists, each of whom are concerned about the range of community, health, and environmental impacts from the existing transportation and logistics system for global trade.

The network will hold its two day convening before the beginning of the National Smart Growth Conference in February 2013 in Kansas City, Missouri. CCAEJ will also be participating in a tour of Logistic facilities in the Kansas City area and conducting a workshop on Inland Ports as part of the Smart Growth Conference. CCAEJ has been national leader on issues of warehousing and railyards. As part of the Moving Forward Network CCAEJ presented before the White House Interagency Working Group to outline our process and work on our Inland EJ Intervention and Revitalization Initiative. Lisa Garcia, Director of EPA’s EJ Program and Chair of the Interagency Working Group commented that the group needed to take a closer look at CCAEJ’s program because its successfully accomplishing what the Administration has been attempting to do.
Synergy
Center for Community Action And Environmental Justice
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Jan Misquez Memorial Fellowship

CCAEJ is now accepting applications for the Jan Misquez Memorial Fellowship. The position is a paid one year position in which an Inland Valley young person will receive special training and mentoring to become a community organizer.

Jan Misquez was a San Bernardino community leader and served on the Board of CCAEJ before being hired as a Community Organizer and ultimately CCAEJ’s Campaign Director for our San Bernardino office. Jan passed away in 2009 after a year long battle with Stage 4 Breast Cancer.

Jan Misquez was one of those people that has a lasting impact on everyone. She was a community leader that inspired people to action, supported them in hard times and speaking her opinion when needed. She led residents on the Westside of San Bernardino in battles against the fueling station at OmniTrans; diesel pollution from BNSF railyard; perchlorate contamination in Rialto and much more. She ran for City Council and served on the Police Commission for the City of San Bernardino.

As a living tribute to her life and impact on others, CCAEJ has established this Fellowship in her name to ensure the next generation of inspiring leaders continues.

To apply, send resumes to Cindy Newman at cindy.n@ccaej.org. Call 951-360-8451 for more information.

Contact CCAEJ at 951-360-8451 for details or visit our website www.ccaej.org to view the job announcement.