



# Climate Justice Network

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### University of California Carbon Neutrality Initiative Fellowship

#### Introduction

**Climate Justice** recognizes the disproportionate impacts of climate change on low-income communities and communities of color around the world, the people and places least responsible for the problem. It seeks solutions that address the root causes of climate change and in doing so, simultaneously address a broad range of social, racial, and environmental injustices

The Center for Climate Justice is a University of California system-wide initiative to address climate change as a social justice and equity issue. The Center's mission is to leverage and harness the power of the university to support, strengthen and build an emergent climate justice ecosystem and social movement that solves the climate crisis through science, systems thinking and social-ecological justice. They do this through innovative broader-impact research, transformative education, and public engagement. At the Center for Climate Justice, they envision a world where extractive systems and economies have been transformed into ones that are regenerative, equitable, and support the sustained wellbeing of all life.

My research project focuses on building a network map for the UC Center of Climate Justice website. The purpose of this network map is to build meaningful connections across different communities and organizations that are committed to climate justice. The goal is to provide, students, faculty and the community with resources to initiate important relationships needed for climate change resiliency.



#### Project Goals

This project aimed to create a Network map that would:

- Allow users to view different climate justice organizations across California
- Vision/Mission statements
- Contact information

Through this map, communities can network with other organizations who are committed to Climate Justice under the same guiding principles.

In addition, the UC Center for climate justice website would have access to the end results and data to:

- Improve network building among UC campuses
- Expand the network of UC Center for climate justice to engage civil society and youth organizations

#### Materials and Methods

The selection of organizations were based on those who are committed to climate justice under these guiding principles:

- Just Transition
- Social, Racial and Environmental Justice
- Indigenous Climate Action
- Community Resilience and Adaptation
- Natural Climate Solutions
- Climate Education and Engagement.



#### Results and Outcomes

The network map currently consist of 20 community organizations committed towards climate justice. The goal is to continue adding resources for students, staff, and the community have access to.

I want to highlight the **Central California Environmental Justice Network** because they want to end environmental racism, achieve economic justice, and health equity though sustainable regional solutions. Their mission is to empower our communities and secure our children's future by eliminating negative environmental impacts in low-income and communities of color.

Their **strategies** include:

- Work with community members and other stakeholders at the local, regional, state and federal level to identify environmental justice issues and develop sustainable solutions
- Educate and empower communities, especially focusing on rural areas, to advocate for themselves by providing them with technical assistance and resources
- Promote alternative methods for a safer environment
- Encourage youth to be aware of and participate in environmental issues
- Serve as a hub for environmental activism in the Central Valley



**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE NETWORK**

#### Conclusions

- Institutions have shown they cant/wont respond to the climate crisis on their own. Building connections outside the UC systems is crucial to increasing public awareness of climate change and inspires people to reach out to communities that they have never communicated with before.



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