

LET'S CLEAR THE AIR



Exploring Cumulative Impacts: A Reflective Toxic Tour with Representative Adam Schiff

Gratitude resounds as we extend our appreciation to Representative Adam Schiff for gracing us with his presence here in the heart of the Inland Empire. It was an honor to host him on a revealing journey, the Toxic Tour, which peeled back the layers to expose the daily realities faced by our community members.

As we embarked on this eye-opening tour, we sought to impart a profound understanding of the collective challenges borne by the Inland Empire's residents. The logistics industry, while integral to our economy, has cast a shadow that extends beyond its operations. With Representative Schiff by our side, we ventured into the heart of these cumulative impacts, unearthing a narrative that often goes untold.

The Toxic Tour served as a window into the lives of those who call the Inland Empire home. It wasn't merely a sightseeing endeavor, but rather an immersive experience aimed at fostering empathy and awareness. We showcased the intricate web of challenges that result from the logistics industry's presence, challenges that our community confronts day in and day out.

As we extend our gratitude to Representative Schiff for his willingness to engage with our community, we look forward to the ripple effects of this experience. Our hope is that this Toxic Tour serves as a catalyst for informed conversations and informed actions. Through collaboration and shared understanding, we have the power to address the cumulative impacts of the logistics industry and pave the way for a future that prioritizes the well-being of our community.

Thank you, Representative Schiff, for joining us on this journey. Your presence has illuminated a path forward, one where the challenges we face are met with empathy, determination, and unwavering belief in the positive change we can bring to the Inland Empire.

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with Adam Schiff

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Fall 2023

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City of Fontana





CCA EJ

AMBASSADOR

PROGRAM

FALL 2023 COHORT
SEPTEMBER 9TH - OCTOBER 14TH

BUILDING HOPE, BRIDGING COMMUNITIES:
BECOME AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AMBASSADOR WITH CCAEJ AND
LEAD THE WAY TO A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE FUTURE!

[CCA EJ.ORG/AMBASSADORPROGRAM](https://www.ccaej.org/ambassadorprogram)



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CCA EJ ED Visits Washington DC

In July 2023, Ana Gonzalez from CCAEJ embarked on a journey to the nation's capital, Washington D.C. The purpose? To meet with key stakeholders and urge the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to expedite the completion of the locomotive portion of the Phase 3 Rule by the end of October 2023.

The EPA has the capacity to move faster on the locomotive piece of the Phase 3 Rule compared to the truck portion. This distinction allowed us to emphasize the importance of timely action.

We firmly believe that this separation in the rulemaking process allows for more focused attention on the unique challenges posed by locomotives. By completing this section promptly, we can begin implementing necessary measures to mitigate the pollution emanating from railyards across the nation.

Perhaps the most compelling reason for our plea to the EPA is the real urgency surrounding the public health crisis linked to railyard pollution. The witnesses who accompanied us on this journey, Ivette Torres, Carl Rosen, and Ian Jefferies, provided powerful testimonies that underscored the urgency of our cause.

Railyard pollution is not an abstract issue; it affects the lives and health of real people. Ivette Torres, a resident of the Inland Empire, shared her personal experiences of living in close proximity to a railyard and the health challenges her family faces as a result. Carl Rosen, a dedicated advocate, discussed the widespread implications of railyard pollution on communities nationwide. Ian Jefferies, representing the Association of American Railroads, acknowledged the need for industry collaboration to find effective solutions.

What's Next?

Our trip to Washington D.C. was just the beginning. We have made our case, and now we must continue to press for action. CCAEJ remains committed to working with partners, advocating for policy changes, and raising awareness to address the public health crisis caused by railyard pollution.



Exciting Announcement! Unveiling the CCAEJ Ambassador Program Fall Cohort 2023

Are you ready to be a driving force for positive change? We are thrilled to introduce the upcoming CCAEJ Ambassador Program Fall Cohort 2023—an incredible opportunity to become an Environmental Justice Ambassador and play a pivotal role in shaping a sustainable and equitable future for all.

From September 9th to October 14th, we invite you to embark on a transformative journey with us as we focus on Building Hope and Bridging Communities. This is your chance to join hands with the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ) and contribute to the creation of cleaner air and justice for everyone.

Visit www.ccaej.org/ambassadorprogram to learn more about this exciting opportunity and secure your place in the Fall Cohort 2023 of the CCAEJ Ambassador Program. Don't miss out on this chance to be a part of a movement that seeks to create a positive, lasting impact. Let's come together to pave the way for a future that is not only sustainable but also just and inclusive.



CCAIEJ and Regenerate Coalition Unite for the Hot Day of Action in Sacramento

In a resounding display of environmental advocacy, our dedicated community from the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCAIEJ) joined forces with the Regenerate Coalition for a momentous event—the scorching Hot Day of Action—in Sacramento. This event served as a platform for us to engage with legislators and passionately advocate for change, shedding light on the tangible consequences of toxic gas plants that were under scrutiny at the State Water Resources Board's public hearing.

Amidst the blistering heat of our advocacy efforts, we came face-to-face with the decision makers, raising our voices and presenting compelling testimonies that underscored the real-life impacts of three noxious gas plants. These plants, previously on the brink of closure by the end of this year, received an unexpected lifeline through a 5-0 board decision. This decision effectively grants a three-year extension to the Ormond Beach, Huntington Beach, and AES Alamos gas plants—an outcome that comes at an enormous cost.

The Hot Day of Action garnered remarkable support from influential figures, including representatives such as Henry Stern, Asm. Luz Rivas, Asm. Monique Limón, and Senator Josh Becker. Moreover, organizations like CAUSE, Sierra Club, CBE California, and, of course, CCAIEJ, lent their collective voice to our cause. This powerful convergence of voices signifies a determination to speak truth to power, igniting a drive to bring about meaningful change.

As the embers of the Hot Day of Action continue to glow in our hearts, we remain steadfast in our mission. We will persist in our endeavors to hold decision-makers accountable, to advocate for the well-being of our communities, and to propel California towards a future defined by clean air, equity, and justice. Together, we have proven that when communities unite, they have the power to reshape the course of their environment and their future.

CCAIEJ Takes a Stand for Environmental Justice: Legal Action Against City of Fontana's Proposed Development

In a resolute stance for environmental justice, the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCAIEJ), a distinguished nonprofit organization, has embarked on a legal journey to challenge the City of Fontana's proposed development. This initiative has been launched with a steadfast commitment to safeguard wildlife habitats and preserve the sanctity of parkland adjoining Southridge Park.

At the core of CCAIEJ's mission lies an unyielding dedication to advocating for clean air, equity, and just transitions within communities. It is this unwavering resolve that fuels the legal action against the City's proposed development. CCAIEJ contends that the project's trajectory runs counter to these fundamental principles, warranting intervention to ensure the protection of both the environment and public health.

As CCAIEJ takes this bold step toward protecting the delicate balance between human progress and environmental preservation, the echoes of its commitment to justice, health, and sustainability resonate more powerfully than ever. The organization's legal action serves as an embodiment of its core values and its enduring dedication to creating a world where every community can thrive without sacrificing the environment that sustains us all.

A Message From the Executive Director

In the pursuit of a more equitable and sustainable future, we recognize that progress is not always measured solely by the attainment of our objectives, but by the unwavering commitment and the spirit of change that these efforts ignite within communities. Rialto and Fontana have shown us that even when the path is challenging, it is worth the journey.

Although the outcomes may not have fully aligned with their aspirations, we must celebrate their courage and determination. In their endeavors, they have drawn attention to the pressing concerns of environmental injustice and the climate crisis. They have sparked conversations that are essential for building awareness and fostering change.

In closing, I invite each of you to continue supporting our mission to create a more sustainable and equitable world. Together, we will rise above obstacles, learn from setbacks, and forge a path toward the future we envision—one that is fair, just, and environmentally responsible.

With unwavering hope and determination,
Ana Gonzalez