

GREENACTION

for Health & Environmental Justice

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice held our first Climate Justice Leadership Academy in Bayview Hunters Point in April, 2015. The goal of the Academy was to build community knowledge, skills, and grassroots leadership to address the threat posed by climate change including sea level rise on BVHP.

The Climate Justice Leadership Academy is an important effort that helps Greenaction carry out our mission to mobilize the power of low income and people of color communities to win victories that change policies and practices to protect health, and the environment and promote justice.

BVHP is an underserved and disadvantaged community impacted by a history of pollution, poverty, violence, and racism. Residents suffer from health problems due to air, water, and land pollution and other socio-economic problems.

Reaching out to BVHP residents about climate change and sea level rise is a priority for Greenaction. Due to its location on San Francisco Bay, the health and environment in BVHP is threatened by sea level rise which threatens to flood and inundate dozens of hazardous waste sites, thus, increasing the risk for a health and environmental disaster.

Greenaction conducted a survey of hundreds of residents to gain an understanding of their knowledge surrounding Climate Change and Sea Level Rise. Feedback from the survey supported the need for our Climate Justice Leadership Academy and showed strong community interest in the issue.



Greenaction selected six diverse residents of different ages and backgrounds to participate in the three day Climate Justice Leadership Academy. Over the course of two days, participants learned about a variety of topics associated with climate change and sea level rise. Agenda items included the history of pollution and environmental racism and injustice in BVHP, what is climate change and its causes, impacts, and the implications of sea level rise in Bayview Hunters Point.

Participants also gained awareness of their own impacts contributing to climate change and addressed changes they could make in their daily routines to help *save the planet*.



The Climate Justice Leadership Academy educated participants in an engaging, fun, and captivating way. We accomplished this by providing fact sheets, visuals (poster boards), videos, and interactive activities for participants to engage with one another.

Participants received a training manual to take home with copies of materials covered during the Leadership Academy. On the third day of the academy, participants engaged in community outreach to share their new knowledge with other community members. Participants handed out factsheets on sea level rise and administered more of our climate change surveys.

Our Climate Justice Leadership Academy is one of the many different ways Greenaction educates, empowers and mobilize communities to get involved and empowered to take action to protect their health and environment.



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