

Moving forward with JEDI in 2025

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Background - Federal EJ Policies

President Clinton: E.O. 12898 (1994)

- Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

President Biden: E.O. 14008 (2021)

- Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad," amended E.O. 12898; expanded EJ directives to EPA
 - Established Justice40: at least 40% of benefits from certain federal climate and clean infrastructure investments to disadvantaged communities

• E.O. 14096 (2023)

Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All

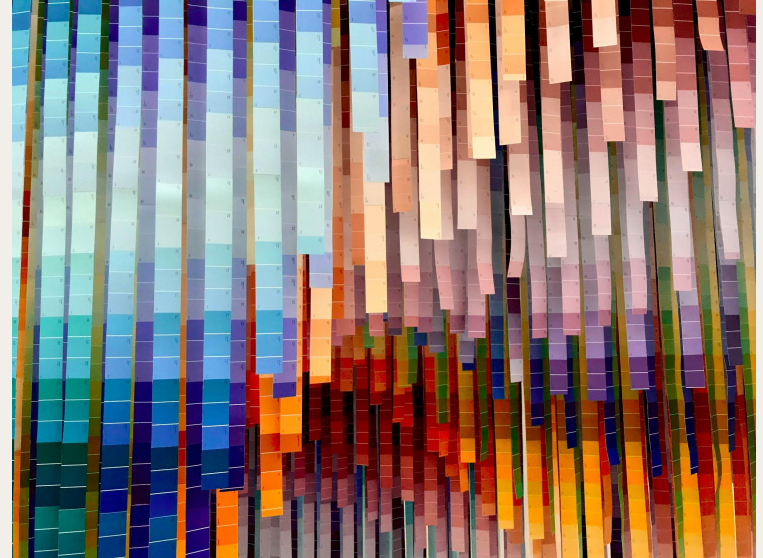
- “whole-of-government” approach to EJ



January 20, 2025: Executive Order 14151 signed

“Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing”

- terminated all diversity, equity and inclusion programs, offices, and positions throughout the federal government



Immediate Outcomes

- **EPA EJ office eliminated**
- **Cancellation/Rescinding of Grant funding for EJ initiatives**
 - including programs created by the Inflation Reduction Act
- **Dismantling data**
 - EPA's EJScreen tool (identified communities disproportionately affected by pollution - removed from the agency's website)



Immediate Outcomes

- **Eliminated Advisory Councils**
 - Key advisory groups/White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council disbanded
- **Weakened Enforcement**
 - DOJ rescinded EJ enforcement strategy
 - Environmental enforcement actions dropped to historic lows
- **Overturning Executive Orders**
 - All Biden-era executive orders pertaining to EJ, Justice40 Initiative - revoked



RESCINDED January-February 2025

- Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government (EO 13985)
- Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis (EO 13990)
- Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad (EO 14008)
- Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government (EO 14091)
- Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All (EO 14096)
- Implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (EO 14052)
- Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (EO 14082)



March 12, 2025: MAJOR EPA Deregulatory Action

EPA Launches Biggest Deregulatory Action in U.S. History

Administrator Zeldin Announces 31 Historic Actions to Power the Great American Comeback

March 12, 2025

Contact Information

EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)



Stated Goals:

- Unleashing American Energy
- Lowering the cost of living for American families
- Advancing cooperative federalism

“UNLEASHING AMERICAN ENERGY”

Reconsideration regulations:

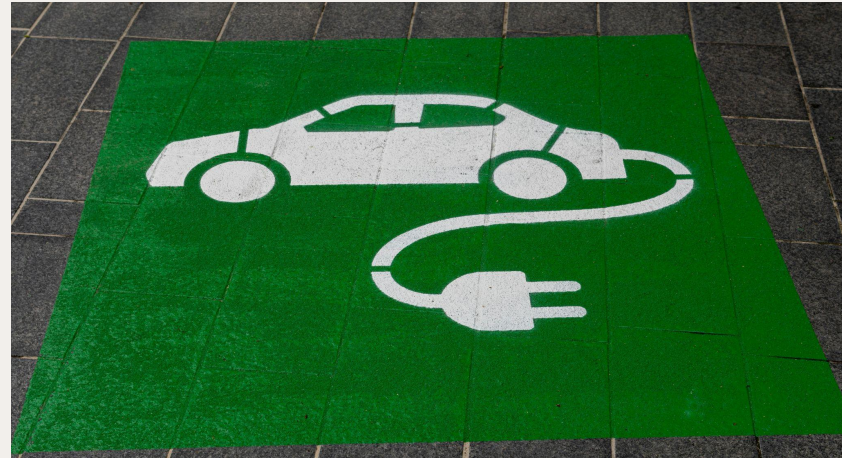
- Power Plants (Clean Power Plan 2.0)
- Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS)
- Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program
- Limitations, guidelines and standards (ELG) for the Steam Electric Power Generating Industry
- Wastewater regulations oil & gas development
- Risk Management Program (RMP)



“LOWERING THE COST OF LIVING FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES”

Reconsideration:

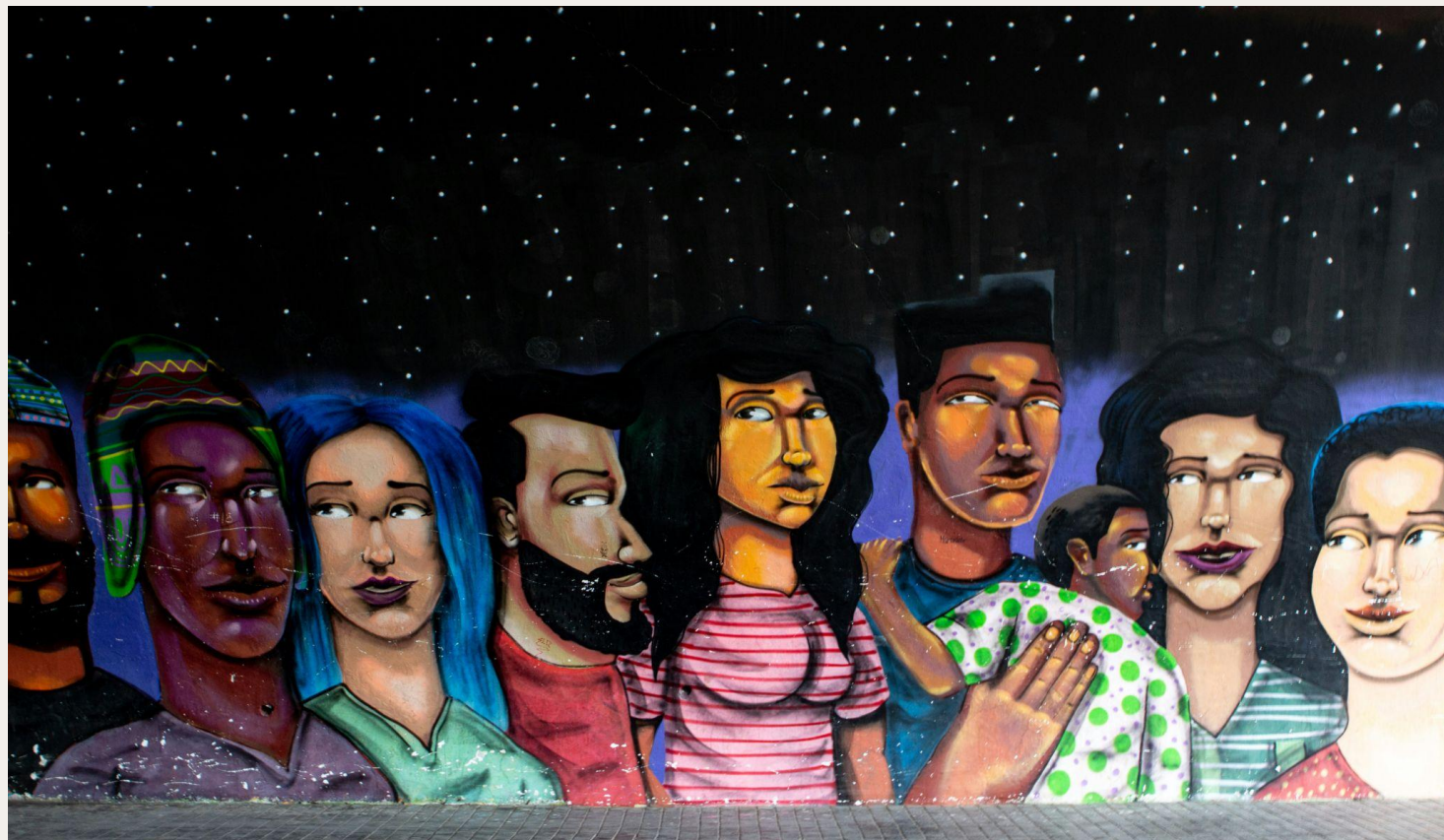
- light-duty, medium-duty, heavy-duty vehicle regulations
- 2009 Endangerment Finding
- Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards
- Multiple National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs)
- Restructuring Regional Haze Program
- Social Cost of Carbon
- Redirecting enforcement resources to EPA's core mission
- Terminating EJ/DEI arms of EPA



“ADVANCING COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM”

- Ending “Good Neighbor Plan”
- Reconstituting Science Advisory Board and Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee
- Prioritizing coal ash program to expedite state permit reviews and update coal ash regulations
- Utilizing enforcement discretion to further North Carolina’s recovery from Hurricane Helene

What can we do?



- **System has always been challenging for certain communities**
 - **now amplified**
 - **additional challenges**
- **Concerns about safety**
- **Fear of repercussions**
- **Opportunities for solidarity, true rebuilding and creation of whole communities**



What can we do?

- Sustain/Enhance efforts at the state and local level
 - Resist federal efforts
 - Continuing to implement and enforce their own EJ standards
 - State level Cumulative Impact Policies



ANHE nurse speaking at ANHE CHERISH hearing, March 11, 2025 - bill to address communities impacted by cumulative impacts in Maryland



Louisville Charter Coming Clean Network comingcleaninc.org

- States, communities, and (NGOs) are continuing EJ efforts
- ANHE is an active member of Coming Clean Network
- The Louisville Charter:
 - policy recommendations, 10 “planks” when adopted collectively, achieve a safe and sustainable chemical industry that does not harm people, the environment, or the climate





- **Prevent Disproportionate Exposures and Hazards, & Reduce Cumulative Impacts on EJ Communities**, including communities of color, Tribes and Native/Indigenous communities, and low-income communities that experience multiple pollutants from multiple sources and accumulation over time.
- **Ensure the Public and Workers Fully Have the Right-To-Know, Participate and Decide** in the decisions that impact their health because of the potential harm from toxic chemicals.



- **Take Immediate Action to Protect, Restore and Strengthen Communities** when there has been exposure to levels of chemicals that pose an immediate health or safety hazard.
- **Build an Equitable and Health-Based Sustainable Economy** that transitions us from prioritizing short-term profit at all costs to valuing safety, health and equity.

What can we do?

- **Increased enforcement**
 - State regulators and attorneys general are expected to pursue more enforcement actions against polluters.
- **Litigation against rollbacks**
- **Community-led action**
 - Local communities and advocates organizing & pursuing direct action to push back against new polluting projects and other EJ threats



ANHE JEDI Wins

- Regional Forums
- ANHE Latinoamérica
- Mosaic - funding for minority nursing organizations (NAHN - state chapters environmental work in communities)
- Increased State Level Work



ANHE JEDI Wins

- Healing Circles
- Environmental Health Fellowship
- Every ANHE forum/committee identify/prioritize a SMART goal
- [Rebuilding Access to Critical Environmental Health Information](#)



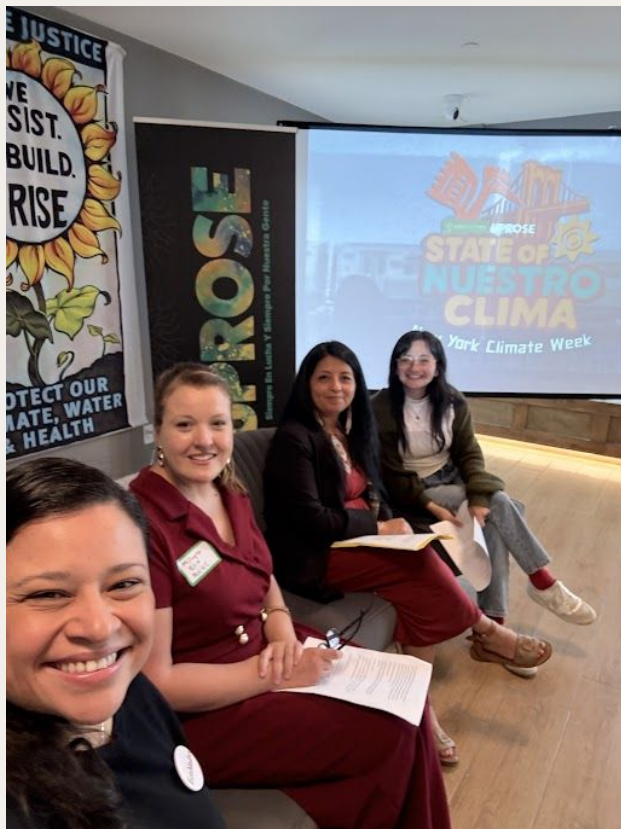
Nursing collaborative

- new nursing organizations joined NBNA, PNAA
- 16 groups → 24 groups

Nursing Collaborative on Climate Change and Health: What we will do



Expansion of Intentional Collaborations with Partner Groups



ANHE Attends National Association of Hispanic Nurse 50th Annual Conference

Milagros Elia, ANHE's Program Manager for Climate & Clean Energy Advocacy spoke during Climate Week 2025 representing ANHE at an event with GreenLatinos in NYC (left) and gave a podium presentation at NAHN's 50th Annual Conference in Dallas, TX (right) pictured with Dr. Daniel Smith

White House Roundtable 2024 - expanding nurse engagement through intentional inclusion



September 9th, 2024

26 Nursing Organizations Meet with the White House Council on Environmental Quality





- SMART Goals: accountability measures & follow up
- Regional Forums: potential expansion Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
- Multilingual Materials: media, podcasts, newsletters...
- Additional inclusion: Disability Community, Elderly
- Future grants and partnership opportunities
- Supporting prevention of state/local preemption
- Furthering toxics work/cumulative impacts policies at state/local levels through existing partnerships



Additional JEDI opportunities for ANHE?

“Embracing and legitimising resistance in everyday individual and social interactions in educational and practice settings is instrumental to fostering social justice in nursing. Without resistance, nurses may risk jeopardising enactment of moral and ethical responsibilities and suppressing their professional values of caring and compassion.”

Younas, A. & Kvist, T. (2025). Resistance for disrupting inequities and fostering social justice in nursing: A discussion. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 81(6):3331-3337. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.16578>



In Summary

- There are many issues happening at the federal level that are severely impacting environmental health and climate justice efforts and work.
- Nurses remain well-positioned to advocate and remain trusted messengers.
- State and local advocacy efforts remain strong if not stronger.
- Groups like ANHE are moving forward with JEDI and increasing our momentum and actions in the face of adversity.
- Be a part of our work!



Thank you!

Questions?

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