POWER

TO THE PEOPLE:
FUELING THE REVOLUTION FOR ENERGY JUSTICE
Energy justice in MICHIGAN
NAACP's Michigan State Conference

Michigan State Conference
- In the process of replicating the Environmental and Climate Justice Master Plan and will be hosting a strategizing session at the Michigan State Convention.
- Partnering with the Wayne State Law School, American Bar Association, Environmental Law Institute out of Washington D.C., and University of Chicago Law Clinic to recruit interns for environmental and energy justice issues.
- Partnering with the Great Lakes Regional Water group to on water justice issues.
- Supported the efforts of the Michigan Low-Income Working Group, specifically the National Housing Trust and National Resource Defense Council (NRDC) group in intervening in the DTE’s (public utility company) filing of their '17-19 Energy Waste Reduction plan.
- Supported the MILIE’s engagement with the PSC during its implementation of Michigan’s new Integrated Resource Planning requirement.
- Onboarded Jeremy Orr as the new Environmental & Climate Justice Chair for the Michigan State Conference NAACP.

North Oakland County Branch
- Hosting a Environmental and Climate Justice symposium.

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Grand Valley State University Chapter

Conducted the second installment of its “Resistance” series with a presentation and discussion forum entitled, “Environmental Injustices: The National Water Crisis.” This event stressed environmental, racial, and ethnic disparities within local, regional and national areas. E’lexis Dudley, the public relations chair of GVSU’s NAACP chapter, said having the second part of the series examine environmental injustices within the U.S. capitalized how it was also a social justice issue which could lead to environmental racism.

“It is also appears that environmental justice concerns are more prominent among race/ethnicity lines rather than ventures of poverty,” she said. Environmental justice is the fair treatment and involvement of all individuals—regardless of race, color or income—with respect to the development and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations. With social justice being an environmental issue, as well, Dudley stressed how issues with air quality, exposure to toxic chemicals in flame retardants and disparities with drinking water are a few of several large environmental issues within the U.S. The Flint water crisis, which began in 2014 and involved more than 100,000 residents being exposed to high levels of lead in the drinking water, was a central topic during the “Resistance” forum.

Detroit Branch

- Detroit Branch hosted a Solar Energy 101 training with Vote Solar.
- Hosted a solar panel demonstration by Strawberry Solar