

Health, Wealth & Environmental Justice

A Symposium on Healing

SUNY New Paltz

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

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“Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction,”

Martin Luther King jr

[“The Purpose of Education,”](#)


Morehouse College’s The Maroon Tiger (1947)



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.

Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Partnership to Uplift Communities

Regional Climate Action Strategy for the Hudson Valley

RAPIDLY SCALING SOLUTIONS

Energy Transformation

Transportation

Materials Management

Water

Agriculture, Forestry & Land Use

SECURING COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Economic Development

Environmental Justice

Resilient Communities

Education

Overview of EJ Study & Preliminary Findings

METHODOLOGY

Review of environmental and socioeconomic indicators in potential EJ communities of Hudson Valley

Selection of most robust and relevant indicators to tell a story

Build inventory of engaged organizations:

Initial interviews

Network Expansion

Initial typology

Identify local solutions with leverage and connect these with state/
federal funding opportunities

Primary categories of focus

LAND

Tree Cover
&
Impervious
surfaces

Zoning

AIR

Traffic
Proximity

Hazardous
waste
Proximity

WATER

Quality

Wastewater
Treatment facilities

Hazardous
waste
Proximity

Algal Blooms

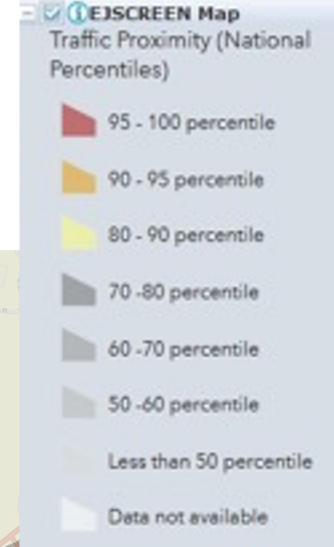
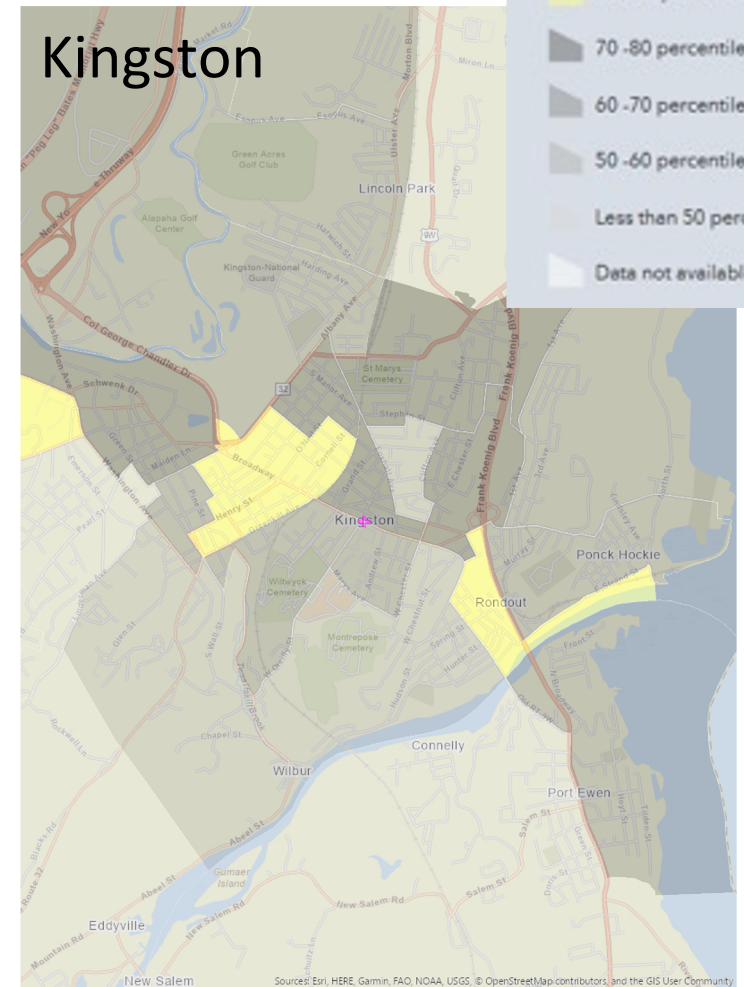
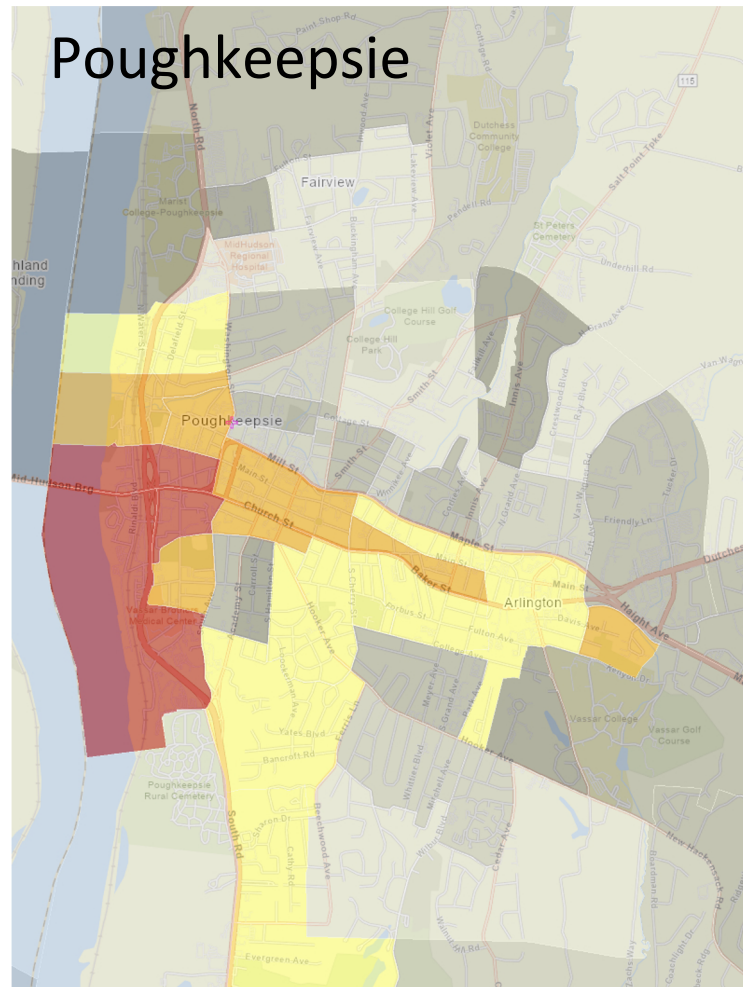
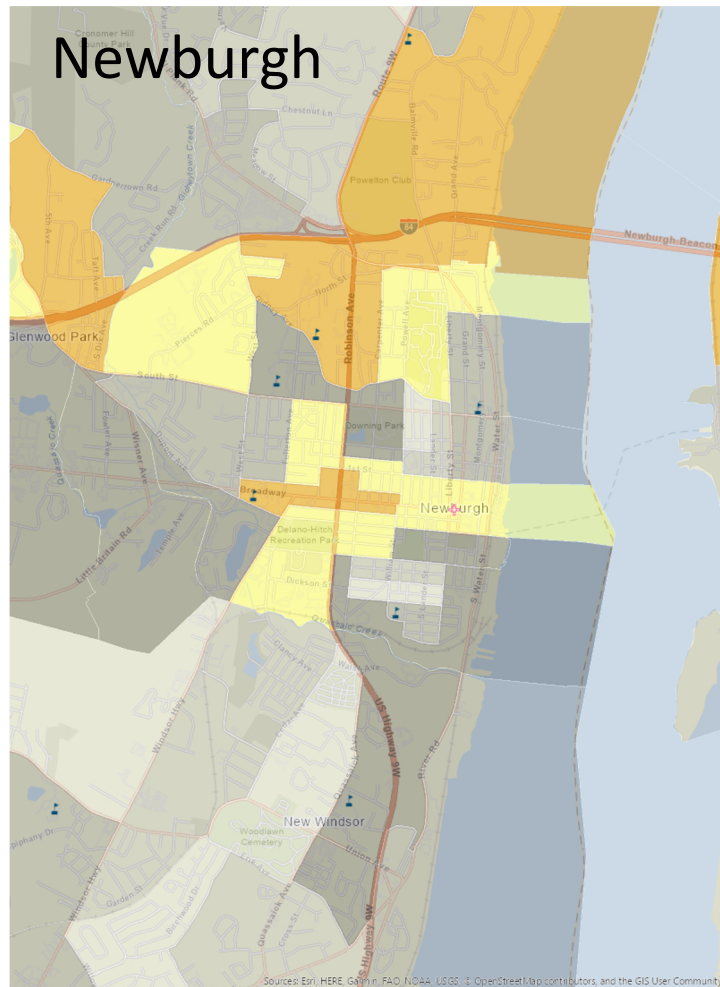
PEOPLE

Public Health
(mental,
reproductive,
lung health etc.)
& Capacity

Education
(STEM)

Broadband

Environment/Health Risk Indicators (Air): Traffic Proximity



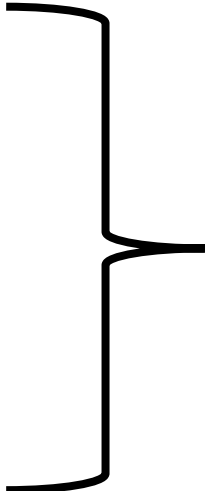
Proximity to motor vehicle traffic is associated with increased exposures to ambient noise, toxic gases and particulate matter including diesel particulates.

Educational and socioeconomic indicators

Community capacity to respond and transform

STEM Education

Broadband



Is there a relationship between overall health and well-being in the community?

LINK BETWEEN STEM EDUCATION & EJ?

of Students in Graduation Career Paths (2019/20)

	# of Students	Math	Science
<u>Poughkeepsie</u>			
Black/African American	101	0	0
Hispanic or Latino	64	0	0
White	13	0	0
<u>Rhinebeck</u>			
Black/African American	2	0	0
Hispanic or Latino	6	0	1 (17%)
White	70	0	13 (19%)
<u>Newburgh</u>			
Black/African American	191	0	0
Hispanic or Latino	311	0	0
White	142	0	0

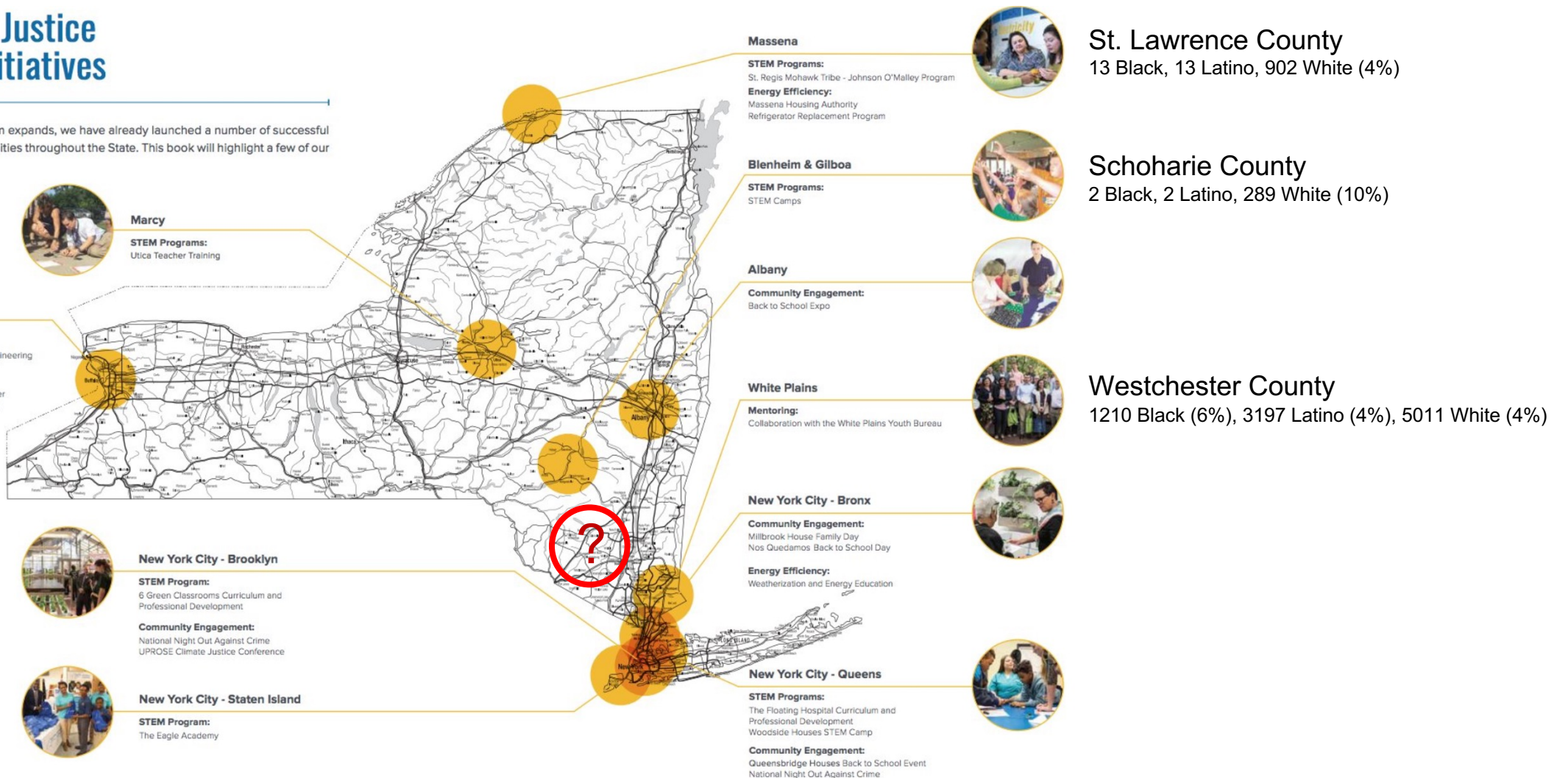
Rhinebeck Science Foundation

LINK BETWEEN STEM EDUCATION & EJ?

NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY 2017 UPDATE

Environmental Justice Programs & Initiatives

As our Environmental Justice program expands, we have already launched a number of successful initiatives in our neighboring communities throughout the State. This book will highlight a few of our projects from these communities.



LINK BETWEEN STEM EDUCATION & EJ?

NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & SUSTAINABILITY 2020/21 UPDATE

2020 – 2021 Highlights



25,000

Total Touchpoints with our EJ Communities and Neighbors



250

Community Partners engaged with NYPA's EJ program

STEM

4,000

SUDENTS AND EDUCATORS participated in STEM programs virtually and in person

Future Energy Leader Scholarship Program

\$100,000

Dedicated for 10 SCHOLARSHIPS

Green Classrooms

13,500

NEW YORK CITY STUDENTS received educational material developed by NYPA and New York Sun Works to support green classrooms/hydroponic food production education during the pandemic

4,500

STUDENTS are growing healthy fruits and vegetables in NYPA-sponsored Green Classrooms

Indoor Food Production

12,000

KALE PLANTS

700 lbs.

ORGANIC PRODUCE

Energy Efficiency

1,000

RESIDENTS of Niagara Falls Housing Authority are enjoying the benefits of energy efficient lighting provided by NYPA

Adult Energy Literacy – Weatherization Workshops

800

HOMEOWNERS AND RENTERS across the State participated in NYPA Weatherization Workshops virtually and in-person

Emerging Picture & Strategies

Issues and actors are interconnected, can't solve in silos

Work of Edward Lawson & Prof Erin Bell – PFAS Study in Newburgh

Strengthening STEM education (especially for medical sciences)

Nubian Directions, Mentoring in Medicine,

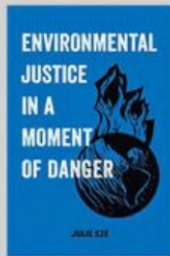
Whole Community Strategies to own assets

NY Green Bonds – New York Power Authority (large investors)

Community Investment Notes – Calvert Impact Capital (small investors)

Some books of interest on EJ written between 2019-2021

Julie Sze

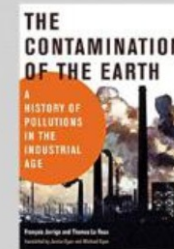


Harriet A. Washington



Catherine Coleman Flowers

Francois Jarrige et al



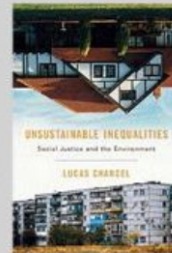
Staff of Green 2.0



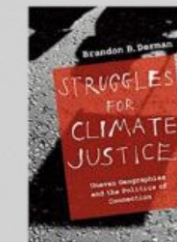
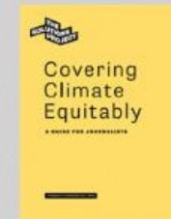
Jillian Gordner



Shalanda H. Baker



Erica Priggen Wright, et al



Brandon Derman

Thank You for Listening

EJ Working Group Members

Rev. Leonissa Ardizzone	Vassar College
Annie Arnold	Adirondack North Country Assoc.
Nikki Chung	Formally of Scenic Hudson
Rev. Evelyn Clark	New Progressive Baptist Church
Rev. Modele Clark	New Progressive Baptist Church
John Gebhards	Quassaick Creek Watershed Alliance
Manna Jo Green	Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
Ashley Knox	Go Beyond Greatness Inc
Jessica Kuonen	NY Sea Grant/Cornell Univ.
Edward Lawson	SUNY New Paltz
Hélène Lesterlin	Good Work Institute
Rev. J. Edward Lewis	Calvary Presbyterian Church
Aaron Muir	Adirondack Wilderness
Cynthia Nikitin	Project for Public Spaces Inc
Joe Phelan (retired)	Superintendent of Schools, Columbia University
Anjali Sauthoff	
Greer Smith	TransArt, Inc
Emily Vail	HR Watershed Alliance
Elizabeth Yeampierre	UPROSE



Catherine Coleman-Flowers
Vice-Chair, WHEJAC



Ernest Tollerson
Board Chair, Riverkeeper

Vassar College Interns and Staff

Neil Curri
Madelaine Pelletier
Leanna Tang
Ariana Henry

Sustainable Hudson Valley

Melissa Everett
Dave Conner