

# Climate Impact & Environmental Inequity: Towards Justice for All

Feb 1 & 2, 2019 Parramore, FL

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AGENDA TO APPEAR HERE SOON

[Registration](#)

## Why Parramore?

*Because it is challenged by many sources of pollution, displacement, and gentrification...*

*Because residents are working on creative solutions and developing new collaborations...*

[Parramore Background Information](#)

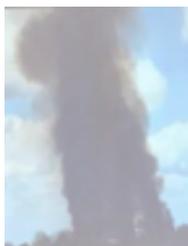
## Hear Stories of Climate Impacted Communities with Environmental Inequity



Learn about problems, proposed solutions, challenges and collaborations.



Parramore, Orlando  
Volatile Organic Compounds



South Bay  
Sugar Cane Ash



Shorecrest, Miami  
Sea Level Rise



Dunbar, Ft. Myers  
Arsenic Sludge Dump



Panama City, FL  
Housing Crisis

## Develop Communication Skills for Advocacy



Take Resident-guided Tours of Parramore

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Celebrate 2018 Accomplishments

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Take Action

**Here are some of the environmental justice leaders we would like to provide scholarships for so they can attend:**

**Eric Bason** is a resident of Shorecrest, Miami, which sits on some of the lowest lying land in Miami. He participated as a community leader in a UUFJ *Rising Together* project in 2017 that addressed tidal flooding, and the public health effects of climate change in his neighborhood. He is currently providing leadership for his community in the Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative to increase resilience and hurricane preparedness, and to advocate for infrastructure upgrades.

**Lawanna Gelzer** is the founder of the Community Empowerment Project in [Parramore, Orlando](#), a historically black community surrounded by highways, with two Superfund sites that have released volatile organic compounds and petroleum by products into the environment. Orlando has created an Economic Opportunity Zone that is also a Brownfield area. This provides incentives for remediation of the toxins, and requires redevelopment after remediation. The Brownfield policy has fueled aggressive gentrification and displacement, and provides no funding for residents to test for toxins on their property. Lawanna's non-profit, The Community Empowerment Project, educates residents about the environmental toxins, is working to get a grocery store in the community, has advocated for a community health disparities study, and has opened dialogue with the city about moving the dumpster storage site away from homes, where residents complain of rodents.

**Crystal Johnson** is the founder of Community Forum Foundation, Inc., a non-profit in Dunbar, Ft. Myers that supports programs that help children and families living in underserved areas, and empowers the community through education and collective collaborations. In addition to their work on improving communication between parents and schools; promoting dialogue among the faith community, the police and the community; and promoting wellness, the Foundation is taking on hurricane preparedness to address the inequities in disaster response experienced after Hurricane Irma.

**Kirin Phillips** lives in South Bay, Florida, where she has started Her Queendom Ministry to teach girls and women about how to protect their health and the health of their families. A big part of that is learning the truth about the "black snow": ash that falls from the sky when the sugar companies burn the fields. Kirin is providing leadership for her community in a Sierra Club effort to get Green Harvesting rather than sugar cane burning, due to its effects on the health of residents and their quality of life.

**Janice Lucas** is a civic leader in Panama City in Bay County, which is still in a critical phase of recovery from Hurricane Michael. In her position as After School Program Director of the LEAD Coalition of Bay County, Janice has seen the effects of Hurricane Michael on her community, and especially on families with children. She is fully engaged in addressing recovery in her county.