

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK**

*Fiscal Year 2023: July 2022-June 2023*



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# CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK

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*Fiscal Year 2023: July 2022-June 2023*



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# A MESSAGE FROM NSEDU OBOT WITHERSPOON

CEHN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I hope this message finds you well and in good health. As we dive into another year, I'm excited to share with you the highlights and stories that shaped our journey in 2023. Welcome to the Children's Environmental Health Network's Annual Report.

Firstly, I want to express my gratitude to each and every one of you who contributed to our mission in the past year. Your support, whether big or small, has been the driving force behind our efforts to create a healthier environment for all children today and for generations to come. The Children's Environmental Health Network continues to be a movement builder for positive change: advocating for child health-protective policies at the state and federal levels, supporting prevention-oriented research, delivering training, education, and outreach to increase the visibility of children's environmental health, and fostering collaborations that address the complex intersection of children's health, equity, the environment, and climate change.

This report is a snapshot of our collective journey – the wins, the lessons learned, and the steps we are taking toward a brighter, healthier, safer future for all. Together, we have made significant strides in advancing our mission to create environments where every child can thrive, free from the harmful impacts of environmental hazards.

I want to acknowledge our incredible team, our partners, and of course, **you** – our extended family. Your involvement has been a game-changer.

As we navigate the journey ahead, let's remember that our work is far from over. With your continued support, we're confident that we can keep making waves and building a future where every child has the chance to grow up healthy and happy.

Thank you for being part of our story!

Warm regards,

*Nsedu Obot Witherspoon*

# GOALS OF THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK



To stimulate prevention-oriented research



To educate health professionals, policy makers, and community members in preventative strategies



To elevate public awareness of environmental hazards to children



To promote development of sound public health and child-focused national policy



# CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

CEHN is a leading voice working at the intersection of climate change, children's health, and justice. Our staff provides leadership, technical assistance, speaking and writing engagements, educational materials, and digital communications to, for, and with diverse audiences, strategic partner organizations, and across all levels of government. Our expertise includes climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience, through the intentional double lenses of children's health and health equity.

CEHN holds leadership positions in key systems- approach collaborative efforts, both nationally and internationally, that are working to advance equitable climate solutions that also further additional social, economic, and sustainability goals to support holistic community wellbeing.



## America's Climate Equity Collaborative

CEHN is the co-founder and primary leader of a large systems effort, America's Climate Equity Collaborative. This multisector, robust collaboration between NGOs, government, community organizations, and the private sector launched to the public in the fall of 2022. This framework is designed to transform the way communities co-create, engage, and act on critical climate issues while disrupting disparities in environment-related health risks for children.



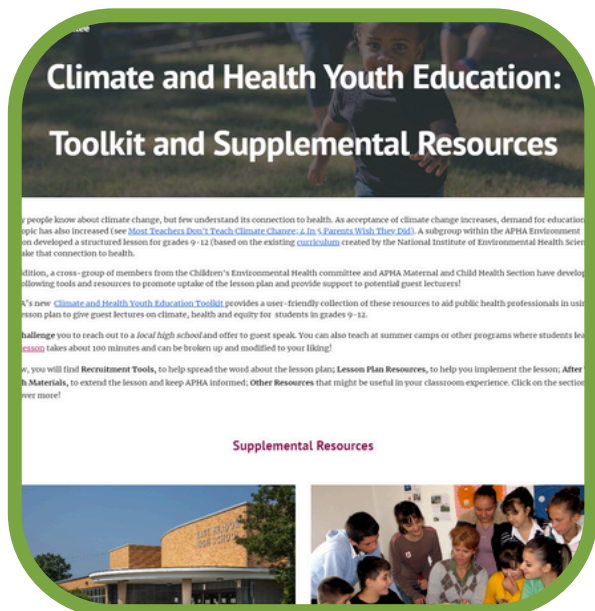
*CEHN & Mann Deshi mark one of the first collaborations of Global Children's Environmental Health Network*

## Break the Cycle of Climate Change

CEHN is a founding partner and co-leader of Break the Cycle of Climate Change. This is a new mentor program among Historically Black Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges, with projects that benefit communities, children, and the environment. CEHN is also leading the growth of the Global Children's Environmental Health Network. This initiative has the potential to align various individual children's environmental health-focused efforts with positive community, health, and environmental impacts across the globe. Nothing like this has been accomplished before, and CEHN is the long-standing children's environmental health-focused organization leading the administration.

## COP 27

CEHN's Executive Director assisted in planning for the first climate justice pavilion at the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27), in November 2022. She also attended the COP27, ensuring that programming includes the needs of children.



Work Group Resource for Youth Climate Education

## Collaboration Between Environment and Maternal & Child Health

In the American Public Health Association, CEHN staff have been instrumental in organizing a cross-section workgroup focused on children's health and climate change between the Environment Section and the Maternal and Child Health Section. This work group has focused on two projects:

- Developing and disseminating resources to expand high school education around the human health impacts of climate change
- Creating and distributing action-oriented resources to educate child care and health about the topic and empower them toward climate action and advocacy.

## CHILDHOOD CANCER PREVENTION

### Cancer Free Economy Network

CEHN continued to serve as the co-lead for the Health/Science Node of the Cancer Free Economy Network, along with the Alliance for Nurses for a Healthy Environment and the Silent Spring Institute. CEHN staff are also active in Cancer Free Economy's communications and fundraising efforts, as well as their mentorship program and pesticides workgroup.

### Childhood Cancer Prevention Initiative

CEHN also continues to serve as a leader in the Childhood Cancer Prevention Initiative (CCPI), which was launched in the fall of 2020. The Childhood Cancer Prevention Initiative remains dedicated to safeguarding the well-being of the youngest members of our global community. Through targeted education, awareness, and advocacy, we worked tirelessly to create environments that reduce the risk of childhood cancer.



### Strategic Priorities in Cancer Free Economy & CCPI

**Shifting the Narrative:** We continued our commitment to transforming the narrative surrounding cancer prevention. Our advocacy efforts centered on raising awareness of the environmental factors contributing to cancer.

**Building Capacity:** Throughout the year, we equipped stakeholders with the knowledge and tools needed to effectively address cancer prevention. Webinars, and training sessions enabled participants to champion the cause in their respective communities, fostering a network of advocates committed to the reduction of environmental exposures associated with cancer.

**Expanding Reach:** CEHN participated in Cancer Prevention and Childhood Cancer Prevention



Month awareness and education activities, including various presentations. Available science related to cancer trends was included in presentations, trainings, and public education events.

**Leveraging Alignment:** CEHN helps to co-lead a pesticide project that is working to engage with leaders in the pesticide prevention arena with the aim of incorporating childhood cancer prevention science into effective strategies, business models, and policy efforts.

**Advocacy:** Advocacy remains a cornerstone of our work. In response to the East Palestine Derailment, our organization took a proactive stance, advocating for a swift and effective response measures to mitigate potential health risks in the affected communities.

### #MOVE4CancerPrevention

CEHN helped plan and lead #MOVE4CancerPrevention, a healthy and fun awareness-building movement event for the whole family to enjoy and every community to join. This inaugural event took place during National Cancer Prevention Month and was the first movement event focusing on removing cancer-causing chemicals from the places we work, live, and play and encouraging everyone to take action to prevent cancer.



*#MOVE4CancerPrevention promotional material*

### Looking forward

We remain dedicated to our vision of a cancer-free world for all, with a special emphasis on protecting the health and well-being of our most vulnerable populations and communities. As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, we look forward to continued collaboration, growth, and impact in the years to come.

## CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MOVEMENT



CEHN continues to lead and grow the Children's Environmental Health Movement.

Children's Environmental Health (CEH) Day anchors the Movement, serving as a day of action to advance conversations, policy, and practice devoted to protecting children's health from environmental hazards. The Movement aims to take the momentum generated by CEH Day and carry it forward throughout the year through the pursuit of purposeful goals at all levels of government and community practices. Specifically, CEHN empowers communities with tools to leverage their city and state CEH Day proclamations to achieve progress in their children's environmental health-

related campaigns and initiatives. We also encourage our many CEH Day partners to use these tools to showcase their work in environmental health, environmental justice, and climate action in terms of how it protects children. This serves as a critical reminder to these partners about the value of adopting a child-health lens throughout the year by which to evaluate their efforts.

The other important function of the CEH Movement is galvanizing and activating advocates through collective actions. CEHN launched The Patron, a monthly policy e-newsletter with a CEH lens, in June 2020. This curated, nonpartisan policy roundup provides the CEH Movement with federal policy, regulatory, and administrative landscape updates, reports on CEHN's leadership in the policy/advocacy space, and relevant calls to action. This effort continues to support strategic CEH advocacy and movement-building, especially during this critical time of increased federal investments in infrastructure, early childhood, climate, and clean energy. The Patron newsletter has a higher-than-average open rate for our organization, showing keen interest in the subject from our audience.

## 2022 Voter Guide for Children's Environmental Health

In 2022, CEHN released an updated Voter Guide for Children's Environmental Health. This resource provides an easy guide to assessing local, state, and federal candidates on how well they keep the health of children and their environments at the center of policy-making decisions.

The guide focuses on **6 key issues** that keenly impact children's environmental health:

1. Everyone's right to vote.
2. Children's health and equity.
3. Climate action.
4. Clean air.
5. Clean water.
6. Toxic-free environments and products.



*Voter Guide promotional material*



## The Seventh Annual Children's Environmental Health Day

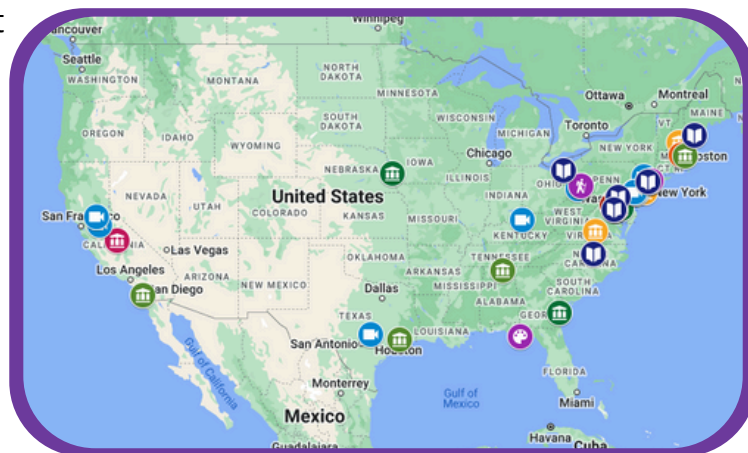
Thursday, October 13, 2022 was the 7th annual Children's Environmental Health (CEH) Day. CEH Day increases the visibility of children's environmental health issues and empowers individuals and organizations to take action on behalf of children nationwide. We continue to see more and more of our partners making use of the platform by hosting activities and events, launching projects, releasing/announcing resources, and raising awareness on children's environmental health.

*Left: CEH Day promotional material*



## Children's Environmental Health Day 2022 by the Numbers

- **120 official CEH Day partners**, our highest number yet, including 21 new partners
- **44 activities and events** undertaken throughout the country, including one in South Africa
- **61 organizations and individuals** RSVP'd to participate in the #CEHchat. Resources were shared, partnership advice was provided, and organizations connected with each other.
- **15 state, city, and county proclamations** were requested this year, and 8 were obtained
- The @CEHday Twitter account that was launched just last year now has **407 followers**
- **1.6 million:** Social media reach of #CEHday hashtags 9/13- 10/14/22



Map of 2022 CEH Day Activities in the US

## 17th Annual Child Health Advocate Awards

CEHN presented the 17th Annual Child Health Advocate Awards virtually on CEH Day 2022, honoring outstanding children's environmental health leaders in Policy, Science, Community Advocacy, Business, and Arts/Media. These child health champions have devoted themselves to a vision of a cleaner, healthier environment for children. The Nsedu Obot Witherspoon (NOW) Youth Leadership Award was created as part of CEHN's 20th-anniversary celebration in 2012, in honor of Executive Director Nsedu Obot Witherspoon. This award honors a young person who has demonstrated exceptional environmental health leadership focused on protecting human health, especially of our most vulnerable populations.



Screenshot of the 2022 Child Health Advocate and NOW Youth Leadership Awards

The awardees participated in a rich panel conversation moderated by Ms. Witherspoon about children's environmental health, environmental justice, health equity, and climate change. While the awardees addressed these issues from diverse fields and approaches, they all shared the strong drive, talent, courage, and vision needed to effect true transformative systems change towards a healthier, more equitable future for all children.

## 2022 Child Health Advocate Awardees:

### Science Award:

Gredia Huerta-Montañez, MD, FAAP  
*Pediatrician, President,  
Puerto Rico Chapter of the American  
Academy of Pediatrics*

### Community Award:

Jade Begay, MA  
*Climate Justice Campaign Director,  
NDN Collective*

### Business Award:

Eric Friedenwald-Fishman  
*Creative Director & Founder,  
Metropolitan Group*

### Policy Award:

Mark Mitchell, MD, MPH, FACPM  
*Associate Professor of Climate Change,  
Energy, & Environmental Health Equity  
George Mason University*

### Arts & Media Award:

Rev. Lennox Yearwood, Jr.  
*President & CEO,  
Hip Hop Caucus*

## NOW Youth Leadership Awardees:

Natasha Matta  
*Co-Founder and Director of Content,  
Environmental Justice Coalition*

Rhea Goswami  
*Co-Founder and Executive Director,  
Environmental Justice Coalition*



## NIEHS COLLABORATIVE CENTERS IN CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND TRANSLATION

In 2022, CEHN was awarded the role of leading the first National Coordinating Center (NCC) for the network of six Children's Environmental Health Research and Translation (CEHRT) Centers funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), part of the National Institutes of Health. These Centers are located across the United States and develop practical solutions to protect children's health, acting as resources for researchers, federal and state agencies, healthcare professionals, and community members.

The academic institutions awarded as CEHRT Centers during the five-year grant period include Johns Hopkins University, Oregon State University, the University of Pennsylvania, New York University, the University of Southern California, and a joint Emory University and University of Georgia team.

Researchers in each of the six CEHRT Centers work with community partners and translate key children's environmental health research findings into tools, strategies, and interventions that can be used or adapted by those working to protect children's health, such as healthcare practitioners, policymakers, child care providers, community leaders, and families. Each center also manages a pilot awards program to fund new projects in children's environmental health research and translation.



## Annual Meeting:

CEHN led the coordination of our first annual meeting on September 8 and 9, 2022. This was held as a virtual “retreat” and included a session devoted to hearing from community partners. Other sessions focused on gaining a better understanding of the work each center is leading and equity-focused research translation. Sessions also included Developmental and Translation Core Lighting Talks and Breakout Sessions, an environmental justice and policy session, and a Keynote speech, “The Sum of Us and Some of Us: Overcoming the Sum of Environmental Burdens Impacting Children’s Environmental Health,” by Devon Payne-Sturges, DrPH - Associate Professor, Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, University of Maryland School of Public Health.



CEHRT Network logo

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & MENTORSHIP

### Children's Environmental Health and Healthy Housing fellowship



Deliverable from 2022 Fellow Jade Chan

CEHN was excited to host the first and second year of our joint Fellowship for Children's Environmental Health and Healthy Housing during this report period. This program was created and run in partnership with the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH) as a collaborative effort in honor of our 30th anniversaries and shared values. This paid summer fellowship program gives people of color with an interest in environmental health an opportunity to intern with two national organizations leading the fight for healthier environments.

This fellowship is reserved for candidates of color because, as leading organizations in the field of environmental health, we recognize that there is a disconnect between the environmental justice research and advocacy to which we’re committed and the lack of

racial diversity in who gets funding and resources to perform that work. We also acknowledge the racism our colleagues of color face daily even within the well-meaning space of nonprofits that seek to address racial disparities. We need to do better, and this fellowship is just one of many steps we’re taking to deepen our commitment to anti-racism within our organizations and our field. We are excited about the opportunity to equip, empower, and collaborate with the next generation of environmental health and healthy housing leaders.

Fellows contribute to or lead one or more projects related to healthy housing and children’s environmental health. They also have ample opportunity to network with and receive mentorship from executive directors both organizations. Fellows gain valuable insight into the role of national nonprofits in the fields of environmental health and healthy housing, and contribute to concrete deliverables that both organizations can put into action.

## CEHN Internships

CEHN was excited to host several talented and passionate cohorts of interns in the past year. CEHN's work was enriched by:

- Communications, Marketing, and Design Interns
- Carol Strobel Policy & Health Education Interns
- Eco-Healthy Child Care® Interns
- General CEHN Interns

These students help design outreach tools, launch initiatives, build community, increase organizational capacity, and plan key events, like the CEHN 30th Anniversary Gala.



## CEHN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY



Anniversary Logo

CEHN Celebrated our 30th Anniversary throughout 2022. We marked the affair by:

- Launching the Children's Environmental Health & Healthy Housing Joint Fellowship with NCHH
- Collecting testimonials from key partners to spotlight these collaborations on social media
- Developing a commemorative anniversary logo and website landing page
- Spearheading a year-long peer-to-peer fundraiser
- Hosting an anniversary gala

## Anniversary Gala

On Friday, October 14, 2022, the Children's Environmental Health Network hosted its 30th Anniversary Gala Fundraiser at St. Francis Hall in Washington DC. The evening began with a cocktail hour and passed hors d'oeuvres on the venue's beautiful terrace overlooking fall-colored trees and DC rooftops in the midst of golden hour. Following cocktail hour, guests were welcomed into a festooned hall for a speaking program, dinner, entertainment, and a Silent Auction. The evening ended with coffee, desserts, and dancing.



Photos from the gala, left to right:  
Staff family members celebrating on the dancefloor  
Local youth artists featured at the event  
Overhead view of dinner

# ECO-HEALTHY CHILD CARE®

## Eco-Healthy Child Care® (EHCC) by the Numbers

- **37 States** with EHCC endorsements (June 2023)
- **273 facilities** endorsed June 2022-June 2023
- **40,330 children** protected by EHCC endorsements November 2023

## Protecting Children from Lead Exposures in Family & Center-Based Child Care Environments

In 2023, EHCC and its partner, the National Center for Healthy Housing, received a third round of funding from The JPB Foundation to help child care professionals identify and prevent childhood exposure to lead and other environmental hazards. EHCC partnered for the first time with the Council for Professional Recognition (CPR)--a leader in the credentialing of early childhood educators to align

eco-healthy best practices with their standards. We worked with the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Early Care and Education to update cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and indoor air quality best practices and embedded them within national child care health and safety standards.



*EHCC Endorsed Providers*



*A Child at an Endorsed Facility*

The second Getting Ahead of Lead Network was launched, targeting state leaders within the National Association for Family Child Care. The Network builds leadership within the family child care field and is made up of racially and geographically diverse providers committed to protecting children's health from environmental hazards. Network members completed over eight hours of training in environmental health.

## Eco-Healthy Child Care® Leadership

CEHN staff members chair the EHCC National Advisory Committee (NAC). Since 2008, the EHCC NAC has ensured the growth and rapid adoption of the EHCC program. Leaders of both state and national child care agencies and national children's environmental health organizations comprise this committee. Committee members advise effective strategies for embedding children's environmental health best practices and policies throughout the child care system. The NAC committee also reviews materials to ensure appropriate content, supports outreach to child care professionals, and ensures that the program is culturally sensitive.

## Online Curriculum

Eco-Healthy Child Care®'s *Protecting Children's Environmental Health* e-learning course launched in April of 2017 and is available through ProSolutions and Emory's School of Nursing. Learners discover how children are exposed to harmful chemicals, why these exposures are concerning, and realistic and cost-effective best practices for reducing hazards. This course is ideal for providers, parents/caregivers, school administrators, and child care licensing professionals. The 3-hour e-course is recognized in all states for professional development.



EHCC partners with Emory's School of Nursing to also offer the e-course to nurses and other health professionals as a strategy to increase environmental health knowledge within the field. Health professionals can receive continuing education credits via Emory's platform. Both ProSolutions and Emory offer the e-course in English and Spanish.

New Hampshire and New York state health departments have bulk-purchased e-courses for child care professionals as a strategy to increase environmental health-related professional development opportunities.

### Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry- Choose Safe Places

In 2017, the Eco-Healthy Child Care® program began a new collaboration with the Environmental Law Institute and the National Association of County and City Health Officials to assist state health departments in implementing the "Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education" (Choose Safe Places) guidance manual. These state health departments were grantees of the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Partnership to Promote Local Efforts to Reduce Environmental Exposure (APPLETREE). The Choose Safe Places manual encourages child care providers to consider environmental hazards when locating center-based early learning facilities. In year six of the project, EHCC increased the impact of the Choose Safe Places project within the child care field by holding small group calls with participating state health departments. The EHCC team also created resources highlighting New Hampshire's safe siting work with local health departments and Massachusetts' environmental justice activities.



*An EHCC Endorsed Provider*

### Growing Up Healthy

Partnering with the Helen Walton Children's Enrichment Center, EHCC received an Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 grant to provide education and technical assistance on environmental health and indoor air quality to forty northwest Arkansas child care facilities. The grant targets children from low-income, Black, and Brown communities. Growing Up Healthy builds upon EHCC's leadership in the child care and environmental health field and expands the program's reach. To date, EHCC has offered webinars to participating child care facilities covering topics such as improving indoor air quality and safer cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting. All facilities are also enrolled in EHCC's *Protecting Children's Environmental Health* e-course to further their environmental health knowledge and expertise.

### Minnesota Child Care Licensing

For the first time in program history, EHCC is working with its long-standing partner, the National Association for Regulatory Administration, to update Minnesota's child care licensing standards to include environmental health best practices. EHCC drafted over thirty environmental health best practices for the following topics: Pesticides, Indoor Air Quality, Ventilation, Cleaning/Sanitizing/Disinfecting, Lead, Art Supplies, Plastics, Safe Siting, Mercury, and Radon.

Minnesota is currently reviewing the environmental health language. Updating state child care licensing is an opportunity to reach and engage a larger audience of child care providers (home and center-based) about eco-healthy practices and policies.

## Launch of Virtual Technical Assistance for Eco-Healthy Endorsed Child Care Providers

EHCC launched a virtual technical assistance (TA) program for endorsed child care facilities. The TA session includes a 45-minute Zoom call with an EHCC staffer and offers resources, sample policies and best practice tips on environmental health. The virtual TA program allows EHCC to reach more endorsed providers and gain increased feedback on our endorsement program.

## Eco-Healthy Child Care® Partner Page Created

EHCC created a web page highlighting partners' work to create safer and more eco-healthy child care settings. Partner activities include supporting providers in adopting eco-healthy best practices via training, resource sharing, and becoming an endorsed provider. Partners currently highlighted include: All Our Kin, Helen R. Walton Children's Enrichment Center, National Association for Family Child Care, National Association for Regulatory Administration, National Center for Healthy Housing, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education, University of Maryland, and Women for a Healthy Environment.



*Children at an EHCC Endorsed Facility*

## Improving Eco-Healthy Child Care® Provider Outreach & Engagement

Between July 2021 and June 2022 EHCC awarded 243 endorsements to family and center-based child care providers. These providers utilized EHCC's best practices checklist to reduce environmental hazards like lead in water and unsafe plastics in their child care settings--creating healthier early learning environments for the children they care for. The Provider Spotlight

Series showcases endorsed child care programs that have gone above and beyond the best practice suggestions listed within the Eco-Healthy Child Care® Checklist. Each Spotlight is featured via social media and on the EHCC webpage. The Eco-Healthy blog is released monthly and is a mix of the latest environmental health news and science AND updates on how EHCC and CEHN are working to protect children's health on the local, state, and national levels. It is available in English and Spanish.

EHCC is surveying endorsed child care providers to gather data on satisfaction with the endorsement program--utilizing Listen 4 Good consultants and survey tools. The JPB Foundation is offering these services for free to its grantees.



*Children at an EHCC Endorsed Facility*

## EHCC Webinars, presentations, and conferences

Getting the message out about environmental health and child care is a key strategy to EHCC's goal of creating safer and healthier early learning environments for *all* children. During the last year, EHCC has presented at the following conferences and webinars:

- Lead and Healthy Homes Conference in Baltimore, MD, October 2022
- American Public Health Association, November 2022
- Lead and Healthy Housing Conference (Spanish), January 2023
- National Association for Family Child Care July 2023

## PROTECTING CHILDREN THROUGH POLICY

As a leading voice on children's environmental health issues in the nation's capital, the Children's Environmental Health Network advocates for child-health protective policies and works to ensure that children are at the center of policy and decision-making. CEHN does this work independently as well as in partnership with public and environmental health organizations and coalitions. This past year, CEHN worked hard to support policies in line with our 5 priority areas: clean air and water, toxic-free products, climate change, and environmental justice.



*Roxana Amaya-Fuentes at Sackett v EPA Rally*

### A Few Highlights

As a leader member of the Clean Water for All coalition, CEHN staff co-hosted a rally on the steps of the Supreme Court the day the case of Sackett v EPA and the Definition of Waters of the United States was presented before the court. Despite the hard work of advocates, the Court's decision that day limited protections to wetlands and other waters, thereby jeopardizing the health of families and communities.

The American the Beautiful for All Coalition, of which Nse Obot Witherspoon (CEHN Executive Director) and Mark Magana (CEHN Board Member) are founding members and co-chairs, released its 2023 policy agenda. The purpose of the agenda is to achieve continental-scale conservation by embracing equitably distributed funding and community-led policies and projects.

CEHN participated in a lobby day lead by Earth Justice promoting the "Protect America's Children from Toxic Pesticides Act," or (PACTPA). This bill is intended to overhaul U.S. pesticide rules, mandating new rules to protect people and the environment.

### Policy by the Numbers

- **5 bill endorsements** on children's rights, the importance of the public health infrastructure in saving lives, community health and wellness.
- **350 + hours of staff time** participating in coalitions, drafting and providing comments and testimony, reviewing important proposed bills, and more on behalf of *all* children
- CEHN joined nearly **50 sign-on letters** and comments to protect children's health and environment at the national and state levels on priority issues:



- Clean air protections and combatting climate change, for example, control of car and truck emissions, reducing particulate matter and ozone, strong mercury, and air toxics standards
- Clean water, identifying PFAS and PFOS as hazardous substances and setting standards to address these forever chemicals; ensuring lead is removed from service lines as soon as possible through throughout the country and especially in low-wealth and environmental justice communities; ensuring tribal access to clean water.
- National environmental justice initiatives such as the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool and Justice40 and the environmental justice scorecard
- Control of toxic substances in products and the use of harmful pesticides
- Funding (appropriations) for federal agencies and programs that protect children's health, including CDC's National Center for Environmental Health and Climate and Health; HHS Office of Climate and Health Equity and National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences; EPA Office of Indoor Air Quality and Office of Children's Health Protection; and for public health infrastructure



*US Supreme Court at Sunset*

## **CEHN's Environmental Health Partners and Coalitions**

Healthy Air Partners \* (co-chair) Clean Water for All \* Friends of National Environmental Health Institutes (FNIHIS) \* CDC Coalition \* (co-chair) National Environmental Health Partnership Council (NEHPC) \* Science Response Network \* (co-chair) The America the Beautiful for All \* Healthy Schools Network

## **AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL FOR ALL COALITION**

CEHN, GreenLatinos, and The Wilderness Society launched and continue to co-lead the America the Beautiful for All Coalition (ATB4A). ATB4A reflects the diversity of America and centers the voices of people of color working to conserve 30% of lands, waters, and oceans, by 2030. This coalition will continue to motivate urgent action by the Biden administration and other decision-makers in support of the coalition's twin goals of conserving at least 30% of land, water, and ocean by 2030 and implementing a Justice40 metric for the America the Beautiful Initiative to ensure at least 40% of investments are made in communities of color and frontline communities that have historically seen little to no investment in conservation and equitable access to nature.



*US Capitol Building at Sunset*

The coalition established a 17-person steering committee predominantly composed of frontline community-serving organizations and includes the

two co-chairs. It secured two co-leads for the six inaugural coalition workgroups - Priority Projects & Campaigns, Ocean, Freshwater, Public Lands, Urban Parks & Greenspace, and Wildlife. Workgroups also developed their policy recommendations through Fall 2022 for the debut of the first annual policy agenda that launched on the second anniversary of Executive Order 14008, which established the national 30x30 goal and subsequent America the Beautiful Initiative in January 2023. The policy agenda included legislative and administrative recommendations for the year ahead and had state or local policies relevant to the steering committee's decision-making process.



*Members of the America the Beautiful for All Coalition*

In April 2023, ATB4A held its first annual Washington, DC fly-in with nearly 100 individuals from more than 60 organizations attended and advocated for the coalition's 2023 policy agenda in meetings with CEQ, EPA, NOAA, DOI, USDA, 21 Congressional offices, and two Congressional committees (EPW and HNR). We welcomed approximately 40 congressional staff to an educational panel with Vernice Miller Travis, co-founder of WE ACT for Environmental Justice and environmental justice pioneer, and Brian O'Donnell, an international leader in advancing 30x30 conservation with the Campaign for Nature. This panel was co-hosted by Representatives Matsui and Neguse, co-chairs of the House Sustainable Energy & Environment Coalition. During a celebration reception after the first full day of Administrative and Congressional meetings and presentations on Indigenous-led conservation and public health and clean water issues nationally, we were welcomed and lauded by Department of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland. Later in the evening, Dr. Dorceta Taylor of Yale School of Environmental Justice joined us to discuss her recent study on Disparities in Environmental Grantmaking.



*Secretary Haaland, Panelists, and ATB4A Members*



# CIRCLE OF CHAMPIONS

## Board of Directors



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**Adam J. Spanier, M.D.,  
Ph.D., M.P.H.**  
*Pediatric Environmental  
Health Specialist*



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*CEH & Healthy Housing Fellow*

Sanchez Rolle  
*CEH & Healthy Housing Fellow*

Miley Giguere  
*Carol Strobel Policy & Health Education Intern*

Rania Cassis  
*Communications, Marketing, and Design Intern*

Sulakkhana de Saram  
*CEHN Intern*

### Spring 2023

Natasha Matta  
*Carol Strobel Policy & Health Education Intern*

Katya Peri  
*Communications, Marketing, and Design Intern*

Hannah Gersch  
*Communications, Marketing, and Design Intern*

Prerana Khabiya  
*Eco-Healthy Child Care® Intern*

### Summer 2023

Jade Chan  
*CEH & Healthy Housing Fellow*

Ifunanya Ume-Ezeoke  
*CEH & Healthy Housing Fellow*

Corinne Evans  
*Carol Strobel Policy & Health Education Intern*

Emma Friese  
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Adiaha Witherspoon  
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your help we are  
continuing to protect the  
developing child from  
environmental health  
hazards and promote a  
healthier environment  
for all. Thank you for  
taking care of what  
matters to you by giving  
at work and through the  
Combined Federal  
Campaign (CFC). Learn  
more about EarthShare  
at [www.earthshare.org](http://www.earthshare.org)



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## Income

Federal Grants - \$237,232  
Foundation Grants - \$667,356  
Contributions - \$37,119  
Anniversary Gala- \$21,243  
Program Fees- \$15,951  
Billable Expenses - \$17,913  
CEH Day - \$6,000

**Total Income = \$1,003,973**

## Expenses

Personnel/Labor Personnel - \$514,196  
Fringe Benefits - \$36,205  
Payroll Taxes - \$38,436  
Pension Expense - \$16,655  
Professional/Consultant Fees - \$53,236  
Temp/Contract Labor - \$12,675  
Program Expenses - \$59,794  
Travel - \$26,796  
Insurance - \$2,468  
Registration Fees - \$ 3,522  
Rent - \$64,805  
Utilities - \$55.34  
Phone - \$8,676  
Equipment Rental - \$8,960  
Postage/Delivery - \$1,297  
Printing & Reproduction - \$2,577  
Computer/Web Services - \$4,554  
Meeting Expenses - \$42,307  
Office Supplies - \$1,775

**Total Expenses = \$910,557**

**Net Income= \$93,416**



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- Sign up for the **CEH Day newsletter** to get updates, resources, and event notices that pertain to our Children's Environmental Health Day
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