



# Environmental Justice Quarterly

<[www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice)>

Summer/Fall 2004

## Collaborative Solutions Awarded With Cooperative Agreements

In June 2004, the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) announced the 30 selected projects of its groundbreaking Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement (CPS) Program. The CPS Program provides financial assistance to community-based organizations working on projects to address local environmental or public health concerns using EPA's environmental justice collaborative problem-solving model. These organizations each received awards of \$100,000.

The response to the new cooperative agreement program has been very positive. The applicants proposed many creative ways to build community relationships, develop planning tools, incorporate strategies for change, and implement measurable outcomes. Partnerships and collaborations are envi-

sioned as effective tools for conducting health and environmental assessments, designing environmental educational programs, and improving community parks.

The applications also reflected the diverse environmental justice issues that affect communities, such as ensuring environmentally conscious urban redevelopment, reducing air pollution from local traffic or industrial sources, raising awareness of safe fish consumption, and addressing high levels of lead poisoning in households.

Using the funds allocated, the selected community-based organizations will attempt to assess and quantify the community concerns to be addressed and then build partnerships with other organizations to identify strategies to

*Continued on page 5*

### In This Issue:

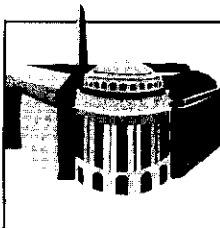
□ EJ CPS Cooperative Agreements	1
□ Headquarters' Update: Office of Water	2
□ Regional Corner: Region 6	3
□ Maryland Debuts EBD Program	4
□ EJ CPS Projects	5

### The Collaborative Problem-Solving Model

The selected community-based organizations are required to use EPA's Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) Model when devising solutions to their community problems. The model includes the following key elements:

- Issue identification, community vision, and strategic goal setting
- Community capacity building
- Consensus building and dispute resolution
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships and resource mobilization
- Supportive and facilitative role of government
- Management and implementation
- Evaluation, lessons learned, and replication of best practices

For additional information on the CPS Program, including examples of how the process has been successfully implemented, visit EPA's Web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-cps-grants.html>.



## Headquarters' Update Office of Water

*Each quarter, the Headquarters' Update features a specific office at EPA Headquarters, highlighting recent activities, programs, and policies aimed at addressing a variety of environmental justice issues.*

### Collaborative Environmental Justice Efforts

#### OW Strives for EJ in Hidalgo County, Texas

Through an Interagency Agreement between EPA's Office of Research and Development and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water funded a project to educate health care providers, *promotores* (community residents trained to teach fellow community members), and residents of Texas' Hidalgo County on issues related to drinking water contamination. During the first year of funding, the Hidalgo Safe Drinking Water Project helped educate 50 health care professionals, 23 *promotores*, and more than 500 households.

The program included the establishment of a Border Safe Drinking Water Council, consisting of local water supplier officials, Texas Department of Health epidemiologists, physicians in Hidalgo County and Mexico, nurses (including school nurses), *promotores*, and representatives from sister cities in Mexico. The Council met five times during the contract year and acted in an advisory capacity to help ensure dissemination of a consistent water safety message that was appropriate for Hidalgo County. The Council also worked on identifying information that could facilitate implementation of an effective waterborne illness tracking system in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The agreement also established collaborations with the Texas Department of Health-Region 11, the Center for Housing and Urban Development, the Colonias Program, HRSA-supported clinics El Milagro Clinic and Clinica del Valle/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation project, Lower Rio Grande Water suppliers, the Texas Council on Environmental Quality, representatives from Texas *Promotores* Association, and local physicians and nurses. EPA's Office of Research and Development has continued the project through 2004.

#### Five Star Restoration Program Spreads the Environmental Justice Message

The Office of Oceans, Wetlands and Watersheds (OWOW) established the Five Star Restoration Program to stimulate community-based wetlands restoration projects in watersheds across the United States. The National Association of Counties, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Wildlife Habitat Council have joined together with EPA for this effort. Funding for the program is provided by OWOW and the National Marine Fisheries Service's Community-Based Restoration Program for selected projects in coastal areas.

The Five Star Challenge Grants Program develops knowledge and skills in young people through restoration projects that involve multiple and diverse partners, including local government agencies, elected officials, community groups, businesses, schools, youth organizations, and environmental organizations. Its objective is to engage five or

more partners in each project to contribute funding, land, technical assistance, workforce support, or other in-kind services that match the program's funding assistance. Consideration for funding is based on the individual project's educational and training opportunities for students and at-risk youth, the ecological benefits derived, and the social and economic benefits to the community. This final criteria contributes to environmental justice efforts.

EPA provides modest funding for the Five Star Program, averaging \$10,000 per project. Additional funding provided by various partners helps fund projects that make meaningful contributions to communities. At the completion of each partnership, participants will have experience, confidence, and a demonstrated record of accomplishment, and will be well-positioned to take on similar projects in the future. One recent, successful Five Star initiative involved Washington,



Courtesy Anacostia Watershed Society

D.C. students in the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

Restoration in the Anacostia and Potomac River Watersheds. Students helped to restore SAV, which serves as critical feeding, nursery, and refuge habitats for

a number of ecologically and economically valuable species. SAV Restoration is a priority in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. For more information, visit: <http://nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.htm>.

#### Furthering Environmental Justice for Tribes and Alaskan Villages

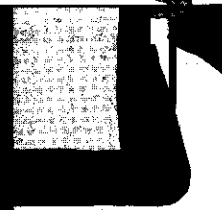
The Office of Wastewater Management (OWM) provides funding assistance to help address the water and wastewater needs of Indian tribes and Native Alaskan communities, many of which lack basic sanitation infrastructure—specifically flush toilets and running water. In particular, nearly half of the 191 Alaskan Native Village (ANV) residents haul water to their homes by hand from central watering points. Honeybuckets (which are five gallon buckets) and pit privies are their sole means of sewage collection and disposal. Such systems provide an inadequate and unsanitary level of service and foster public health risks. In fiscal year 2003, through EPA's Alaska Sanitation Grant Program and the Clean Water Tribal Set-Aside Grant Program, more than \$60 million in grant assistance was provided to Indian tribes and ANV's to help construct 147 drinking water and wastewater sanitation systems. EPA estimates the drinking water and wastewater treatment needs of Indian tribes and ANV's at \$1 billion and \$650 million, respectively.

*Continued on page 3*

## Regional Corner

# Region 6

*This column explores exciting environmental initiatives under way in EPA regional offices. Each quarter, we focus on a different regional program. EPA Region 6 covers Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 67 federally recognized tribal lands.*



EPA's Region 6 is working to create collaborative solutions to address issues of environmental justice at the community level. The following are just a few examples of the work being done throughout the region.

### **San Antonio Communities Tackle Sustainability**

*San Antonio, TX*

Region 6 is partnering with organizations in Texas to ensure that communities have a voice in the restoration and reuse of the Kelly Air Force Base (KAFB) in San Antonio. Now closed, KAFB was an aircraft maintenance facility that warehoused and maintained aircraft and jet engines. Activities at the base generated significant amounts of hazardous waste.

With the Southwest Workers Union, the U.S. Air Force, the Greater Kelly Development Agency, and other organizations, Region 6 is working to implement *Project ReGeneration: Building Partnerships for Livable Sustainability in the Greater Kelly Area*. The project aims to identify ways by which key parties (particularly federal agencies and grassroots community organizations) can ensure that community concerns in areas of health, cleanup, and economic development associated with the base's conversion can be meaningfully addressed. Residents living near the closed base, many of whom are Latino, have ongoing concerns about the health and economic viability of their communities.

The project will be implemented in two phases. During Phase I, the partners will conduct a series of roundtables in the areas of health, cleanup, and future economic development. During Phase II, a mature partnership, made up of all key stakeholders, will develop a collaborative vision and implementation plan for the Greater Kelly Area based upon the findings and recommendations of the roundtables.

Project ReGeneration is one of 15 Interagency Working Group (IWG) for Environmental Justice Revitalization Projects chosen in 2003 to showcase collaborative partnerships for address-

ing environmental and public health concerns and devising solutions that will contribute to community revitalization.

For more information about Project ReGeneration, contact EPA's **Olivia Balandran** at (214) 665-7257, or <[balandran.olivia-r@epa.gov](mailto:balandran.olivia-r@epa.gov)>.

### **New Mexico to Host Listening Sessions**

*New Mexico*

Four listening sessions took place this summer focusing on environmental justice issues facing New Mexico communities. Held collaboratively by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the Southwest Network for Economic and Environmental Justice (SNEEJ), and EPA, the sessions were held in Deming, Acoma Pueblo, Las Vegas, and Albuquerque. State and local officials attended, as well as representatives from the Office of Environmental Justice. For more information about the New Mexico listening sessions, contact **Nelda Perez**, Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs at (214) 665-2209 or <[perez.nelda@epa.gov](mailto:perez.nelda@epa.gov)>.

### **Community Training Planned for Albuquerque**

*Albuquerque, NM*

Albuquerque will be the site of the first training of community environmental justice groups in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and basic environmental statutes. This training was sponsored and funded by the Office of Environmental Justice, the Southeast Community Research Center, ADR Associates, and EPA. The training is a cooperative venture with the Environmental Law Institute (ELI), SNEEJ, and EPA. It will take place in mid-September and consist of 30 to 35 selected participants representing grassroots organizations. For more information about training sessions, contact **Nelda Perez**, Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs at (214) 665-2209 or <[perez.nelda@epa.gov](mailto:perez.nelda@epa.gov)>.

## **OW Collaborative Environmental Justice Efforts**

*(Continued from page 2)*

Through partnerships with training and technical assistance organizations (such as the National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities and the Small Flows Clearinghouse at West Virginia University), OWM has made classroom training and information available to environmental trainers who work with small wastewater and drinking water facility operators, community leaders, and local officials. OWM has also provided funding and worked cooperatively with the Rural Community Assistance organization to provide training and on-site technical assistance to local officials in rural and minority communities to help address their sanitation needs.

Through OWM's rural community assistance program funding of \$1.3 million, 17 states have conducted workshops for owners and operators of wastewater systems. Technical assistance has been made available to more than 200 rural, low income, tribal and minority communities in 38 states. OWM's state-based Operator Training Program has provided more than 620 wastewater facility operators with on-site technical assistance to help resolve their noncompliance problems. These efforts ensure that Americans living in communities served by these facilities have improved levels of public health and environmental protection. For more information, visit the OW Web site at <[www.epa.gov/ow](http://www.epa.gov/ow)>.

*OW values highly the partnerships formed through collaborative efforts. They serve as a model for the way we should work together to meet our goals of clean and healthy water.*

# Maryland Debuts Environmental Benefits District Program

Over the past nine months, Maryland has created a new approach to addressing environmental problems in low-income and minority communities. The recently announced Environmental Benefits District (EBD) program targets resources and expertise for community-based environmental projects in low-income neighborhoods. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) developed the concept to improve the health of residents in targeted communities by directing available financial, technical, regulatory and other relevant resources to reduce the levels of environmental concerns in those communities. The concept of the EBD was further developed during three successful pilot projects in East Baltimore, the Park Heights section of Baltimore, and Central Prince George's County. For all three pilot projects, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) successfully convened various state, federal, and local agencies to implement a community-based environmental project.

Two unique features of the EBD are that the program: 1) is proactive and 2) requires a partnership with a community group in a low-income or minority community. Once a community group identifies a specific environmental issue, MDE works to bring relevant state, federal, and local agencies (and their expertise and resources) into the project. The results in the three EBDs have been encouraging because the approach has attracted resources from a variety of federal, state, and local agencies to undertake projects that reduce pollution and address other environmental concerns in the targeted communities.

In the East Baltimore EBD, retrofits to mass transit buses will reduce air emissions in a low-income area and daily emission exposure to residents. The Park Heights EBD created an enforcement initiative and public education campaign that will significantly reduce emissions from auto body shops operating in and near a residential area. The Prince George's EBD will monitor

air pollution levels, reduce truck traffic, facilitate school bus diesel retrofits, and potentially reduce exposure to students riding the buses in targeted communities outside of Washington, DC.

During an event in East Baltimore announcing the EBD effort, MDE secretary Kendl P. Philbrick stated that, "EBD is a way for government to be proactive in helping communities identify problems and find solutions, rather than leaving it to citizens to figure out who to call. It is also a way to make sure that government sets its priorities wisely and uses its resources efficiently."

Secretary Philbrick further noted that in targeting East Baltimore, the EBD program hopes to coordinate efforts by MDE and other state agencies to solve a range of environmental problems in local communities.

The EBD approach was further refined by the Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities (EJ Commission) and "field tested" during a series of listening sessions held in October and November 2003. Created in January 2001, the EJ Commission used a grant from EPA's Office of Environmental Justice to ask stakeholders and the general public whether it was making an impact on environmental justice issues in Maryland.

The EJ Commission hired Public Works Environmental Consulting, LLC to coordinate and report on four listening sessions in geographically diverse locations around the state (Baltimore, Cumberland, Landover, and Easton). EPA's Region 3, state legislators, private citizens, non-governmental organizations, and community-based organizations participated in the listening sessions and discussed sustainable economic growth, brownfield redevelopment programs, landfill operations, permit disputes, and sewage collection and treatment problems in low-income areas throughout the state.

"I think people were most intrigued because the EBD program provides incentives rather than disincentives to

address environmental justice issues," said Dr. Andrew Sawyers, MDE program administrator. "People said they liked the EBD approach because it might improve the environment in their community without scaring off new businesses," concluded Sawyers, who is also the principle MDE representative to the Environmental Justice Commission. One of Public Works' main recommendations to the Commission was to further refine the EBD approach and launch three new pilot projects this year. MDE and the Environmental Justice Commission are currently reviewing several potential EBD projects.

## About Listening Sessions

Over the past several years, the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) has actively worked with communities around the country to engage stakeholders dedicated to identifying and addressing their local environmental justice issues. This process has led many regions and states to hold public listening sessions similar to the Maryland sessions. These sessions provide an opportunity for residents to address ecological, economic, and social concerns in their communities. The sessions have been well attended and very positive, and have aided in initiating and supporting other successful programs.

For more information on the Maryland Listening Sessions or the Environmental Benefits Districts program, please contact **Dr. Andrew Sawyers at (410) 537-3411**.

# Collaborative Solutions Awarded With Cooperative Agreements

(Continued from page 1)

remedy the problem. Every organization will be assigned an OEJ technical advisor as well as a regional technical advisor. This CPS Team of EPA technical advisors and cooperative agreement recipients will meet via conference call once a month to assess the project's status and determine areas where the organizations need assistance. The first few months of the process will include building and bridging relationships.

EPA is optimistic about the program's potential for success. "The collaborative model is all about building relationships and leveraging partnerships to achieve results," says EPA's Marva King. "We're empowering a community to take action in a positive way. Communities have long had a sense of what the

problems are. Hopefully, we're assisting them with the tools to achieve some success in alleviating those concerns."

The projects also promise to have positive impacts beyond the affected community. The cooperative agreement process calls for the creation of case studies and best practices so that others can learn from these examples. One community's success will then serve as a model for others.

For more information on the CPS Program, contact EPA's **Marva King** at 202-564-2599 or via e-mail at [<king.marva@epa.gov>](mailto:king.marva@epa.gov). OEJ expects to conduct a second solicitation in FY 2005 if funds are available.

For a complete list of projects, see below.

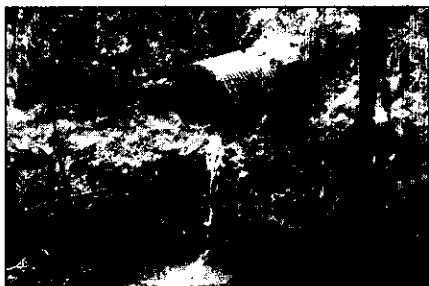
## Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Awards

### REGION 1

**Coalition for a Better Acre (CBA):**  
Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model

**Location:** Lowell, MA

**Project Description:** CBA will work with its partners to incorporate environmental and health considerations, and to involve disadvantaged communities into the decision-making process of the City of Lowell's Master Plan for housing redevelopment and revitalization. CBA will also work with community residents to encourage their use of natural, nontoxic cleaning products and practices to reduce exposure to lead paint and decrease the incidence of asthma.



**Pioneer Valley Project, Inc. (PVP):**  
Vietnamese Nail Salon Health Project

**Location:** Springfield, MA

**Project Description:** PVP will work with its partners to develop city and state regulations to protect and improve the health and safety of salon workers exposed to the hazardous chemicals found in nail care products. PVP will also work with nail care technicians to raise their awareness of best practices regarding the safe use of these products.

### REGION 2

**Make the Road by Walking (MRW):**

Bushwick Environment and Health Collaborative

**Location:** New York City, NY

**Project Description:** MRW and its partners will reexamine the environmental and health needs of Bushwick's low-income, predominantly Latino and African-American community. The project intends to increase community and government involvement by focusing on current community concerns that include high levels of lead in drinking water, rat infestation, and illegal pesticides.

**United Community Centers, Inc. (UCC):**

Environmental Justice in East New York

**Location:** New York City, NY

**Project Description:** UCC will create an Environmental Council, composed of its partners, to conduct air sampling tests in schools, apartments, and community locations to determine the extent of indoor and outdoor air pollution in the community. The Council will help the community educate themselves about asthma, asthma triggers and allergens, and what can be done to minimize or eliminate indoor air asthma triggers.

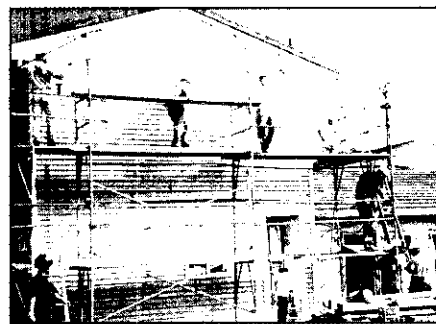
### REGION 3

**Baltimore Community for Environmental Justice (BCEJ):** Community Involvement in Urban Redevelopment

**Location:** Baltimore, MD

**Project Description:** BCEJ, with their partners, will train community block monitors to perform block assessments to minimize environmental and safety hazards

present during and after planned urban redevelopment activities. As part of the project, the partners will develop health education materials and presentations, and convene forums to be held in the community about environmental and public health issues.



**Hands Across the Mountain, Inc. (HAM):**  
Coal Country Water Quality and Environmental Justice Project

**Location:** Appalachia communities in VA

**Project Description:** HAM will work with a range of partners to identify and characterize the environmental and public health issues associated with straight pipe sewage and acid mine drainage. The organization will also educate the community residents about the environmental and health effects from these sources, and work to develop and implement the strategies necessary to successfully address these issues.

Continued on page 6

# Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Projects

(Continued from page 5)

## Park Reist Corridor Coalition, Inc.

**(PRCC):** Park Heights Environmental Justice: Creating a Model for Success

**Location:** Baltimore, MD

**Project Description:** PRCC, with its partners, will assist in the formation and support of a trade organization to represent the community's auto body shop owners in attaining regulatory compliance and understanding the impacts of their solid waste and air emissions practices. In addition, the project will utilize the city's master planning process to engage residents in an assessment of community environmental issues and resources for the positive development of the Park Heights community.



## Village of Arts and Humanities, Inc.

**(VAH):** Shared Prosperity Through Environmental Justice Initiative

**Location:** Philadelphia, PA

**Project Description:** VAH and its partners will engage communities in the cleanup and improvement of vacant lots into green spaces to improve Philadelphia's recycling rate and air quality.

## Washington Village/Pigtown Neighborhood Planning Council (WVPNPC):

**Operation:** Clean & Healthy Neighborhood

**Location:** Baltimore, MD

**Project Description:** WVPNPC in collaboration with its partners, will implement a sanitation campaign that will establish a sanitation workgroup, distribute a manual on proper trash disposal, offer residents information about free city transfer stations, and share information about cleanup efforts to reduce trash and create more green spaces throughout the community.

## REGION 4

**Fresh Ministries, Inc. (FM):** Community Centered Environmental Education & Cleanup in East Jacksonville, Florida

**Location:** Jacksonville, FL

**Project Description:** FM and its partners will utilize the Protocol For Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health (PACE EH) as a planning tool to assist in the assessment of the environmental and public health needs of the East Jacksonville community. Through a series of workshops, FM and its partners will educate the residents who have been affected by environmental exposures from industrial facilities close to their neighborhoods.

**Harambee House Inc. (HH):** From Assessment to Action: Hudson Hill Community

**Location:** Savannah, GA

**Project Description:** HH will collaborate with its partners to establish a process that includes a series of planning charettes, an intensive workshop where people come together to suggest solutions for complex planning issues. HH and its partners intend to empower the community and other stakeholders to design a Comprehensive Action Plan to address community health and environmental concerns associated with pollution from a neighboring paper plant.

**Jesus People Against Pollution (JPAP):** Community First—Building Bridges for Inclusion

**Location:** Columbia, MS

**Project Description:** JPAP will develop multi-stakeholder partnerships to formulate a "vision to action" for the impacted community. This vision will include an action plan for the possible relocation of 150 to 200 families who surround the site of a former chemical plant.

**West Anniston Foundation (WAF):**

**Health Education Coalition (HEC) Project**

**Location:** Anniston, AL

**Project Description:** WAF and its partners will form the Health Education Coalition. The Coalition will primarily focus on the development of a youth-driven, community-based video to educate the youth and community about PCB exposure under an overall health education agenda.

## West End Revitalization Association

**(WERA):** "Lack of Basic Amenities:" Links to Environmental and Health Disparities in Low-Income and Minority Communities

**Location:** Mebane, NC

**Project Description:** With its partners, WERA will develop a collaborative process that encourages measures for the installation of safe water and sewer services, the cleanup of toxic substance sites, and the improvement of air quality in Mebane's low-income communities and other comparable communities that do not have access to basic amenities. Grassroots training will assist residents in working collaboratively with local, state, and federal government officials.

## REGION 5

**People for Community Recovery, Inc.**

**(PCR):** Environmental Justice for Altgeld Gardens

**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Project Description:** PCR and its partners will create an Environmental Justice Research and Training Center that will provide skills development and job training to residents. The center will also serve as a hub for strategizing with a variety of stakeholders on the redevelopment of a "clean" industrial park and production of educational materials focusing on environmental health.



## West Michigan Environmental Action

**Council (WMEAC):** Community Organizing Project

**Location:** Grand Rapids, MI

**Project Description:** WMEAC, in collaboration with its partners, will build the capacity of citizen groups in order to develop and implement a "peer to peer"



(Continued from page 6)

training curriculum on lead awareness. Participation in the development of the curriculum will provide a practical and important opportunity for the citizen groups to help shape a proactive response to the issue of lead within their communities.

## REGION 6

**Colonias Unidas (CU):** Community Solid Waste Management Project

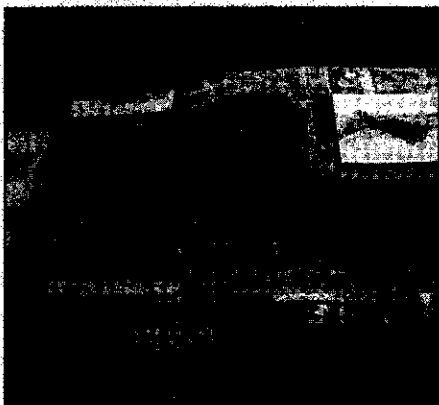
**Location:** Las Lomas, TX

**Project Description:** CU, along with its partners, will establish a program, "Colonias Limpias," to address the problem of solid waste disposal in the predominantly poor, Spanish-speaking population and work for solutions. The program will produce a report on city and county waste management practices and foster community involvement to conduct cleanup efforts. Collaboration results are expected to bring effective ideas for new relationships that will support the revitalization of Colonias.

**Louisiana Environmental Justice Project (LEJP):** New Orleans Lead Education and Advocacy Development (NO LEAD) Capacity Building Project

**Location:** New Orleans, LA

**Project Description:** LEJP and its partners will establish a lead assessment program to provide information that will be used to develop Pre-Apprentice and Math Tutorial programs which will involve the community's young adults in the renovation of homes with lead hazards.



**Mothers for Clean Air (MfCA):**

Improving Environmental Quality Through Collaboration: Reducing Exposure of SE Houston Residents

**Location:** Houston, TX

**Project Description:** MfCA will collaborate with local governments, universities, citizen organizations, elected officials, and indus-

tries to reduce risk exposure from air pollution. Southeast Houston residents will develop a "Citizens Air Quality Tool Kit" for participants in a community-based air sampling program that will identify pollutants of concern and provide an aid to regulatory agencies.

## REGION 7

**Neighbors Assisting Neighbors (NAN):**

Mid-County Community Clean Sweep

**Location:** St. Louis, MO

**Project Description:** NAN, along with its partners, will develop the Mid-County Community Clean Sweep project to coordinate 10 cleanup efforts throughout the community targeting solid waste removal along river beds, on vacant lots, in alleys, on problem properties, and in common areas, improving the area's environmental outlook and promoting reuse and recycling through cleanup campaigns.

**Oak Grove Neighborhood Association**

**(OGNA):** Back to the Park: Collaborative Problem-Solving in the Oak Grove Community

**Location:** Kansas City, KS

**Project Description:** OGNA and its partners will create the "John Garland Park Task Force" to organize the necessary stakeholders in the community-driven redevelopment initiative and to monitor progress toward the goal of reopening the John Garland Park, a redeveloped landfill in the Oak Grove neighborhood that was closed in the late 1980's due to environmental concerns related to gas venting and water contamination.

## REGION 8

**Bessemer Association for Neighborhood Development (BAND):**

Bessemer/Salt Creek Neighborhoods Environmental Health Initiative

**Location:** Bessemer and Salt Creek, CO

**Project Description:** BAND will work with its partnering communities and other stakeholders to identify the range of environmental and public health issues facing the communities. This collaboration will prioritize the issues and select one or two issues to address with the other project partners.

**Groundwork Denver, Inc. (GD):**

The EJ Outreach Partnership

**Location:** Denver, CO

**Project Description:** GD and its partners will establish "Centro de Salud Ambiental," a virtual center for environmental health that will provide environmental and health information to residents and create new

impetus for problem resolutions in this diverse, Spanish-speaking community. The project aims to build powerful relationships by encouraging and interacting with local government and businesses.

## REGION 9

**Anahola Homesteaders Council (AHC):**

Project Imua

**Location:** Kauai, HI

**Project Description:** AHC will work with its partners and the local community to develop a Community Plan as a means of engaging in discussions with state and municipal officials. The environmental and public health issues to be addressed through site cleanup and redevelopment include water pollution and soil contamination, as well as socioeconomic issues in Anahola.



**Coalition for West Oakland Revitalization (CWOR):** Neighborhood Environmental Indicators Project

**Location:** West Oakland, CA

**Project Description:** CWOR, in conjunction with its partners, will develop an Environmental Justice Resource Center that will provide access to informational materials and environmental indicator reports to educate residents on air quality issues facing the community.

**Marin County Grassroots Leadership Network (MCGLN):**

Marin Community Collaborative Project

**Location:** Marin City and San Rafael, CA

**Project Description:** MCGLN, in collaboration with its partners, will develop a community action plan to mitigate cancer risk factors identified by a hands-on study project on the incidence of cancer in the Canal and Marin City neighborhoods. The project will be facilitated by experienced consultants and will involve different activities including leadership training for community members.

*Continued on back page*

# Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Projects

(Continued from page 7)

**Pacoima Beautiful (PB):** Pacoima Lead Poisoning Prevention Community Program

**Location:** Los Angeles, CA

**Project Description:** PB, along with its partners, will produce and distribute a report on the findings from health care provider and housing surveys. The report will advocate for more lead control and increase community capacity of residents to access educational and screening services regarding lead hazards in Pacoima. The project will encourage a long-term, multi-partnership engagement to support community health revitalization.

## REGION 10

**Community Coalition for Environmental Justice (CCEJ):** Health and Environmental Collaborative Project

**Location:** Seattle, WA

**Project Description:** CCEJ, in conjunction with its partners, will create an action plan that will enhance communication, outreach, and education regarding air

quality issues in three disproportionately impacted neighborhoods. Activities will include the development of reports and fact sheets, and the creation of a handbook for environmental health specialists and educators.

**Indochinese Cultural and Service Center (ICSC):** Asian Pacific Islander Environmental Awareness Project

**Location:** Pierce County, WA

**Project Description:** ICSC will work with its partners to establish state and local government policies and procedures for beach monitoring. The project will also produce a beach closure management plan that can be replicated and can successfully reach out to communities with limited English proficiency. ICSC will also work with partners to raise the Asian and Pacific Islander communities' awareness of safe and sustainable shellfish harvesting.

**Environmental Justice Action Group**

**(EJAG):** Build Collaborative Group to Address EJ Issues in Northern Sector of Portland to Improve Air Quality

**Location:** Portland, OR

**Project Description:** EJAG and its partners will establish the "Portland Northern Neighborhoods Air Quality Coalition" to investigate and implement sustainable solutions to eliminate the disproportionate air pollution problems faced by residents caused by diesel fuel emissions. The process will include the creation of a video and community-based education program to increase understanding of air quality issues, the health impacts on the community and the sustainable solutions.

United States  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202) 204-6000  
Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300  
EPA-300-N-04-006  
September 2004

