

LETTER FROM CO-CHAIRS ON CELEBRATING 10 YEARS





DEAR CJA FAMILY,
WE KNOW THAT LAST
YEAR WAS OUR TEN YEAR
ANNIVERSARY, BUT WE
CAN'T HELP OURSELVES
AND WANT TO KEEP THE
CELEBRATION ALIVE!

we take stock of how far we've come – thanks to the brilliance, courage and commitment of our 88 member organizations throughout Turtle Island and beyond – we also remind ourselves of the big task ahead and what's at stake. Our team has put together this video to commemorate our first in-person member convening since the pandemic, hosted by Kheprw Institute in Indianapolis, where we began envisioning another decade of frontline power.

The consequences of policies and practices of extraction, whether that be here at home in frontline communities or abroad in places like Palestine, are clear and remind us just how important it is to engage in principled struggle with love and bravery. Ecological and climate justice is needed now more than ever.

When CJA was formed, we aimed to change the center of gravity around the climate change debate from a traditional nature-based concept of environment to one that was grounded in environmental justice, honoring Mother Earth and all her creatures. For 10 years we've worked to bring forward just policies, projects and funding that levels the playing field and centers the frontline and stopping the harmful practice of sacrifice zones; and we've had big success. We have shifted the narrative: environmental justice communities, climate justice and Just Transition are now seen as critical components to any serious climate policy. But the fight is just beginning.

We hope you'll join us this year, as we celebrate a decade of living our power by recommiting alongside us to resist, rebuild and reconnect through operationalizing Just Transitions and implementing policies that move us away from our outdated extractive economic model riddled with false promises and corporate scams and towards a truly just one based in principles of ecological justice, well-being, and deep solidarity.

With love,
Mateo Nube & Elizabeth Yeampierre
CJA's Board Co-Chairs

CELEBRATING 107EARS OF OUR POWER



Photo by Simoné Walls

ENJOY CJA'S MEMBER CONVENING VIDEO

(BY CLICKING ON THE PHOTO ABOVE)



"IT'S BEEN AN EXCITING YEAR

as we have deployed \$1.5 Million into Regenerative Economy projects and secured \$2 Million dollars!"





"WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY

from relying on the Seed Commons to do all our lending to now doing the hard work of creating our own infrastructure to take capital and finance our members' projects. It's a lot of work but this will have a long term impact on the resources that our communities will have at their disposal to build the new. We are looking at a time line of not years but decades to come in both the lending processes and lifetime of the projects."

-LUPE ROMERO, CO-DIRECTOR REINVEST IN OUR POWER



"I AM REALLY PROUD OF OUR PACIFIC MEMBERS

in the Marianas for hosting an international gathering that **CJA** proudly supported. Over the course of 2 days, grassroots leaders from Guam, the US, Japan and New Zealand developed a declaration with specific calls to action that was presented at the **United Nations COP28** supported by the Tishman Center and CJA."





"I'VE BEEN SO EXCITED TO SEE THE GROWTH OF CJA'S

regional work. Our three regional organizers came in at the beginning of the year ready to go – from supporting regional trainings in Buffalo to recruiting more members in the South and Micronesia – they've been building relationships and capacity. It's inspiring to see members strategize and contest for power together for climate justice on state and regional scales."

-CHLO HENSON, INTERIM SR. REGIONAL ORGANIZING MANAGER



"CJA MEMBERS HAVE BEEN SHOWING UP AND FLEXIN'

our power federally to interrupt the Biden Administration's promotion of false solutions. Because of the direct efforts of CJA members commenting during the June White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council (WHEJAC) meeting on the dangers of CCUS and hydrogen, the WHEJAC published a report in September condemning these false solutions."





"THRILLED THAT THE JUST TRANSITION FINANCE TRAINING WAS LITERALLY

my introduction to working with CJA, as it was my first week with the org. I'm proud that the relationships started and rekindled during the Just Transition Finance Training '23 allowed me to hit the ground running and continue with the work of Lupe and Dom, the previous project stewards."





OF OUR POWER

"IN MY SHORT TIME AT CJA, IT'S BEEN REALLY GRATIFYING

to see how much everyone genuinely cares about our membership. It's unfortunate to have seen so many climate disasters affecting our communities this year but I'm proud to have seen the whole staff mobilize during these by checking in on our membership in the affected areas. I'm also proud to have seen our fearless co-executive directors make quick decisions in order to provide rapid response funding to the organizations affected."





"I'M MOST PROUD OF OUR EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN

Coal Ash Regulation Rules at the EPA. This work was member led, taking the direction of Just Transition NW Indiana as we got other environmental justice localities involved during the summer hearings in Chicago. It was beautiful to see our translocal organizing in practice, with members facing the same issues in their own communities coming together to shift federal regulations that impact us all."





"OUR TIME WITH THE CJA MEMBERSHIP IN INDIANAPO-LIS WAS SO BEAUTIFUL!

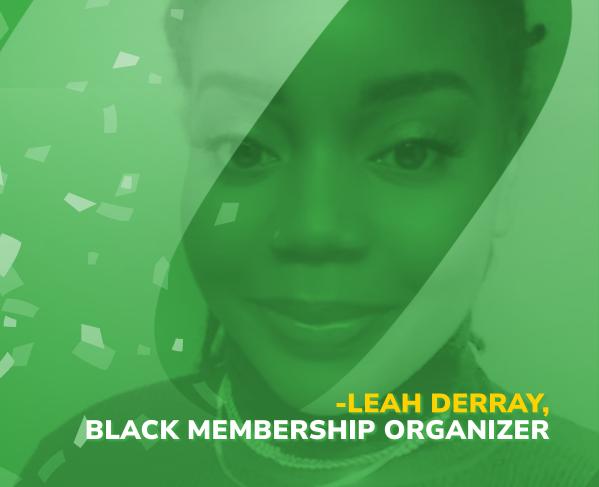
The space felt like an embodiment of the world we're seeking to build together. We worked together outside to clear garden beds, painted murals, enjoyed good food, and learned from one another in workshop and plenary sessions. I felt so proud of our planning team for bringing the logistics and program together, and so lucky to spend the time onsite learning from the wisdom of Kheprw Institute and our membership."





"I AM SO HAPPY THAT I GOT TO JOIN CJA AS THE

Black Caucus organizer. This year the Black Caucus was able to premiere our first documentary and I am so honored that I got a chance to be a part of that."





"AS A FUNDRAISER I WILL ALWAYS BE PROUD OF THE

regrants CJA awards to members and other formations that traditionally have trouble accessing foundation dollars. In FY22-23 alone our regranting to grassroots totalled \$3.69 million."





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10YEARS
OF OUR POWER