



**Ms. Kimberly Wasserman, Coordinator
Little Village Environmental Justice Or-
ganization (LVEJO)
Chicago, Illinois**

Ms. Kimberly Wasserman is the Coordinator of Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO) in Chicago, Illinois and was the recipient of the 2013 North American Goldman Environmental Prize for her grassroots environmental work.

Chicago's southwest side was home to two of the nation's oldest and dirtiest coal-fired power plants—the Fisk and Crawford plants, owned by Midwest Generation. Just a few hundred feet away from the Crawford plant is the vibrant and diverse community of Little Village, a small but densely populated neighborhood of some 100,000 residents, mostly Latino families and children who were suffering high rates of asthma, bronchitis, and a slew of other respiratory illnesses.

Kimberly Wasserman, a Chicana born and raised in Little Village who lived in a house not a mile away from the Crawford plant. In 1998, then a single mother, she rushed her 3-month-old baby to the hospital when he started gasping for air. According to the doctors, her son had suffered an asthma attack, which she later found out, had been triggered by environmental pollution. Fired up from this experience, the community organizer for the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO) began going to door to door talking to families in the neighborhood who were dealing with similar problems. Wasserman worked with other local community-based organizations to form a strategic alliance with faith, health, labor, and environmental groups and reached out to local policymakers. Her leadership and community work led to the shutdown of both plants in the fall of 2012.



Ms. Leslie Fields, Esq.
Director, Environmental Justice Program
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Leslie G. Fields is the Director of the Environmental Justice Program for the Sierra Club. She is also an adjunct professor at Howard University School of Law. She formerly served as International Director of Friends of the Earth-U.S., and has worked with community groups, nonprofits, the private sector and all levels of government. She focuses on the intersection of environmental justice, environmental law and policy democracy, corporate and civic governance and globalization. Fields serves on the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies' Commission to Engage African Americans on Climate Change, the boards of Adeso Africa Solutions and the Children's' Environmental Health Network. Fields is a graduate of Cornell University and the Georgetown University Law Center.



Dr. Jalonne L. White-Newsome, Federal Policy Analyst
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Dr. Jalonne L. White-Newsome is a Federal Policy Analyst for WE ACT staffing their DC Legislative office. In this capacity, she engages in advocacy and education to ensure an environmental justice perspective is included in legislative and regulatory conversations on multiple environmental issues. She also coordinates a national coalition of environmental justice leaders called the Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change. Jalonne completed a post doctoral fellowship in climate and health with the Union of Concerned Scientists and continues to engage in research. She is currently an adjunct professor at Kettering University, and a Professorial Lecturer at The George Washington University. Jalonne holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University and a master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Southern Methodist University, and a PhD in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.