

Happy March! Please find our newsletter below.

[View this email in your browser](#)



Voices for Earth Justice Welcomes Bianca!



Voices is excited to welcome Bianca Danzy to our team as our new Garden Manager!

Bianca is a proud graduate of the Earthworks Agricultural Training program as well as a current participant in the acclaimed Detroit Urban Roots training program. This unapologetically Black activist is a loving wife to her supportive husband, and doting mother to all of her phenomenal children.

Bianca and her family are vegan, and take tremendous pride in cultivating organic crops. Moreover, Bianca enjoys discovering new recipes that showcase

the beauty and flavor of locally grown produce. Her passion for pursuing a plant based sustenance for her and her family inspired Bianca to establish her catering business - aptly named "Real food. by Bianca". In addition to striving to nourish her body, spirit, and community with healthy food, Bianca engages in a variety of social justice initiatives in Detroit including playing an active role at her childrens' schools and the Detroit Urban Growers group. She truly brings a wealth of knowledge, skills, love, and energy to our organization. Welcome Bianca!

VEJ Garden Looking Forward to Spring



Winter Holds Steady as we prepare for Spring Activities

March is here, and Spring is right around the corner. With a new garden manager, a new website in the works, and lots of other plans for our property on Greydale St., 2016 is poised to be an exciting year for Voices for Earth Justice. Volunteer days will start soon and we look forward to hosting you at Hope House and other events around the city. Please consider [donating](#) to support our efforts to expand our vegetable garden.



Naim and Rich get some exercise shovelling snow around Hope House.

Spreading Pope Francis' Message: Integral Ecology



In 2015 Pope Francis released "Laudato Si" ("Praise be") a call to dialog for all

people concerned about the world that we will leave our children. The central teaching in this encyclical is integral ecology, the interrelatedness of all species, our common origin and destiny. Staff and volunteers at Voices for Earth Justice have been busy sharing the message of Laudato Si. Sr. Pat Benson OP has conducted two 3 week classes, one on the west side and one on the east side with over 40 people participating. Carol Hofer and Sr. Janet Stankowski OP recently presented to the League of Catholic Women.

Coming up, Patty Gillis will speak about Laudato Si on Earth Day, Friday, April 22nd at Corpus Christi church, at the corner of Evergreen and Pembroke in northwest Detroit, at 7 PM. The address is 19000 Pembroke, Detroit 48219. For more information, or to schedule a presentation with your group, please call 248-351-9001.

For quotes, outlines, study guides and movies about "Laudato Si", go to the Catholic Climate Covenant: www.catholicclimatecovenant.org You can measure your carbon footprint at this site, as well as sign up for weekly updates.

VEJ Visits Murphy Performance Academy



VEJ Outreach Coordinator, Naim Edwards, spent the last day of Black History Month at Murphy Performance Academy. He taught the students songs about

water and housing justice from the [Flowtown Revue Choir](#). The choir is a part of the [People's Water Board](#), one of our partner organizations.

Naim taught two songs to third to eighth grade and also gave a Black History lesson on the Jackson 5. The lesson emphasized how a group of young black children (boys) revolutionized music here in Detroit with a combination of passion, talent, and support from adults and family. We look forward to working more with this local school in the future!

Thank you to our contributors!

We are grateful to our supporters, and will begin recognizing those who gave each month in our newsletter. Below is a list of donors from October 1st to December 31st, 2015:

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We need money for plants, garden equipment, and other materials for projects at Hope House. Click the PayPal button below or visit voices4earth.org/donate to make your contribution. Thank you!



Save the Date: Earth Day 2016



Voices is excited to be partnering with the Food Warriors youth program of the [Detroit Black Community Food Security Network](#) for a special Earth Day program this year. The Food Warriors will be hosting the event at Timbuktu Academy, 10800 E Canfield St, Detroit, MI 48214 on **Thursday, April 21 from 4-5:30 pm**. Mark your calendars, and we hope to see you there!

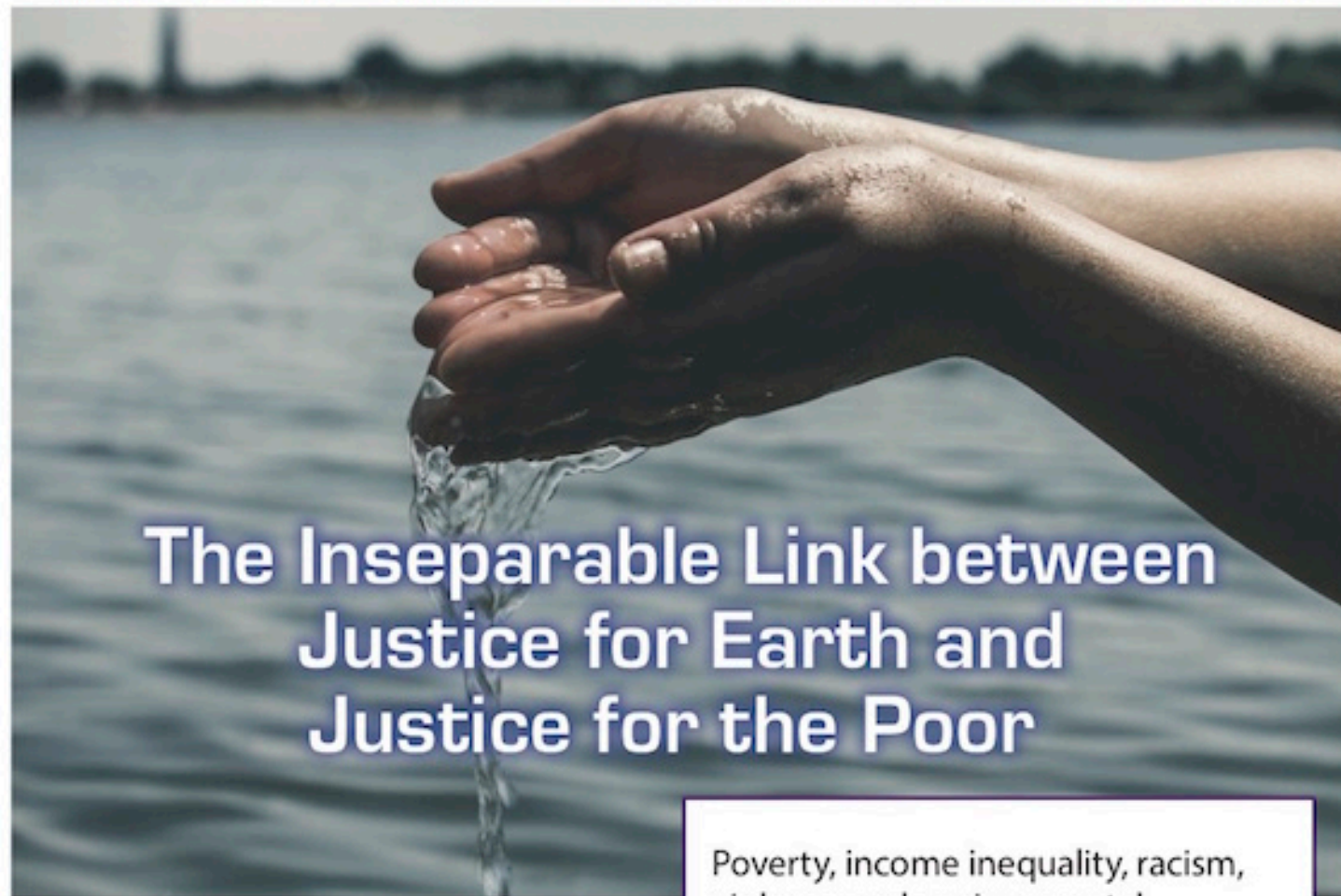
Photo: youngsters plant a tree at VEJ's 2014 Earth Day event

Upcoming Event: It's All Connected **The Inseparable Link Between Justice for Earth and Justice for the Poor**

Thursday, March 10 from 6-8pm at Marygrove College. See below flyer for details:

It's All Connected

It's All Connected!



The Inseparable Link between Justice for Earth and Justice for the Poor

**Thursday, March 10
6-8 p.m.**

**Denk Chapman Hall
Marygrove College
8425 W. McNichols
Detroit, MI 48221**



IHM sisters
MONROE · MICHIGAN

Deep Faith. Courageous Spirit. Action for Justice.



Poverty, income inequality, racism, violence and environmental degradation are not separate problems. Developing and acting out of a true “ecological consciousness” means recognizing the connection between oppressive economic, social and environmental systems and considering the economic, environmental, and social impacts of our actions.

Join economist **Amata Miller, IHM**, **Linda Campbell** (of the Detroit People’s Platform) and **Malik Yakini** (founder and executive director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network) as they explore these connections.

Light refreshments will be provided.
Free-will offering; open to the public.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Walters, IHM, at 313-204-6350 or ewalters@ihmsisters.org.



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