



CLIMATE
CORPS

Local Solutions to Global Climate Change



Fellowship Projects

LADWP Community Outreach Partnerships Grant Program

Through the LADWP Community Outreach Partnerships Grant program, grants are awarded to local non-profit organizations to improve energy efficiency and water conservation in underrepresented communities via community outreach, research, and public education

My role included assisting our Outreach Program Coordinator, Gabriel Varela, at outreach events to point community members towards actionable solutions that can be implemented in their own homes through LADWP programs and rebates. Community members were also educated on climate action tools and projects implemented in Los Angeles to enhance local climate resilience.



Addressing Transit Access and Heat in Canoga Park

Under the funding of the California Department of Transportation and the City of LA, StreetsLA, Alta Planning + Design, and Climate Resolve are developing and implementing a framework to mitigate the climate change threat of heat burden in the working-class community of Canoga Park. The project area is within a ½ mile radius around the MTA Orange Line (Bus Rapid Transit) Sherman Way Station. The framework's design aims to improve biking and walking safety, reduce heat and its impacts, capture and manage water, and provide community amenities, such as public art installations, street furniture, and wayfinding signs.

My role included performing initial research on the proposed adaptation strategies, including: cool pavements, shade structures, landscaping, stormwater retention, and water systems. I also assisted in outreach to ensure that community input was incorporated into the project's framework.

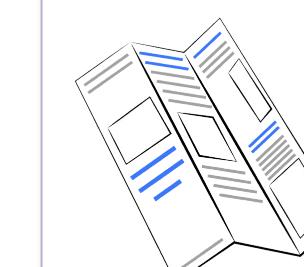
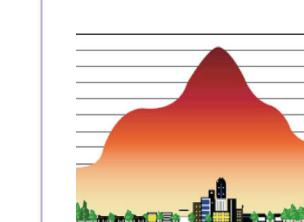


Achievements

LADWP Outreach and Community Partnerships Program

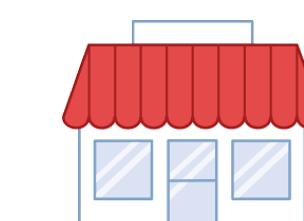
Attended **10** tabling events to spark conversations with respect to Urban Heat Island and its impacts, as well as practical solutions at the individual level

Connected **1099** community members to resources available to help reduce the impacts of climate change in their neighborhoods



Addressing Transit Access and Heat in Canoga Park

Helped collect **203** surveys from community members to incorporate personal experiences and feedback into design options



Assisted with outreach to **109** businesses to build relationships with important community stakeholders



Supported logistics for **2** presentations to teenage/young adult groups

Fellowship Experience

My fellowship experience at Climate Resolve has given me the following takeaways:

- Persistence is key:** Rejection is typical in the world of outreach and it's important to be aware of its commonality. However, for every "no," there will eventually be a "yes," so you just have to be patient and motivated.
- Project management:** As we progressed through the milestones of projects, it was important to prioritize tasks properly. Knowing how to compartmentalize work time while keeping track of the big picture is a great skill to practice thoroughly.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions:** Contributing to a variety of projects involves interacting with diverse people who may have different work styles. The capability of not only being flexible but also not hesitating to clarify unclear matters is valuable.



Destiny Johnson

Destiny is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles where she received a B.S. in Environmental Science with a concentration in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences. She is passionate about contributing to environmental solutions and aims to pursue a career in research in water chemistry/water quality analysis to improve the standard of living in underdeveloped countries.

Acknowledgements



A very special thanks to my site supervisor, Kristina von Hoffman, for her constant support and guidance and for being a model inspiration throughout the course of my fellowship. Much thanks and appreciation to Natalie Hernandez, Gabriel Varela, David John Bier, Jonathan Parfrey, Bryn Lindblad, Thelma Briseño, Woodrow Covington, Alexandra Jackson, Seth Jacobson, and Bailey Hall.