

### Mission

Our mission is to empower emerging leaders from historically excluded backgrounds in science and academia to reimagine solutions for a just and healthy planet.

AGENTS OF CHANGE

https://agentsofchangeinej.org/

## Agents of Change in Environmental Justice Staff and Sponsors



Ami Zota, ScD, MS Program Director



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#### PROBLEM: THE CULTURE OF SCIENCE IS ROOTED IN EUROCENTRIC, WHITE, PATRIARCHAL SYSTEMS

- Fosters structural racism and sexism in academic and scientific institutions
- Impacts the type of science being conducted
- **Contributes** to scientific and medical mistrust in society
- Does not fulfill the "Science-Society" contract

Science Must be for Everyone. *Scientific American* August 2021 https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/science-must-be-for-everyone/# SOLUTION: AMPLIFY NEGLECTED VOICES IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE SCIENCES AND HELP FOSTER A NEW GENERATION OF MORE DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE THOUGHT LEADERS



Cultivate new environmental justice leaders

Increase environmental justice literacy among STEM students

## Agents of Change in Environmental Justice



Inject new ideas in environmental health and climate fields

Make scientific information more accessible to marginalized communities

A joint initiative between GW Milken School of Public Health and Environmental Health News

# Fellows at a Glance

31 doctoral students, postdocs, and early career scientists

From marginalized backgrounds including firstgeneration college graduates; individuals from communities of color; and individuals with disabilities.



#### Muldisciplinary scholars

- Environmental health
- Epidemiology
- Community health
- Chemistry
- Urban planning
- Medicine
- Sociology
- Engineering
- Education
- Ecology
- Nutrition
- Microbiology

# FELLOWSHIP STRUCTURE

- 9 month fellowship; co-led by Dr. Zota (GW SPH) and Brian Bienkowski (Environmental Health News)
- Fellowship requirements:
  - Write a first-person narrative essay
  - Participate in the Agents of Change podcast, and attend monthly, virtual meetings,
  - Produce an episode of the Agents of Change podcast in collaboration with another fellow.
  - Develop a science translation product focused on educating community groups or policy makers on a particular issue, in collaboration with other fellows.

#### Eligibility Criteria for 2022-2023 Agents of Change Fellows

- Pursuing scientific work that advances environmental public health, environmental justice, or ecosystem/climate health and justice.
- **Early career scientist** defined as a current doctoral student, medical student, or postdoctoral scientist or an early career practitioner defined as someone working in advocacy, government, research, or private sector for < 5 years since terminal degree
- From marginalized backgrounds and/or populations underrepresented in science and academia. Examples of eligible individuals include but are not limited to: first-generation college graduates; individuals from lower socioeconomic backgrounds; individuals from communities of color; and individuals with disabilities.
- Based in the United States; applicants do not need to be US citizens

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS IS NOW OPEN!

Do you find that public voices in science are lacking diversity & want to help create change?

Apply now: https://agentsofchangeinej.org/application/

Deadline: April 15, 2022



## Join The Conversation

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