



LOUISIANA
**BUCKET
BRIGADE**
Clean Air. Justice. Sustainability.



2022 IMPACT REPORT



A photograph of a fishing boat, likely a shrimp trawler, with its complex rigging and nets visible. A white banner is draped across the side of the boat. The banner has the text "More LNG ? NO FRACKING WAY SAVE THE GULF" written on it in black, hand-painted letters. The boat is on the water, and the background is a hazy, overcast sky.

More LNG ? NO FRACKING WAY
SAVE THE GULF

Louisiana is worth more than being the dumping ground for every major polluter on the planet. As we take the first steps to develop a strong economy, we will continue to protect our home.

LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Anne Rolfes



In 2022, our six years of work in St. James Parish paid off. While Formosa Plastics is not dead yet, the legal and public relations setbacks we've created have left its future in doubt. In partnership with RISE St. James and Inclusive Louisiana, we have soundly defeated Wanhua Chemical, South Louisiana Methanol and the expansion of Nucor Steel.

These victories take on greater significance given St. James Parish's role as an epicenter of a planned petrochemical onslaught in our state; industry and our state government have a plan to build or expand 111 new

facilities in the next decade. But we are stopping them, thanks to the support of our community partners and donors.

We invite you to continue to support us or to join us for the first time. You can help connect us with decision makers, funding sources, researchers, journalists or people who have technical skills that we can put to use. Protecting our state from the petrochemical industry and pivoting to something different will take all of us.

We are grateful for all you have made possible in the past year. Read on to learn what we have done together.

ST. JAMES PARISH MILESTONES

- Our Title VI Civil Rights complaint (thank you Tulane Environmental Law Clinic!) resulted in the Environmental Protection Agency taking unprecedented action. Its Civil Rights Division is addressing systemic racism within the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ).
- For the first time ever, a Louisiana judge (Honorable Tracy White) reversed a permitting decision by revoking the LDEQ's issuance of Formosa air permits.

STATUS OF FACILITIES THREATENING ST. JAMES PARISH

- ✓ **Formosa Plastics Sunshine Project, *stalled* since 2020**
- ✓ **South Louisiana Methanol, *stopped*, 2022**
- ✓ **Nucor Steel Expansion, *stopped*, 2021**
- ✓ **Wanhua, *stopped*, 2019**





FORMOSA PLASTICS

FROM SURE THING TO SHAKY GROUND

When the Governor of Louisiana announced plans for Formosa Plastics in the spring of 2018, the idea that we could beat it was an audacious one. Company representatives were regularly in the parish flattering public officials, even speaking at a Black history month event.

But we knew better. By the time Formosa got to town, we had been collaborating with St. James residents for two years. We had built a powerful foundation and the confidence that, despite daunting odds, we could work with St. James residents to help them

protect their homes and our state. Formosa Plastics is on pause today due to a judge's ruling and action by the Army Corps of Engineers. In the heat of the battle, when Formosa looked unstoppable, we were in St. James Parish several times each week. We spoke every day with our community partners and engaged technical experts - a civil rights lawyer, cartographer, drone operator and many others. We hounded the media to cover the story, flipping what looked like a sure thing into a controversial project.

We are worth more than being the dumping ground for every major polluter on the planet. Louisiana deserves better, and stopping terrible ideas like Formosa Plastics is the first step to getting there.

OUR WORK BY THE NUMBERS

125+

**MEDIA STORIES
REGARDING OUR
WORK**

5,714

**LETTERS SENT TO
BIDEN ADMINISTRATION
TO HALT GAS EXPORTS**

11

**PRESS CONFERENCES FEATURING
COMMUNITY LEADERS**

100+

**MEETINGS WITH OUR PARTNERS
IN THEIR COMMUNITIES**

21

**MEDIA
BRIEFINGS**

\$1M

**RAISED FOR GRASSROOTS ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE PARTNERS THROUGH REGRANTS AND/
OR GRANT WRITING SUPPORT FROM OUR
GRANTS MANAGER**

66

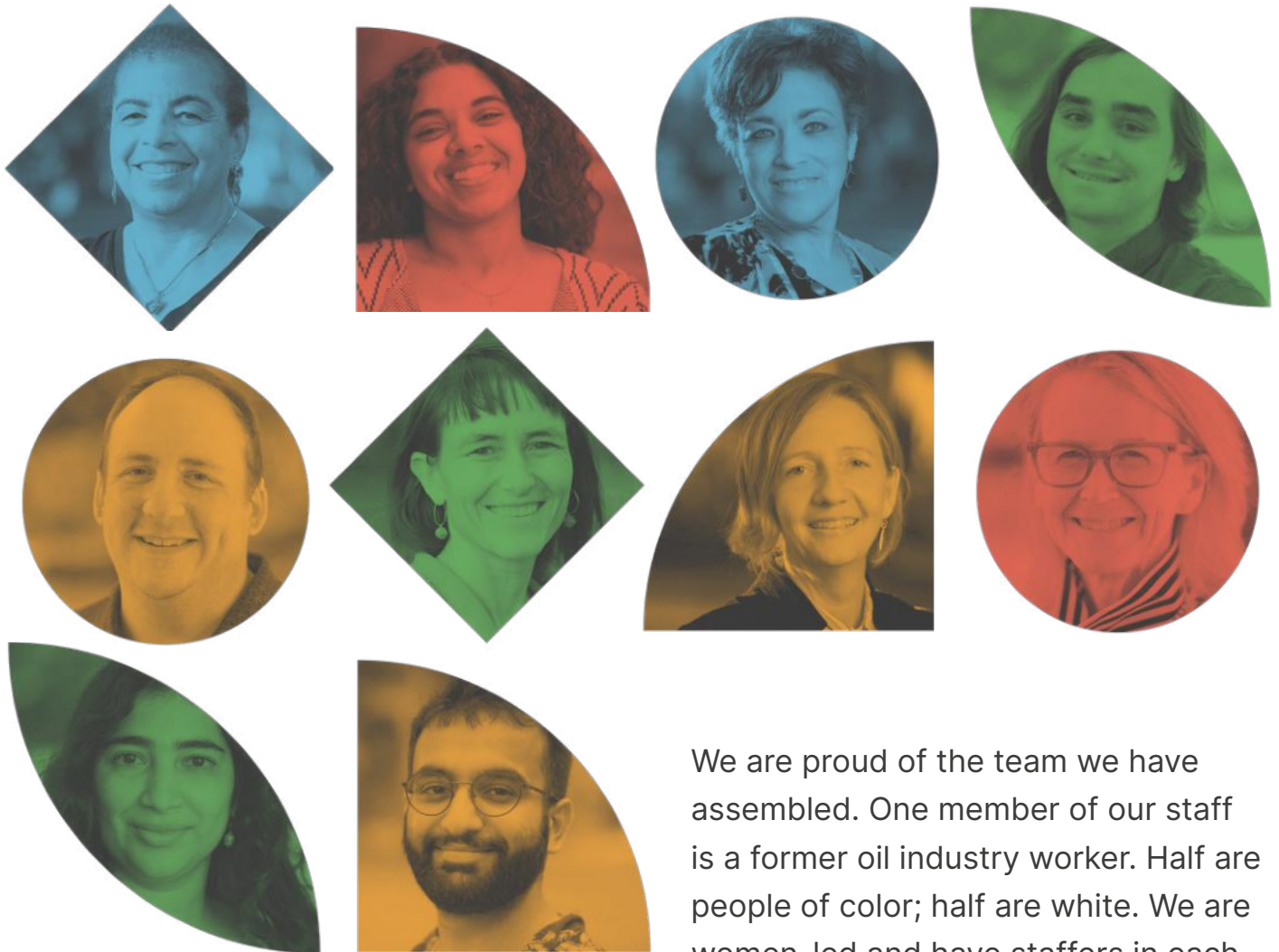
**RIDERS BIKED CANCER ALLEY TO LEARN ABOUT
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE HISTORY WITH OUR
DOWN BY THE RIVER BIKE RIDE**

2,000

**CONVERSATIONS ABOUT GAS EXPORTS IN THE GULF WHILE
CANVASSING THE DELAWARE COAST IN BIDEN'S VACATION
TOWN OF REHOBOTH BEACH.**

6

**CAMERON PARISH SHRIMP BOATS THAT SAILED OUTSIDE THE
GLOBAL GAS EXPORT SUMMIT IN LAKE CHARLES WITH THIS
MESSAGE: "WE WON'T TAKE THE BAIT. LNG OUT OF OUR STATE!"**



MEET OUR DEDICATED STAFF

We are proud of the team we have assembled. One member of our staff is a former oil industry worker. Half are people of color; half are white. We are women-led and have staffers in each generation, with some in their 20s, others in their 60s and every decade in between. Six were born and raised in Louisiana, and four bring us wisdom and energy from other parts of the U.S. All are playing our part in moving this critical work forward.

(Staff left to right: Lenora, Dana, Hope, Jack, James, Susan, Anne, Lou, Sheila, and Shreyas.)

A woman with curly hair, wearing a denim jacket, looking down at papers. The image is overlaid with a green filter.

“

Louisiana Bucket Brigade has been with us from the beginning of our fight, offering support and taking part in our community actions. They've connected us to and contributed resources that have been instrumental in our mission to protect our community and grow sustainable and equitable career options.

Joy Banner,
Co-Founder of The Descendants Project



BEHIND THE SCENES OF A BUCKET BRIGADE CAMPAIGN

Our role in any campaign involves throwing wrenches in the constantly shifting plans of petrochemical companies. To illustrate this point, look at the campaign to stop South Louisiana Methanol (SLM). This expansion proposed adding five methanol storage tanks and an entire marine loading dock that would have surrounded Welcome

Park, the only park in St. James 5th District. After neighbors alerted Ms. Sharon Lavigne and RISE St. James, we brought in our cartographer Justin Kray, who worked with our legal team to document how the permit changes violated the Parish's land use plan. Armed with this information, community members showed up at every Parish Council meeting. This grassroots opposition influenced the council's decision not to change the land use designation and thus reject SLM's rezoning request.

STRATEGIC MEDIA: OUR APPROACH

Since 2000, our media work has resulted in over 2,000 TV stories, radio pieces, newspaper articles, magazine profiles, online profiles, books and documentaries. We continue to develop new strategies to engage the media, creating more opportunities for Louisiana frontline voices.

POTUS PAYS ATTENTION TO LOCAL NEWS OUTLETS

When we were developing our gas export media strategy, we knew we had to take our message straight to President Biden. That's why we spent six weeks in his vacation town of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Equally important was getting articles and TV segments in local media outlets. While he and his advisors may read the *Washington Post*, the President is known to pick up the local paper and watch the Delaware news station. So we targeted the Delaware press. The result? The story of gas export terminals in Louisiana was the headline in the *Cape Gazette* on the weekend he visited.

SOME STORIES ARE BEST TOLD FROM A BIRD'S EYE VIEW.

This spring, we collaborated with Southwings to take journalists on a flight above the Southwest Louisiana coastline. This perspective was critical to relaying both the immense scale of the gas export infrastructure as well as the threat that these facilities pose to our vulnerable coast.

KEEPING THE FRONTLINES IN THE HEADLINES

In early spring 2022, we met John Allaire, a retired oil and gas industry engineer whose home is adjacent to the Venture Global Calcasieu Pass LNG site and next to the proposed Commonwealth LNG site in Cameron Parish. It has been invaluable to find an impacted community member who has an insider's perspective and is so firmly against industry. We featured John's documentation of flares in our gas export report and showcased him in commercials, op-eds, and media tours.

"With my home under threat from the LNG export buildout, I cannot thank LABB enough for their support in helping me protect our irreplaceable coastal resources" — John Allaire



LEVERAGING THE NEWS CYCLE

When Russia invaded Ukraine in early 2022, we worked quickly to counter industry's false narrative and relay the facts: ramping up gas exports from our coast is not a stable, long term solution to Europe's energy crisis. . We were prepared because we had already developed a monthly media briefing series, *Gas Export Today*, to focus on the domestic and international implications of gas exports. Over 96 journalists have participated in these briefings.

GENEALOGY

Lenora Gobert, our staff genealogist, sits with families along River Road to understand their connections to the land. She then springs into action to document their knowledge, going wherever the questions lead: the parish courthouse, libraries in Baton Rouge, even the national archives in Washington, D.C. Lenora's research has been profiled in national and international news articles and is part of a growing case to protect historical sites of cultural significance from petrochemical expansion.

WHAT'S NEXT

These mega polluters posing as economic development will never go away until we have a counterweight. We are doing just that by exploring economic development opportunities in the fields of renewable energy, cultural resources and non profit development. We are proud that our staff genealogist has documented the deep history of the Black communities along the Mississippi River Road. We know that establishing these ties to the land - ties that pre-date Emancipation - is a crucial counterweight to a rapacious industry. This documentation is also an important foundation for a different economic vision.

As we take the first steps to develop a strong economy, we will continue to protect our home. And so we have thrown ourselves - body and soul - into the work to prevent a dozen gas export terminals from being built on our fragile coast.

Just as Formosa Plastics would have been the largest new source of greenhouse gasses in the country, the Louisiana gas export terminals represent an enormous input of carbon

emissions with devastating impacts on all of us. These bad ideas would lock us into another generation of fossil fuel use just at the exact moment that we should transition. As James Hiatt, our Southwest Louisiana Coordinator says,

“

What happens along the Gulf Coast in the next five years will determine the fate of the planet for the next 50.

”



FISCAL YEAR 2022 FOUNDATION FUNDING

ANONYMOUS FOUNDATION

11TH HOUR PROJECT / THE SCHMIDT
FAMILY FOUNDATION

BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES

CLIMATEWORKS FOUNDATION

CLOUD MOUNTAIN

THE ELIZABETH B. & ARTHUR E.
ROSWELL FOUNDATION

ELLA WEST FREEMAN FOUNDATION

EQUATION CAMPAIGN

FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

FUNDER COLLABORATIVE ON OIL &
GAS

JOHN MERCK FUND

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COUNCIL

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE
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MARY REYNOLDS BABCOCK
FOUNDATION

NORMANDIE FOUNDATION

THE OVERBROOK FOUNDATION

PRBB FOUNDATION

PATAGONIA

PLASTIC SOLUTIONS FUND

ROSAMARY FOUNDATION

ROSE FOUNDATION FOR
COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT

THE SOLUTIONS PROJECT

THENDARA FOUNDATION

TIDES FOUNDATION

TORTUGA FOUNDATION

UNDERDOG FUND

***MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS
INDIVIDUAL DONORS AND
SUSTAINING MEMBERS.***

FY22 REVIEW IN NUMBERS

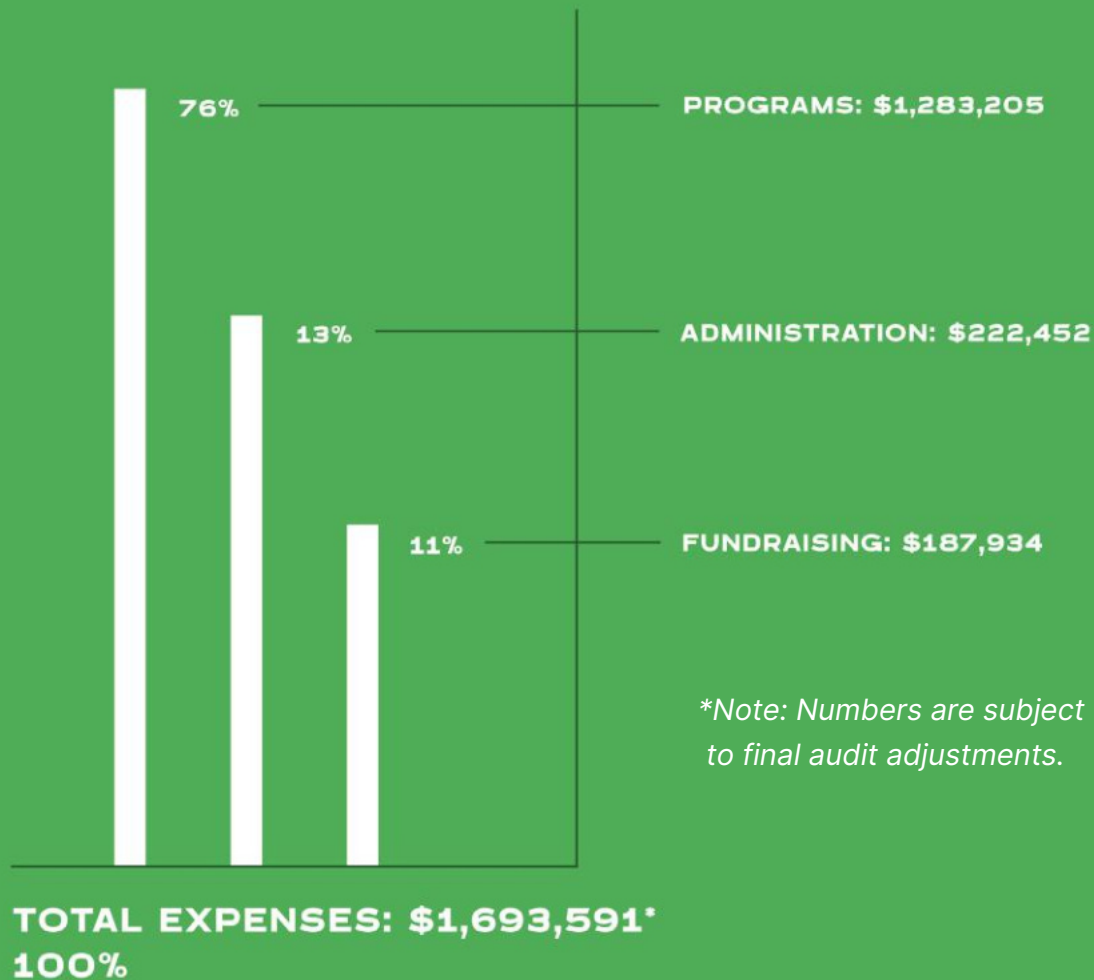


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BUCKET
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**3416 B Canal Street,
New Orleans, LA 70119**

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