



philanthropiece
piecing together a better world

Volume II, Issue 5

PhilanthroStories, September 2022

CLIMATE JUSTICE FEATURE

In early 2021, Philanthropiece alongside representatives from the City of Boulder, City of Longmont and Boulder County, and with support from the [Partners for Places Mini-Grant](#), facilitated space for diverse frontline community members to hold discussions on the direct effects of the climate crisis. Specific impacts identified included: loss of access to public and green space; mental and physical health effects; lack of access to healthy and culturally relevant foods; unhealthy drinking water; lack of land rights or access; lack of access to (or knowledge about) government supports; and economic insecurity due to natural disasters that are exacerbated by climate change, such as fires and floods. **Many of the community members present at that discussion series are actively convening, working, and applying innovative approaches to these impacts** via initiatives such as [Boulder Food Rescue](#) and [FLOWS](#). The question arose as to how to best connect and leverage the work of [frontline community](#)-led equitable climate action in our community.

These findings, in conjunction with [data and evidence](#) of how climate emergencies disproportionately impact historically targeted communities throughout our state, became the call to action to form the **Climate Justice Collaborative of Boulder County (the "CJC")**. While advances have been made throughout our community to infuse equity measures into racial justice, climate action and just transition planning, there is still work to be done to *center the voices, wisdom, and experiences of frontline community members*, in particular those who have been historically excluded, underserved and underrepresented. This is the work of the CJC. Philanthropiece, as a founding partner, fiscal sponsor, and participant of the CJC, is proud to bring you this story.

With gratitude,
Katie Doyle Myers, Executive Director



A Collaborative Approach to Equitable Climate Action

When the [Marshall Fire](#) swept through the communities of Superior, Marshall and Louisville and threatened much of Boulder County last December, it brought the realities of wildfires and possible evacuation to the minds of many local residents. The day after the fire, Angela Maria Ortiz Roa, a member of the Mapleton Manufactured Home Park in Boulder, was talking to her neighbor, Isabel Sanchez. Angela was processing the shock and grief of the experience and her feelings about the wildfires and the powerful winds that had affected so many local community members. She realized that she felt very unprepared for the disaster in many ways.

"I remember sharing with Isabel that I had been triggered, I was frozen when the fire came and I didn't know exactly how to respond to it and how unprepared I felt to face evacuation and to be ready to act and care for my family and my neighbors in a situation like that," recalls Angela.

Isabel, on the other hand, felt very prepared to evacuate and to take steps to be self-sufficient in the wake of the fires. Due to her experiences during the 2013 floods in Boulder County and also because of other personal and professional experiences, Isabel has built a deep knowledge of self-reliance and knows how to navigate many of the uncertainties that come after a natural disaster.

"I remember Isabel saying that she was ready to live for three months out of her van and I was like, 'What?'," says Angela. "Talking to Isabel, I realized I knew nothing about preparing myself."

Angela asked Isabel if she would be willing to facilitate a workshop for their neighbors and community members to help them better prepare for what to do in the aftermath of disasters. From this discussion, Angela, Isabel and Isabel's daughter, Alysia Sanchez, begin to create the Preparedness Training for Emergencies (PTE) Project. The project focuses on providing community-shaped solutions to the ever-growing threats of climate chaos brought on by climate change.

As they were conceptualizing and planning the PTE Project, Angela was also an active member of the [Climate Justice Collaborative of Boulder County](#). The Climate Justice Collaborative of Boulder County (CJC) strengthens and supports an existing movement in Boulder County to build and organize for climate justice, led by the communities most impacted by climate chaos. It is co-designed and co-led by members of the CJC, including individuals who represent their neighborhoods, families and cultural groups; staff of local government departments; and local nonprofit leaders, including team members of the Philanthropiece Foundation.

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE

Haga clic aquí para la versión en español

The Climate Justice Collaborative of Boulder County is grateful for support from



The CJC also received seed funding from the [City of Boulder](#), [City of Longmont](#), and [Boulder County](#) to support in convening the group and piloting model equitable climate action projects.

Learn more about the Climate Justice Collaborative

Mosaicos Culturales Podcast: Episode 22, La Justicia Climatica

Interview with CJC Council Member Alejandro Murillo begins at 15:20, in Spanish language.

JOIN US!
Conversation & Connection
CLIMATE JUSTICE CAFECITO
Thursday, October 20th
3:30-5:30PM at the
Philanthropiece Barn
All are welcome!

The purpose of Philanthropiece is to pursue a just, equitable and sustainable world through collaboration with organizations, movements, and people.

Learn more about our work and meet our team at www.philanthropiece.org

Copyright © 2022 Philanthropiece Foundation, all rights reserved.

[Contact Us](#)

Philanthropiece Foundation
6105 Monarch Rd
Longmont, CO 80503
Email not displaying correctly?

[View it in your browser](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)