

STRATEGIES AND PROPOSED PILOT PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS RADON/INDOOR ENVIRONMENT HEALTH EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR MINORITY AND UNDERSERVED/LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES



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PAVING THE ROAD TO HEALTH EQUITY

Health Equity

is when everyone has the opportunity to be as healthy as possible



Programs

Successful health equity strategies



Measurement

Data practices to support the advancement of health equity



Policy

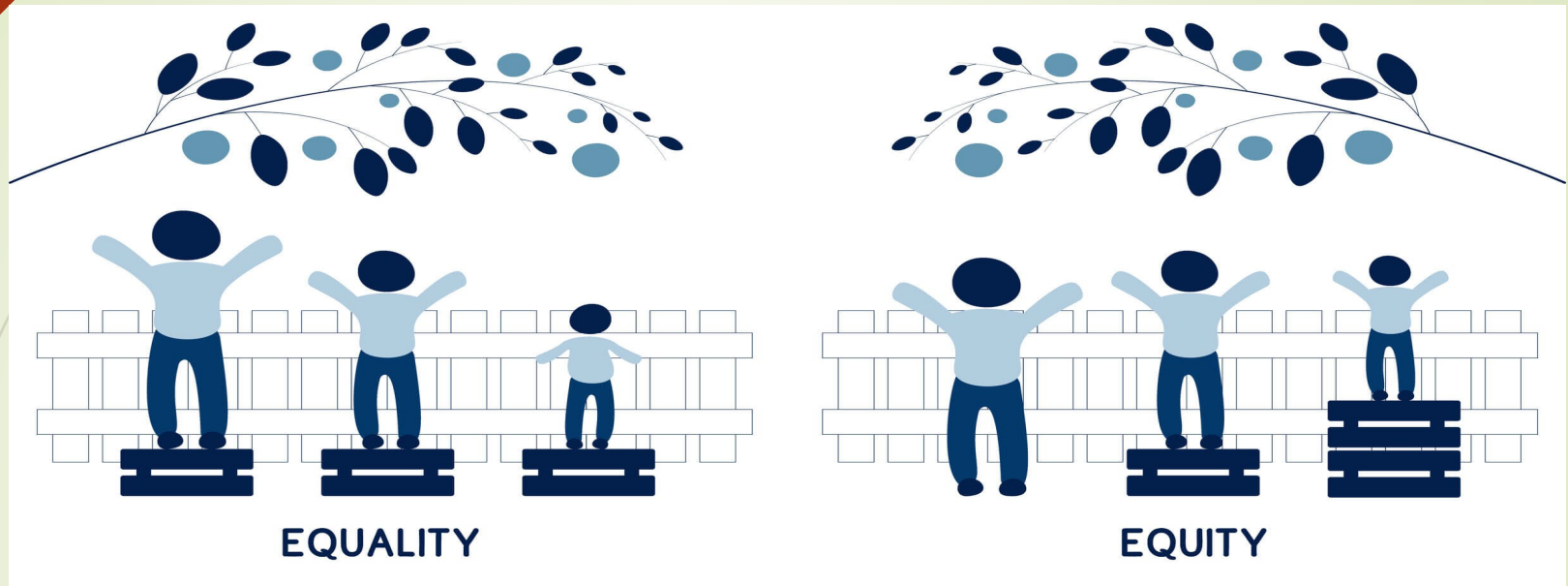
Laws, regulations, and rules to improve population health



Infrastructure

Organizational structures and functions that support health equity

True Health Equity



Essentially, health equity means that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

Health Equality means everyone/ all community receives the exact same resources and opportunities.

Health Equity-driven system recognizes that each person/community has different circumstances and allocates the resources and care needed to reach the same level of health and preventative care.

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)



What to know

Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the nonmedical factors that influence health outcomes. They are the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age. These forces and systems include a wide set of forces and systems that shape daily life such as economic policies and systems, development agendas, social norms, social policies, and political systems. CDC has adopted this definition from the World Health Organization.

<https://www.cdc.gov/about/priorities/why-is-addressing-sdoh-important.html>



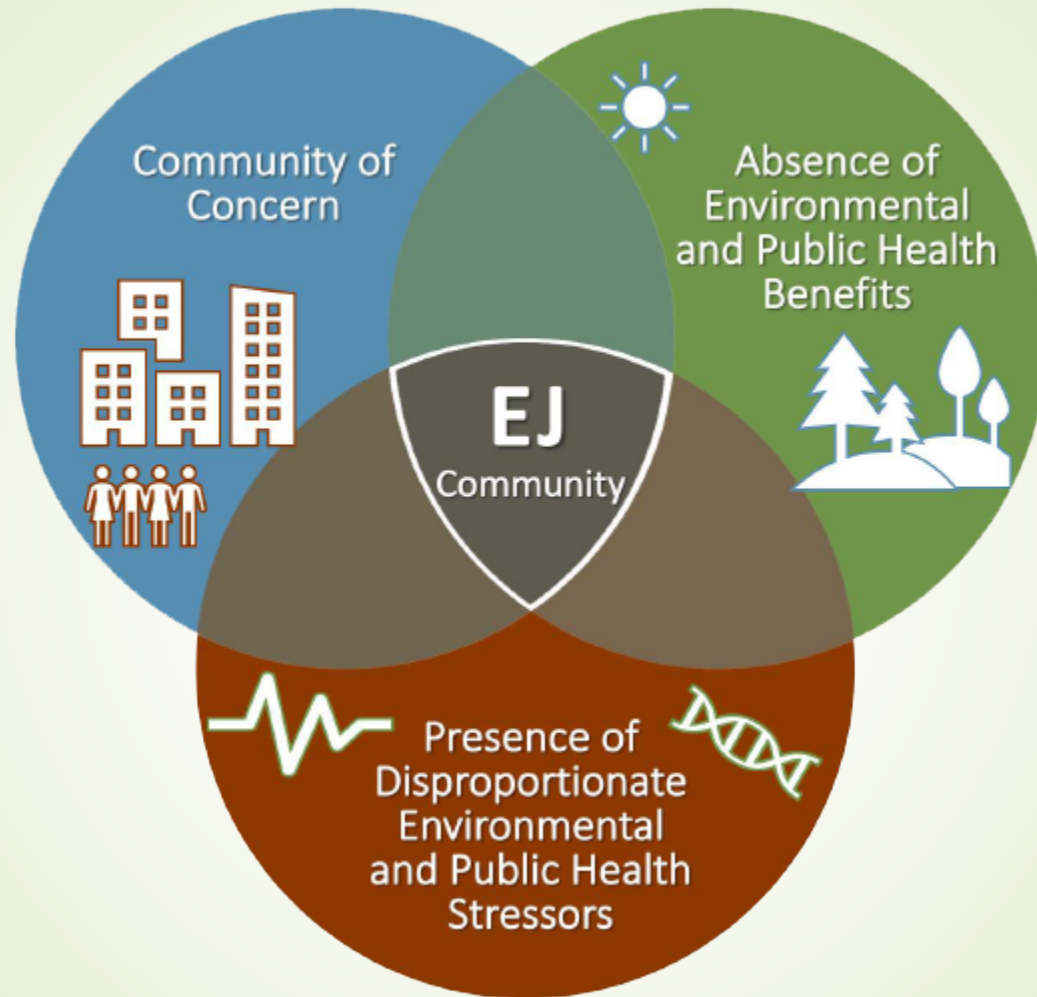
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What is Environmental Justice (EJ)?

Environmental Justice is the right that all people have to live, work and play in a clean and healthy environment. These rights are violated for many low-income and communities of color from a disproportionately high number of environmental and public health stressors located within these communities. These communities, identified as overburdened communities, suffer higher rates of negative health impacts, such as asthma, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and elevated blood lead levels.

Children in these communities are particularly vulnerable, with higher rates of developmental disorders impacting these populations, which ultimately impacts the future success of the children and the overall growth, stability, and well-being of the entire community.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



What could be EJ issues/challenges with radon in disadvantage communities/low-income communities?

- 1. Messaging/outreach of the radon risk in appropriate language and appropriate community culture and understanding.
- 2. Real estate sales is a main driving force for radon testing industry.
- 3. In low-income or overburden communities, real estate sales are low. So low number of radon test in these communities.
- **4. If radon testing is done in these low-income communities (Non-HUD), many times no path of empowerment (no funding) to mitigate elevated radon levels.**
- 5. Confounding issues, smoking/vaping, older housing, built environment
- 6. Use of faith-base groups/churches, non-profits, community groups/leaders, schools, hair salons/barber shops, laundromats, libraries
- 7. Community engagement and action.



WHAT DO YOU DO?

- **WHEN THERE IS NO RADON MITIGATION CONTRACTOR TO SERVE AN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY?**
- CAN WE JUST TRAIN ONE PERSON TO DO RADON MITIGATION?
- IS THIS SUSTAINABLE FOR RISK REDUCTION OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMUNITY?

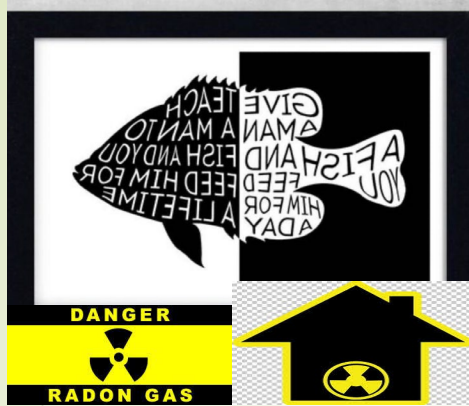


Native American Tribal In-Community Radon Mitigation Contractors Training Program

**CORE VALUE 1: "Give a man a fish, and
you feed him for a day; teach a man to
fish and you feed him for a lifetime."**



RADON FISH PROGRAM



RADON FISH PROGRAM

CORE VALUE 2:

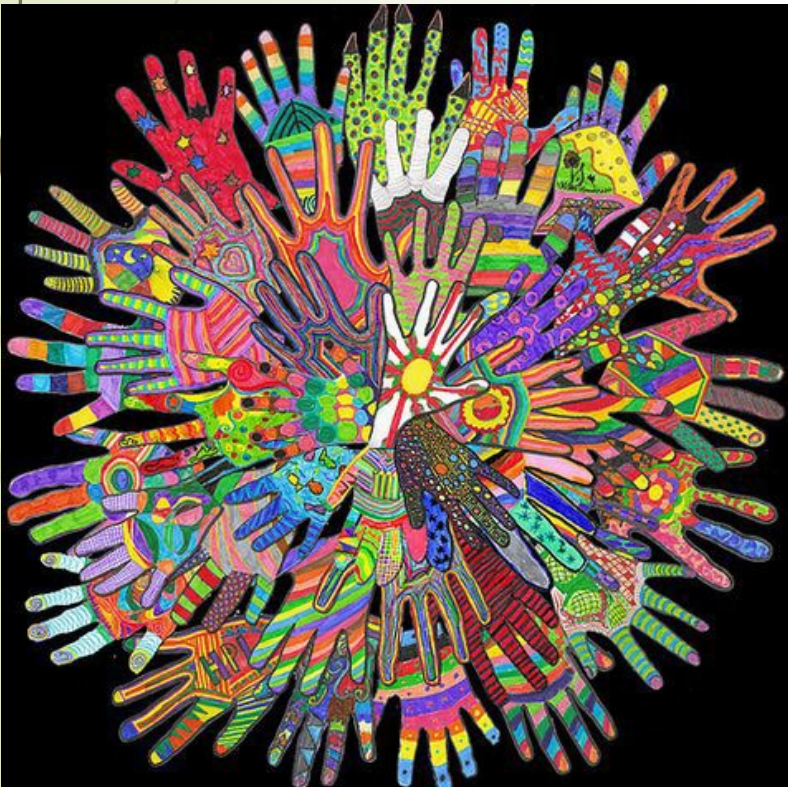
**Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I
remember. Involve me
and I learn.**

Providing an in-community hands-on radon mitigation training with long-term sustainability in community radon risk reduction.



RADON FISH PROGRAM

CORE VALUE 3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/EMPOWERMENT



- ❖ Providing the means to address an avoidable radioactive health risk for the built environments of the community.
- ❖ The solution is now, the community.
- ❖ Not being dependent on others to do radon mitigation.
- ❖ Means for culturally tailored radon risk messaging for the community, their leaders and medical systems
- ❖ Development community risk reduction policies
- ❖ Program could spur radon testing,
- ❖ A new source of revenue and national certifications for tribal community contractors and entrance into the radon industry



RADON FISH PROGRAM

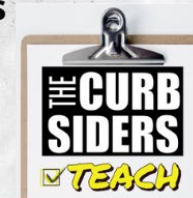
WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

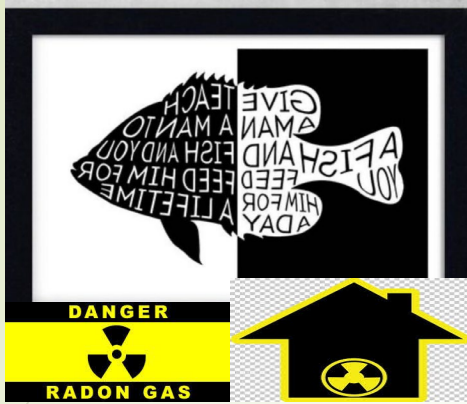


A bridge between the expertise and knowledge of institutions and communities

A bidirectional, broad continuum of community experiences ranging from one touchpoint of outreach to long term engagement of creating and implementing policy changes or program innovations

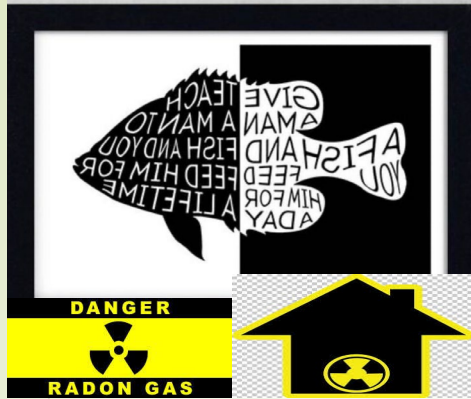
 @thecurbsidersteach
www.thecurbsiders.com/teach





RADON FISH PROGRAM

- **Targeted Group:** Contractors that provide business services to the tribal community.
- Plumbers, HVAC contractors, builders, electricians, environmental companies, roofers, water proofers, architects, engineers, non-profits, house maintenance, renovation companies, vocation trade schools, etc.
- Will provide no cost NRPP radon mitigation residential specialist training, along with a NRPP radon measurement training to participants
- Training will be in-person and hands-on with actual power tools and materials overview and training.
- **The goal is to select one community built environment to install a radon mitigation system as part of the program.**



RADON FISH PROGRAM

- **This program is for underserved communities.**
- When in rural areas, where there are no or few radon mitigation contractors that service that community
- **Use existing/established contractors and organizations in these underserved communities**
- Offer a free 4 day in-person, in community NRPP radon mitigation training.
- Pay for the NRPP radon mitigation specialist exam.
- Provide focused tutoring and assistance in passing the exam.
- **If participant fails the exam, provide personalized tutoring and tools to re-take the exam again.**
- The goal is for every participant to pass the exam.
- Assist and pay for the NRPP certification for the first 2 years.



HAVING A VOICE AT THE TABLE

- Pay for a 2 year IEA membership
- Potential for an American Indian Chapter Council and active participation in IEA
- Mentorship in business development in the radon industry, commercial, schools, HUD and chemical vapor intrusion for 5 years
- Assist and pay for the initial state radon program certification if present
- Offer specialized training in large buildings in expanding radon skill sets, business opportunities, including HUD, DOD and others
- Potential Partnering with American Indian Business development organizations, such as the All Native Group (ANG).



RADON FISH PROGRAM

SKIN IN THE GAME: COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

- Offer to provide at least one pro bono radon mitigation project to the community as a generational commitment.



RADON FISH PROGRAM

Thanks to Janice Archuleta referral:

In discussion with Kira Dowell,
Environmental Specialist for the Little
Traverse Bay Band of Odawa (Michigan)
possibly participating in the Radon Fish
Program





RADON FISH PROGRAM

INVITATION

- Proposed targeted Tribal communities are:
- Anchorage, Alaska in discussion with Arthur Nash
- Tribal communities of Wisconsin
- Midwest Tribal communities in Colorado, Nevada, South Dakota, New Mexico
- Also, rural communities for this program

We already had two meetings and continued discussions with Tribal Group Organizations this year.

Grant applications could be done through corroboration with the AARST Foundation and tribal communities.



RADON FISH PROGRAM

QUESTIONS?

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Minority-Low Income Operational Viable
Economic Solutions for **Radon EJ**
(Environmental Justice) LUNG Cancer
Reduction

MOVES FOR RADON EJ

If opportunity doesn't knock,
build a door.

-Milton Berle

www.IAmPowerLiving.com

"One kind deed is more beautiful than a
thousand good intentions."

— Matshona Dhliwayo

MOVES FOR RADON EJ PROGRAM

- **PRIME DIRECTIVE: To provide radon mitigation installations to low-income homes with identified elevated radon levels at no cost to the owner.**
- This would also apply to rental home properties and the landlords.
- The radon mitigation installations would be performed by professional radon mitigation companies/persons.
- In this way, the radon community and other businesses would be giving back to the community and providing radon health risk reduction.

MOVES FOR RADON EJ PROGRAM

- First done in Pittsburgh, PA.
- 75 homes tested for radon. 3 homes mitigated.
- New opportunity with the NJ DEP Radon Program Team partnership.
- Working with the NJ IEA chapter and NJ DEP licensed radon testers and mitigators.
- The area of focus for the MOVES for Radon EJ pilot will be Trenton, NJ with a focus on minority and low-income communities.

HERDING THE CATS FOR MOVES RADON EJ PROGRAM: TRENTON, NJ WITH NJ DEP RADON DEPT.

- Approach NJ licensed radon mitigators to participate in the program to donate 1-5 radon mitigations.
- Approach NJ licensed radon testers to participate in the program by agreeing to test 5-10 low-income homes in Trenton, NJ
- Estimate a minimum of 100 homes/buildings tested with a 100% valid radon test results.
- Also working with Trenton Public Housing
- Partnering with NJ IEA chapter to execute the program THE NJ DEP.
- Approach Home Depot, Lowes fan manufacturers—and other suppliers for mitigation supplies – PVC pipe, fans
- Starting working with several non-profit organizations that serve the targeted EJ low-income community.



MOVES FOR RADON EJ PROGRAM

- Had our first meeting with NJ DEP Radon Program Team for this Trenton, NJ project on September 10, 2024 to discuss the project.
- Participating testers and mitigators will receive NJ DEP CE credits, along with media coverage.
- Each mitigation system will have built-in OM&M retesting/inspection every 2 years. Goal a minimum of 4 years.
- Each mitigation system install, if not present, a CO/smoke alarm detector.
- Possible smoking cessation messaging and program

FUTURE GOAL: EXPAND THE MOVES FOR RADON EJ TO OTHER IEA CHAPTERS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE RADON PROGRAMS.

MOVES FOR RADON EJ PROGRAM

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