



RESTORING HOPE TO A PEOPLE.
PROVIDING HELP TO THE PLANET.

NIEHS Webinar

Donele Wilkins
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Mission

- The Green Door Initiative (GDI) works to ensure that every person is environmentally literate capable of practicing and promoting a sustainable lifestyle.



Where We Live, Work & Play

- Environmental Justice
- **People of Color and the poor get more than their share of dirty air, water, contaminated land and substandard housing and living conditions.**
-
- **Environmental Justice means that all communities are clean, livable and sustainable.**
- Xavier Joe-
10 Years Old
 - 2012



Zip Code A Predictor





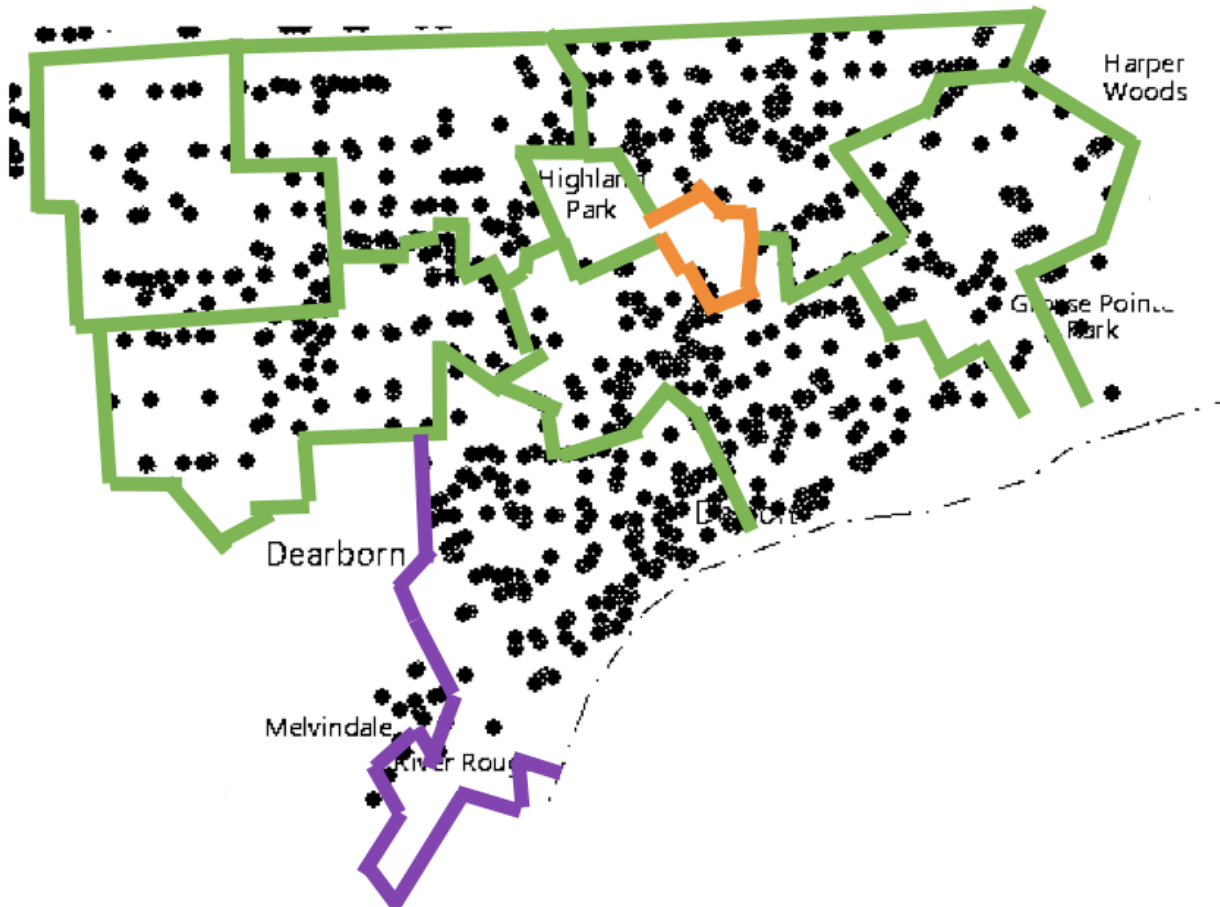
Flint



Up to 12,000 children poisoned

Detroit

65,000 contaminated sites
Only **250** cleaned up



80% affected are African American



DIRE ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSEQUENCES FROM POLLUTION-
BASED ECONOMY IN DETROIT

The Problem

Detroit is one of the **most polluted** cities in the U.S.¹

Some examples of the consequences:

- **Worst infant mortality rates in U.S.**
 - ...worse than some 3rd world countries²
- **One of the highest childhood asthma rates in U.S.**
 - ...costing the state **~\$88.4 million**³
 - ...is a leading cause of school absenteeism⁴
 - ...increases the chance of dropping out⁵
- **And one of the highest lead levels in U.S.**
 - ...leads to lower IQ scores
 - ...and lower lifetime earnings of **~\$4.85 billion** dollars per year⁶

We See An Opportunity



DIRE ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSEQUENCES FROM POLLUTION-
BASED ECONOMY IN DETROIT



CHRONIC UN/UNDEREMPLOYMENT
AMONG AFRICAN AMERICAN
MALES (AGE 22-37)

- Disengaged Citizens
- Returning Citizens
 - » *High recidivism*
 - » *Difficulties integrating*

Detroit ranked 3rd in top 10 cities where black unemployment is rising the fastest¹

...the worst black unemployment rate
among 40 largest cities in U.S. at **43%**²

An Opportunity

To Invest in Unemployed African American Males

To Restore Our Environment





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PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY

Advocate at federal and local level for equal environmental protection for vulnerable populations

DIRECT SERVICE

The Green Career Pipeline



AN ENVIRONMENTALLY STRONG DETROIT THRIVING ON A GREEN ECONOMY



AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES RE-ENGAGED AND PRODUCTIVE “AMBASSADORS FOR CHANGE”

- Restoring Environment
- Empowered to Advocate
- Acknowledged as contributors

QUALIFIED WORKER
IMPACTING THE ENVIRONMENT
IN CITIES BEYOND DETROIT

How We Work – Examples



Emmanuel

20 Years in
Prison



Orlando
Chronically
Unemployed

Counseling

- 1-1
- Group

Life Skills

- Conflict Resolution
- Personal Finance
- Resume/Interview

Civic Engagement

- Attend city council mtgs
- Assess own neighborhood environment
- Learn to advocate for environmental justice

Study Skills

- Math,
- Reading
- Computer

Tech Skills

- Training
- Field trips
- Certification
- Licensing

Emmanuel

Married, Bought
Home, Works at Ford



Orlando
Started a nonprofit;
employs local youth

Our Results

Our Trainees Are Productive

95% employed

2% started their own business
... and came back to hire Green
Door trainees

2% recidivism vs. 81% AA male
nationally

10% actively involved in
environmental and social justice

Our Advocacy Yields Results

- Shut down medical waste incinerators
- Supported and advocated for curbside recycling
- Established environmental justice policy at state level
- A trusted voice...
 - To advocate on behalf of community with the EPA
 - As a resource in Flint

Our Vision

Hard to employ African American Males across Detroit are re-engaged and become productive members of society,

as they restore the environment and advocate for environmental justice

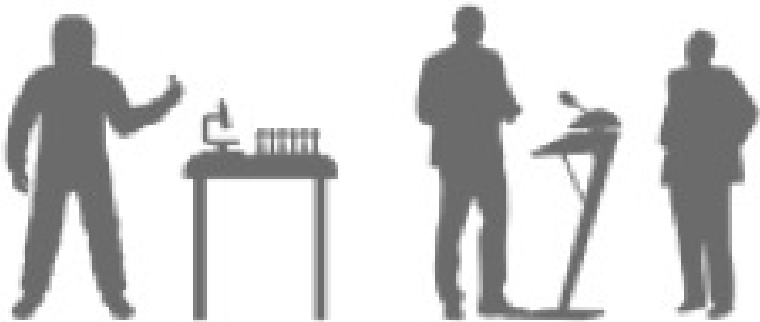
– and are acknowledged as contributors to society.



Investing in Detroit's Future

will lead to...

African Americans who are engaged in the community and workforce



Contributing to society and
restoring our environment



- For more information visit our website www.greendoorinitiative.org
- Or contact the organization at
 - info@greendoorinitiative.org
 - (313) 922-8055

Facebook : Detroit Green Door Initiative/ Instagram: greendoorinitiative.org/twitter
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