

# Annual Report FY22-23

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear clean air advocates, partners, and supporters:

On behalf of Air Alliance Houston (AAH), I am pleased to present this report of our activities for FY22-23.

This year was marked by growth and expansion. On one hand, we saw substantial investments in climate and environmental justice. On the other, we witnessed a troubling increase in the number of backyard and industrial polluters across Houston/Harris County. We saw false solutions like CCS and chemical recycling becoming household names.

I am proud to say that AAH met these moments....and more. As you will read in this report, we have established ourselves as leaders on the pressing air quality and climate issues of the day, such as carbon management, the petrochemical build-out along the Ship Channel, and highway expansions across the state, and we are continuing to reach larger and more diverse communities with our outreach and media.

None of this would have been possible without you, our partners, and supporters. I look forward to all we will accomplish together in the years to come so that everyone has the right to breathe clean air.

Jennifer M. Hadayia, MPA  
Executive Director



**Everyone has a right to breathe clean air.**

## OUR TEAM

**Alexander Spike** | Climate Justice Coordinator  
**Alondra Torres** | Climate Justice Coordinator  
**Anthony D'Souza** | Research and Policy Coordinator  
**Brandy Deason** | Climate Justice Coordinator  
**Brenda Franco** | Social Media Manager  
**Carolyn Smith** | Outreach Coordinator  
**Cassandra Casados-Klein** | Communications Coordinator  
**Crystal Ngo** | Environmental Justice Outreach Coordinator  
**Diamond Pham** | Outreach Coordinator  
**Genesis Granados, MA** | Environmental Justice Programs Manager  
**Harrison Humphreys** | Research and Policy Coordinator  
**Ingrid Fenton** | Director of Finance and Operations  
**Inyang Uwak, MD, MPH, DrPH** | Director of Research and Policy  
**Jennifer Hadayia, MPA** | Executive Director  
**Juan Flores** | Community Air Monitoring Program Manager  
**Leticia Gutierrez** | Government Relations & Community Outreach Director  
**Naquanza Alfred** | Operations Manager  
**Riikka Pohjankoski, MSc** | Communications Director  
**Thelisa Laverne** | Climate Programs Manager

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Jonathan Ross, JD** | President | Susman Godfrey, LLP  
**Lucy Randel, MSChE** | Vice President | Retired  
**Mustapha Beydoun, PhD** | Secretary | Big Thought  
**Anna Henry, MBA** | Treasurer | Baylor College of Medicine  
**Blythe Mansfield, MD, MPH, FACOEM** | World Bank Group  
**Chelbi Mims** | One World Strategy Group  
**Lauren Manning Salomon, PhD** | Harris Health System  
**Parul Pillai, MPH** | Harris County Public Health  
**Phyllis Griffin Epps, JD** | PGE Consulting  
**Rosalia Guerrero, MBA, CHWI** | UT School of Public Health  
**Stephen Pavel, MSc** | Full Spectrum Consulting, LLC  
**Terrence Thorn** | JKM Energy

## Vision

We envision healthy communities with clean air every day, for everyone.

## Mission

To reduce the public health impacts from air pollution through applied research, education and advocacy.

## Campaigns



Decrease pollution from industrial sources of air pollution



Expand community air monitoring



Decrease pollution from mobile sources of air pollution



Expand community capacity for advocacy



Prevent chemical disasters



Advance climate justice

## P. Monitoring Results

s (NOx)



## Theory of Change

Our strategy for effecting change in air quality and environmental justice includes: (1) applied research, (2) diffusion of information, and (3) collaborative advocacy at all levels. Here are some exciting results of this strategy from FY22-23:

### AirMail filled rooms at TCEQ permit meetings

Since its launch in August 2022, AirMail, our permit tracking and community awareness tool, has been filling the gap in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)'s less than adequate public participation process. This year, we have mailed postcards to over 85,000 households to raise awareness about more than 20 problematic industrial facilities seeking air permits near predominantly working-class communities of color. Reporters, researchers, legislative officials, community partners and advocacy organizations have shown interest in and benefited from the tool's data metrics and linkages to historically inaccessible platforms and databases (like those maintained by TCEQ). In addition to shedding light on active permit-seeking facilities and facilitating public engagement, AirMail is an accessible springboard to introduce individuals to Texas' complex industrial permitting landscape.

### CAMP turned 1 and became the largest community air monitoring network in Houston

In April of 2023, we celebrated one full year of a connected and live Community Air Monitoring Program (CAMP). This citizen-science initiative was created to give residents better access to air quality data that shows others what residents already know – air pollution is harming their health. We strategically

placed a network of air monitors in Galena Park/Jacinto City, Gulfton, Kashmere Gardens, Near Northside, and Pasadena. Throughout these communities we found harmful levels of monitored pollutants – Particulate Matter 2.5, Volatile Organic Compounds, Ozone, and Nitrogen Oxides. Today, we have over 50 low-cost community sensors throughout Houston/Harris County. Our CAMP team is growing and is now expanding the program to Baytown, Channelview, and Northeast Houston.

### Our port coalition built bridges between communities and federal decision-makers

AAH was an integral part of the Healthy Port Communities Coalition's (HPCC) historic convening of all federal parties involved in the channel's 11th expansion - Project 11. This meeting, tour, and town hall took community leaders and stakeholders, EPA Region 6, Port of Houston and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to the sites and communities that will be directly impacted by the project's dredging construction - both from the contaminated soil and construction air pollution. More meetings and events are in the works to hold these groups accountable to protecting port-side communities' health. HPCC is glad to maintain these relationships to create a more equitable Project 11.



## We held TCEQ and TXDOT accountable during the legislative session, achieving a legislative victory for stronger enforcement

During the 88th legislative session this Spring, AAH and partners pushed hard for better environmental laws and policies, including a reform of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), which was undergoing a 'Sunset Review' and of the State Highway Fund, which directs what the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) spends our tax dollars on. The passed Sunset Bill gave the TCEQ more tools to hold polluters accountable, including the authority to impose stiffer penalties on non-compliant polluters and more time for the public to weigh in on industry permits. While our priority transportation bills didn't make it to the finish line, our newly-formed Texas Streets Coalition made their presence known by demanding TXDOT "stop paving over us" with more and more highways in cities across the state. In addition, our four environmental justice legislative action days brought close to 400 Houston-area advocates to the Capitol to tell their stories in front of their representatives and demand clean air for them and their communities.

## #CloseParishCoal was launched to fight deadly coal plant pollution

The Close Parish Coal coalition (CPC) came together in the aftermath of a chemical disaster at the W.A. Parish facility in September 2022 that hospitalized six employees and exposed 100 more to a harmful chemical. The coalition works to bring awareness to Fort Bend residents about the W.A. Parish coal plant and the bureaucratic agencies regulating it. This year, our canvassing, tabling and other actions successfully advocated for a strong Regional Haze Rule to minimize deadly Parish pollution. CPC also hosted a well-attended town hall for the release of our report, Close Parish Coal: How the Dirtiest Coal Plant in Texas Harms Public Health and the Environment; and the Alternatives for Fort Bend. With the facility up for its Federal Operating Permit, the CPC continues its work in the community to close this source of hazardous pollution.



## New justice initiatives helped us better meet the needs of fenceline communities

Fenceline communities who are suffering unfairly from air pollution are rarely facing only this one barrier to good health. Other structural determinants of health, such as lack of access to health care and language barriers, accerbate the impact of air pollution. AAH worked hard this year to deepen our understanding of these interconnections and adjust our approach. This resulted in three new organizational initiatives designed to better address the challenges faced by our communities as well as our staff. Our Healing Justice Initiative (HJI) centered on wellness for our team and partners. Our Language Justice Initiative (LJI) transformed our communications so that we now offer education and advocacy in all three of Houston's most commonly spoken languages. Lastly, we launched a first-of-its kind local convening series, called Encuentro, to highlight the intersections between air toxics and reproductive health.

## We bolstered advocacy with increased research and social media presence

This year, we collected one entire year's worth of community air monitoring data across five different communities and also published five original research reports addressing highway expansions, carbon capture, and industry emissions trends. We shared our research and invited further discussions from a variety of stakeholders through webinars, town halls, and on our social media platforms. In fact, our social media metrics had a significant boost this year, with post engagements increasing by 7%. We also saw our audience grow by 67% to over 10,000 followers. These metrics unveil a compelling story about our online presence – that social media is producing lasting connections as our online communities actively embrace our content through likes, shares, and saves.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

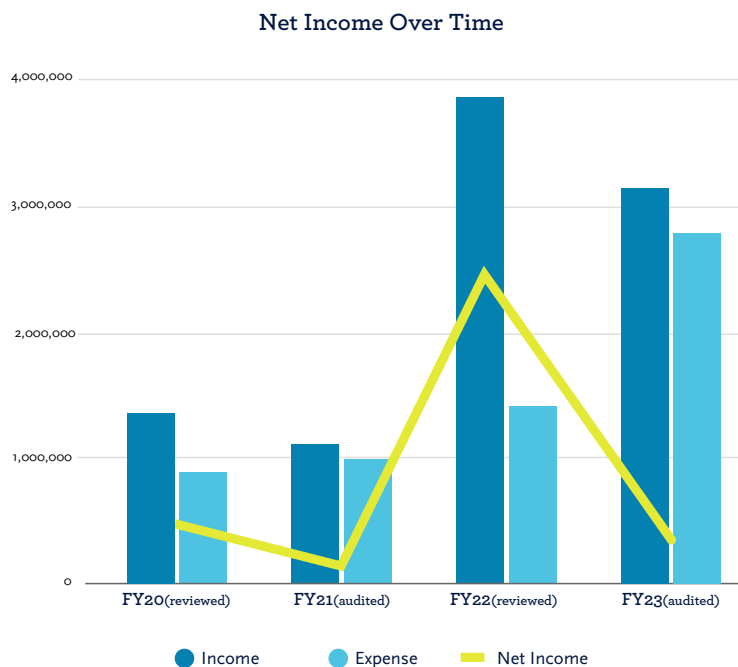
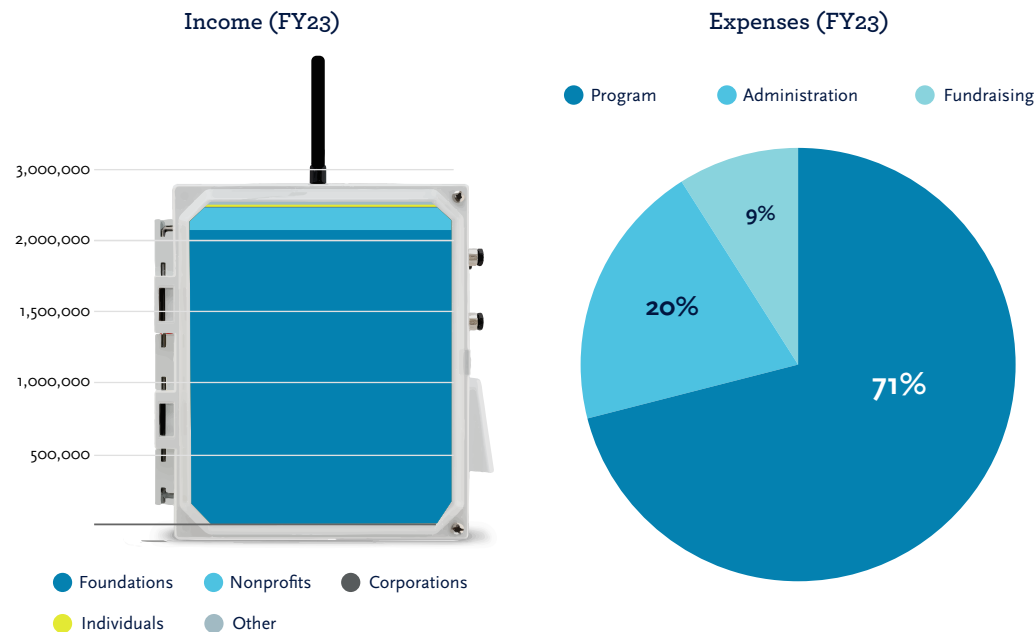


Chart of expenses reflects numbers from functional analysis from audited financials. Chart of income is from audited GL income report. Specific questions about this statement should be sent to [info@airalliancehouston.org](mailto:info@airalliancehouston.org). AAH does not share information about individual donors.

AAH continues to renew grant funding, which is reflected in our increased cash balance of \$400K at the end of FY22-23. This is with increased salaries as a result of the need for more staff to build our capacity for new work.

## MAJOR DONORS (\$100,000+) FOR FY22-23

Beyond Petrochemicals  
Carbon180  
David Rockefeller Fund  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Fidelity Investments  
Hive Fund  
MacArthur Foundation  
Pisces Foundation  
U.S. Energy Foundation

## GET INVOLVED

Sign up to our email list at [tinyurl.com/subscribeaah](https://tinyurl.com/subscribeaah)

We're social! Follow us  
@AirAllianceHOU

Take part in local activism opportunities by following our Event Calendar at [airalliancehouston.org/events](https://airalliancehouston.org/events)

## SUPPORT OUR WORK

Donate through our website or send paypal funds to:  
[info@airalliancehouston.org](mailto:info@airalliancehouston.org)  
Checks can be mailed to:  
Air Alliance Houston  
2520 Caroline Street Suite 100  
Houston, TX 77004

Give directly through Cash App. Find us at \$AAHOrg or use this QR Code:



Make an outsized impact by donating stock, using your IRA funds or recommending AAH as a recipient of a Donor Advised Fund. Learn more at [airalliancehouston.org/donate](https://airalliancehouston.org/donate)

For more ways to support and take action for clean air, go to: [AirAllianceHouston.org/act-now](https://AirAllianceHouston.org/act-now)