



New Haven/León Sister City Project

Winter 2017-18 E-Newsletter

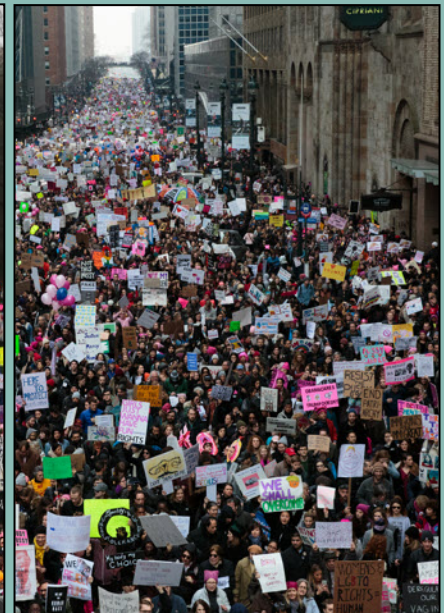
Introduction

2017 started with the Women's March, with close to five million in the streets in the US. Domestic Violence Prevention (DVPP) Coordinator Erendira Vanegas wrote, "The recent election of a president in the U.S., labeled by many sectors of North American society as divisive and misogynist, has raised a new air of struggle. We follow this movement and applaud this wave of solidarity for less privileged populations. It gives us strength to pursue with determination our demands from our own lands."

So it seems that the closing activity (photo below) of the DVPP workshops with the Fairfield University delegates represents much of our 2017 work for people and the planet. The participants painted the faces of joy that "they want to create for each one of us, as we see ourselves in a world with rights, respect and happiness!"

January

The year started with the launch (photo at bottom) of the New Haven Climate and Sustainability Framework, a process NHLSCP has been helping move ahead; and a large number of NHLSCP Board, staff, and volunteers went to NYC and DC for the Women's March.



Branford Eagle Valley Independent Sentinel La Voz

City Pledges To Cut Greenhouse Emissions By 80%

by LUCY GELLMAN | Jan 26, 2017 1:51 pm
 (2) Comments | Commenting has been closed | E-mail the Author
 Posted to: City Hall, Environment, Politics

DeCola, Harp, Alder Darryl Brackeen, Schweitzer, Zinn and Alder Adam Marchand.

LUCY GELLMAN PHOTO

February

School starts in this hot dry month in Leon and below are pictures (clockwise) of mothers outside the Goyena primary school parent orientation meeting; Troilo preschool teacher Juliana Linarte talking to parents on first day of school; Goyena preschool teacher giving an orientation to student families; students outside Goyena school during a break; and Domestic Violence Prevention Program coordinator Erendira Vanegas leading training.





March

March is women's month marked each March 8th with a protest in Leon (below) NHLSCP helps organize, and below that our Fossil Fuel Dragon traveled to be part of CCSU's Earth Fire Water Air exhibition on climate change. It's also a month for Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride prep with an organizers meeting at CitySeed; Below left, in response to the attacks on the EPA a press conference was organized to support the March for Science; and left a poster for a talk on climate change impacts on marginalized communities.



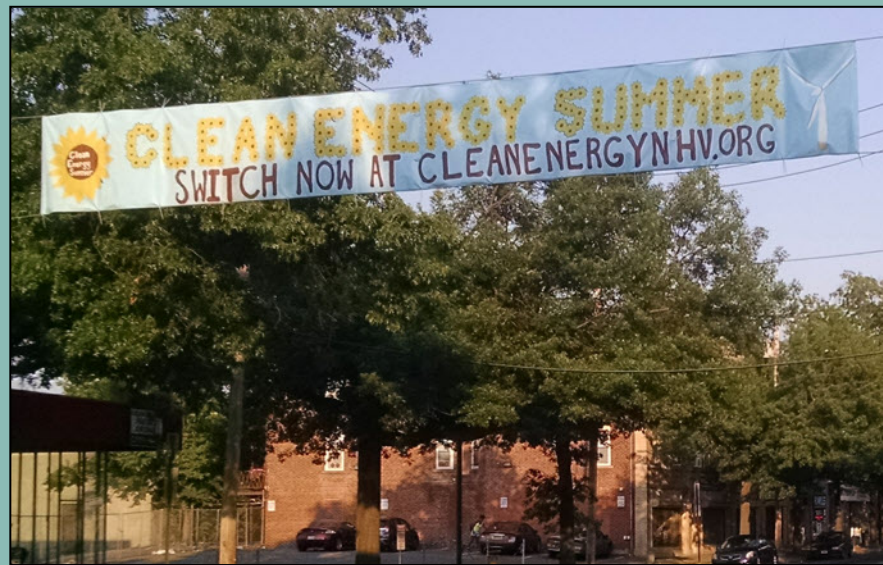
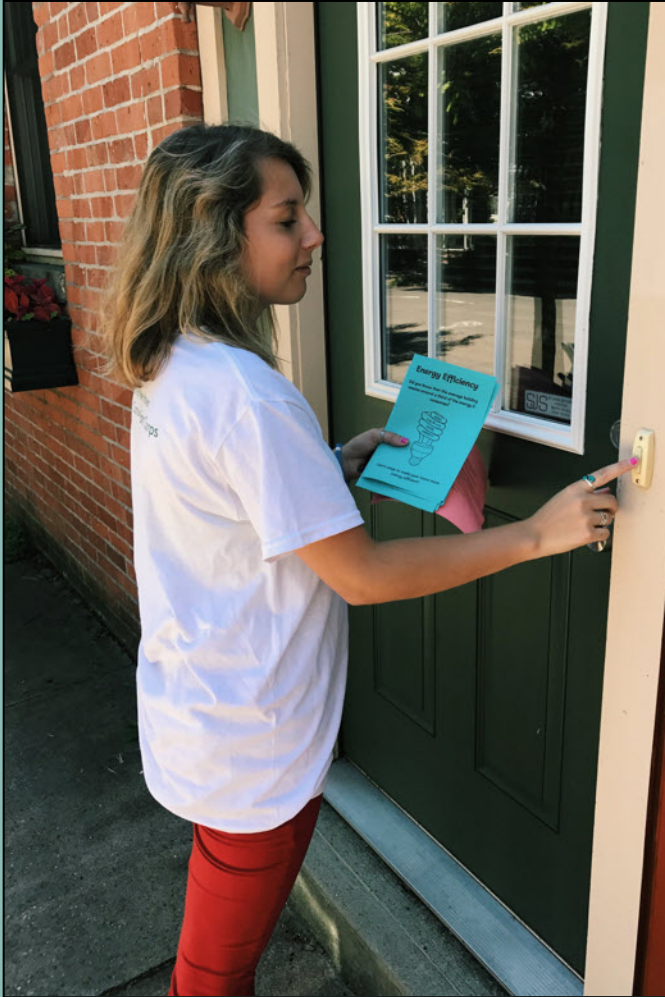
April

In April a delegation of High School in the Community (HSC) students and staff traveled to Leon to (clockwise) work on planting projects; share skills like jewelry making and yoga; Rock to Rock attracted 1200 riders to support environmental work and below right intern Luiza Livingston by a bike sign she drew for the People's Climate March; a participant of the Science March, which immediately followed Rock to Rock; Rock to Rock Earth Day Ride gets rolling; and below HSC staff Rosalyn Ortiz works with afterschool program and teacher Sonia Matute and students.



May

In May a great group of interns arrived to lead a number of climate change projects including creating banners (and painting hundreds of sunflowers!) for Clean Energy Summer; organizing public events on the climate emergency; involving City summer camp kids in clean energy poster making and climate change education; and below, Haley Noble canvassing for energy efficiency and the new [Elm Energy Efficiency Project](#).



June

Leon received its share of interns in June with Yalie Abigail Cipparone worked (photos on left) for two months to create an after school chorus (a community first!). Ajok Deng (below right) helped out in the afterschool program; and below a New Haven teach-in on climate impacts on communities in the Middle East organized by interns Jumana Aryan and Jamie Wetmore. And Yalie Maria Gargiulo - not pictured - worked off camera in Leon on a survey of the impacts of our domestic violence prevention work.



July

Fairfield University - led by Ginny Kelly- again this year brought a delegation of graduate students to share and work with Domestic Violence Prevention Program participants. Clockwise, below, delegates meeting with Troilo preschool teachers; exploring outside Leon; hanging with preschoolers; getting a political orientation in Managua; and finally, the women take off... And the men... well...



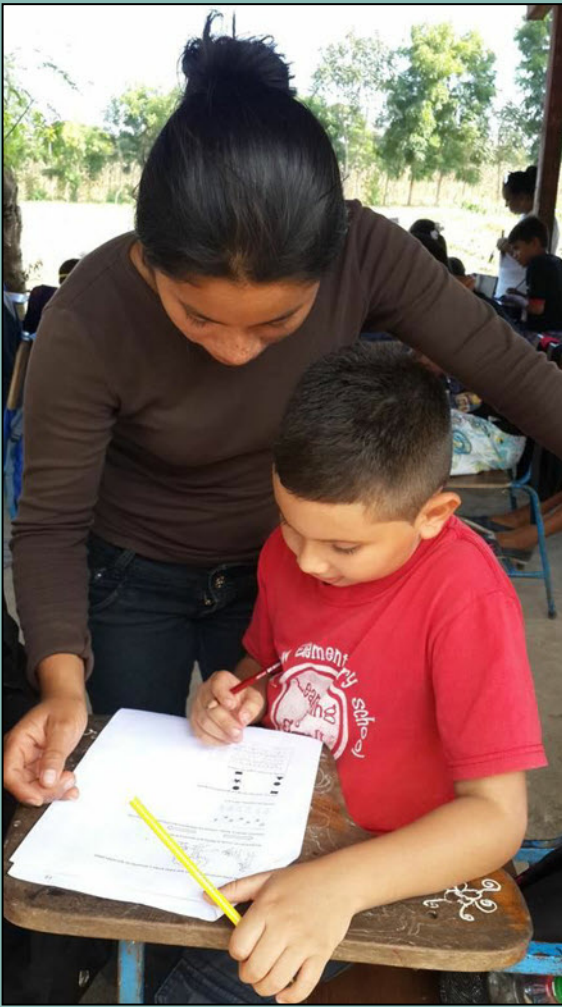


August The Hopkins delegates - led by Susan Bennitt - brought twelve students and three teachers to explore and share. In the photos (counter-clockwise) they show off excellent selfie form on the side of a volcano, how to work with energetic preschool students, tortilla making for novices, and public market exploration. Below is a poster for a night of environmental learning with three great bands organized by interns Stephanie Owens and Luiza Livingston; and a meeting with Mayor Harp and the returned High School in the Community delegates.



September

The afterschool program (Resfuerzo Escolar) works with students year round to fill in gaps in formal school learning. Teachers Yara Perez (left) and Sonia Matute (below) keep students moving ahead. Below are banners created as part of the One World: A Call to Confront Climate Disruption installation created by intern Eliza Renn; and bottom right Yale volunteers work on art for a new Live! Car Free Campaign developed by summer interns Jamie Friedman and Noah Zussman.



Climate Danger: Boreal Forest Fires



As a direct result of global increase in temperature, Boreal forest fires in North America and Eurasia are burning longer and hotter. In California the forest fire season has increased by more than two months since 1970, making it now seven months long. According to Ralph Kahn at NASA: "Boreal forests store about 30 percent of the world's carbon. When they burn, they put that carbon in the atmosphere, creating a vicious cycle that will likely lead to more fires."



LIVE!
CAR FREE!
NEW HAVEN

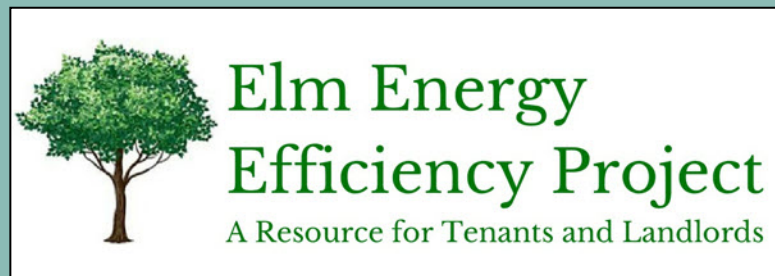
October

October brought heavy tropical rains to Troilo and flooded out a number of homes (right). NHLSCP sent short term help, but climate change strengthened storms are a growing concern. Below right are pictures from a couple of workshops on domestic violence and power in Goyena and Troilo. Below, goNewHavengo staff Abby Cheskis congratulates NHLSCP intern Melissa Markleski (right) at the CarFree Challenge closing event at SCSU. Bottom left is a Solarize poster for a campaign NHLSCP helped organize in New Haven to get more families to install solar power.





November Intern Arnaaz Khawala worked with us to develop the Solar Solidarity Project, which uses energy efficiency tips from the Elm Energy Efficiency Project to save families money which is then redirected to install solar panels in recovering Puerto Rico. Left, Arnaaz helps with public education on climate change; below that, women attend monthly forum in Leon on women's rights; bottom left, teachers learn about dealing with child abuse in Leon. Bottom right, an event organized by parents in Goyena to celebrate children's birthdays.



December

Before Nicaragua shut down for Navidad, a truck load of efficient cook stoves brought clean air and energy savings to families in Goyena, which are funded by people in the US offsetting their transportation greenhouse gas emissions through the Nicaragua Carbon Offset Fund. Bottom left is the cover of the completed Climate Framework, which will help guide the community of New Haven to reduce carbon emissions by 55% by 2030.

