



ANNUAL REPORT

.....

2025

Prepared by

**THE BULLARD CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE
AT TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

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DR. ROBERT D. BULLARD

FOUNDING DIRECTOR

Robert D. Bullard, Ph.D., is the founding director of the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice and a Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy at Texas Southern University. He received his Ph.D. degree in sociology from Iowa State University. Professor Bullard is often called the “father of environmental justice.” He is co-founder of the HBCU-CBO Gulf Coast Equity Consortium and HBCU Climate Change Consortium, and co-chair of the National Black Environmental Justice Network.

In 2021, President Joe Biden named him to the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council (WHEJAC). The University of California, Berkeley Ecology Law Quarterly gave him its Environmental Leadership Award, and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) honored him with its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022; Georgetown University and the University of Johannesburg both awarded him honorary doctorates; and Dr. Bullard was elected to join the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



In 2022, University of California, Berkeley Ecology Law Quarterly gave him its Environmental Leadership Award, and Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) honored him with its Lifetime Achievement Award; Georgetown University and the University of Johannesburg awarded him honorary doctorates, and he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2023, the American Geographical Society received the John E. Gould Medal, and he became a fellow at the California Academy of Sciences. And in 2024, he received the TIME Earth Award, Museum of Science (Boston) Bradford Washburn Award, Urban Land Institute Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development, an honorary doctorate degree from Clark University, and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine and Texas Academy of Medicine, Engineering, Science and Technology.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: DR. ROBERT D. BULLARD

A Year of Reflection and Progress

As we approach the end of the year, channeling the spirit of Sankofa, it is important to reflect on where we have been and what lies ahead. In 2025, while we encountered challenges, the Bullard Center celebrated significant milestones alongside our Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Consortium, community and non-governmental partners. These achievements are a testament to our grit, HBCU's commitment, and resilience.

Resilience and Commitment

With the steadfast support of our friends, funders, partners, community leaders, allies, and the dedicated staff of the Bullard Center, we achieved major accomplishments in 2025. Despite the setback of losing some federal funding, which impacted a few of our projects, we remained unwavering in our dedication to serving communities in need. And we forever remind everyone that our Environmental and Climate Justice Movement was not born inside government with government dollars. Our movement emerged out of local grassroots struggles led by extraordinary people who stepped up and placed their lives and livelihoods on the line for family, home, community and country. The Bullard Center continues to thrive as a leading university-based center for research, policy, advocacy, and civic engagement in environmental and climate justice. We are proud to be a trusted resource, standing firm in our mission to support those most affected by environmental injustices.

2025 Highlights

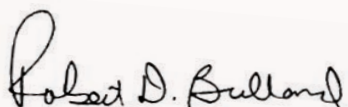
- National Recognition for Environmental Justice Leadership
- Rapid Response Advocacy for Frontline Communities
- Environmental Justice Climate Corps
- Convening Communities, Scholars, and Advocates
- Expanding Public Engagement and Storytelling
- **Research Highlights:** Bullard Center researchers published "Green Light to Pollute: Proposed Buildout of Petrochemical Facilities Targets Most Vulnerable Communities, Again." This report, accompanied by an original documentary, explores the real-life impacts faced by residents as lawmakers facilitate the expansion of petrochemical facilities in vulnerable communities across the state.

Looking Forward

These successes reflect the collaborative spirit and tireless effort of all involved. As we celebrate these victories, we acknowledge that the journey ahead requires renewed energy and dedication to address persistent injustices and to uplift the most vulnerable. Our Center will continue to assist, support and help grow this intergenerational movement. I am optimistic, hopeful and I have faith we will continue to be successful in the coming years. I also learned decades ago as a child in Sunday school, "faith without work is dead." Our EJ Movement is a live movement. So, let's all get to work and re-commit to making transformative and lasting change. Together, we can reach new heights and secure justice for all in the coming year.

Thank you for supporting the Bullard Center. May the new year bring even stronger partnerships and shared victories in our mission for justice.

With gratitude,



Dr. Robert D. Bullard

Director, Bullard Center for Environmental & Climate Justice

WHO ARE WE?



OUR VISION

Our vision is to be a leading force for transformative environmental, climate, and racial justice using rigorous science, community-driven research, policy, civic engagement programming, and effective advocacy.

OUR MISSION

The Bullard Center's primary mission is to confront systems that create and perpetuate environmental, climate and racial injustice.



TOP NEWS OF THE YEAR

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Dr. Robert D. Bullard to Be Inducted into the National Academy of Medicine

Dr. Robert D. Bullard, Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy and Director of the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice at Texas Southern University, was inducted into the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, October 18, 2025.



Widely known as the “father of environmental justice,” Dr. Bullard was among 100 new members

elected to the Academy in 2024. Election to NAM is one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine, recognizing individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service.

Dr. Bullard was selected for his “extraordinary vision, groundbreaking research, and sustained leadership to identify and end injustices affecting vulnerable people and places disproportionately harmed by pollution and climate change.”

As the author of 18 books and hundreds of scholarly papers, reports, and expert testimonies, Dr. Bullard has spent more than four decades leading efforts to dismantle systems that perpetuate inequality.

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Second Nature Catalyst Grant Award Recipient

Second Nature, a national nonprofit committed to accelerating climate action in and through higher education, awarded the Bullard Center with a \$5,000 unrestricted grant designed to serve as the “spark” that jump starts or strengthens campus climate action projects that reduce emissions, build resilience, and advance environmental justice.

The Catalyst Grants provide financial support to Climate Leadership Network member institutions leading innovative sustainability and climate initiatives. The Center will complete this project in collaboration with HBCU students enrolled at Texas Southern University.

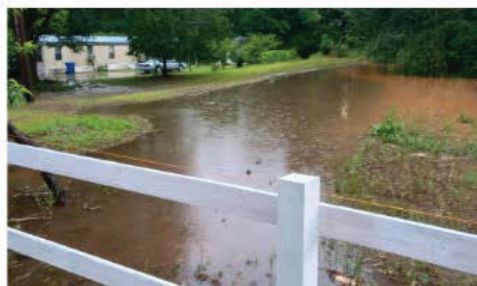
RAPID RESPONSE PROJECT

Rapid Response Highlights

The Bullard Center team continues to advocate for Justice in the Flood-Damaged Shiloh Community.

Dr. Robert D. Bullard leads a team of climate experts who are researching the impacts of highway flooding caused by a federal highway project by the Alabama Department of Transportation. The rapid response project highlights the dire conditions in Shiloh, including flooded homes, sinking foundations, health hazards from mold, and denied insurance claims. The projected outcome is to garner community resources and support of federal government commitments to address the community's losses.

ELBA, AL SHILOH COMMUNITY HIGHWAY FLOODING



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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At the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice, our mission is rooted in empowering communities and fostering collaboration to address environmental challenges and achieve sustainable progress. This year, we are proud to highlight our invaluable community partners, whose dedication and resilience make our collective impact possible.

The Community Environmental Leadership Program (CELP) marked its five-year milestone. A flagship program of the Bullard Center, CELP brings local leaders knowledge, networks, and narratives needed to demand justice, hold polluters accountable, and battle for fair change in their own communities.

The 12-week course includes activities such as story-mapping, to help community members demonstrate their use of technology to share local information, technical information, and environmental justice issues to a wider audience.



CELP Ignites Dialogue on Justice, Resilience, and Climate Leadership



Sunnyside Environmental Toxic Tour



Juneteenth Luncheon Celebrates Community Partnerships



Earth Day 2025: Bullard Center Hosts Farmers Market

ENVIRONMENTAL CAREER WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM

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This year marks a major milestone that celebrated 30 years of the Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP). This life-changing initiative housed at Texas Southern University and administered by the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice has graduated more than 200 program participants over the last (10) years and countless others since the program's existence in 1995. The participants completed basic and technical skills courses, completed work certifications for HAZWOPER, Asbestos, Lead and mold, weatherization and construction. Throughout the program the participants honed in on math proficiency, developed resumes, and explored global environmental justice issues impacting undeserved communities.

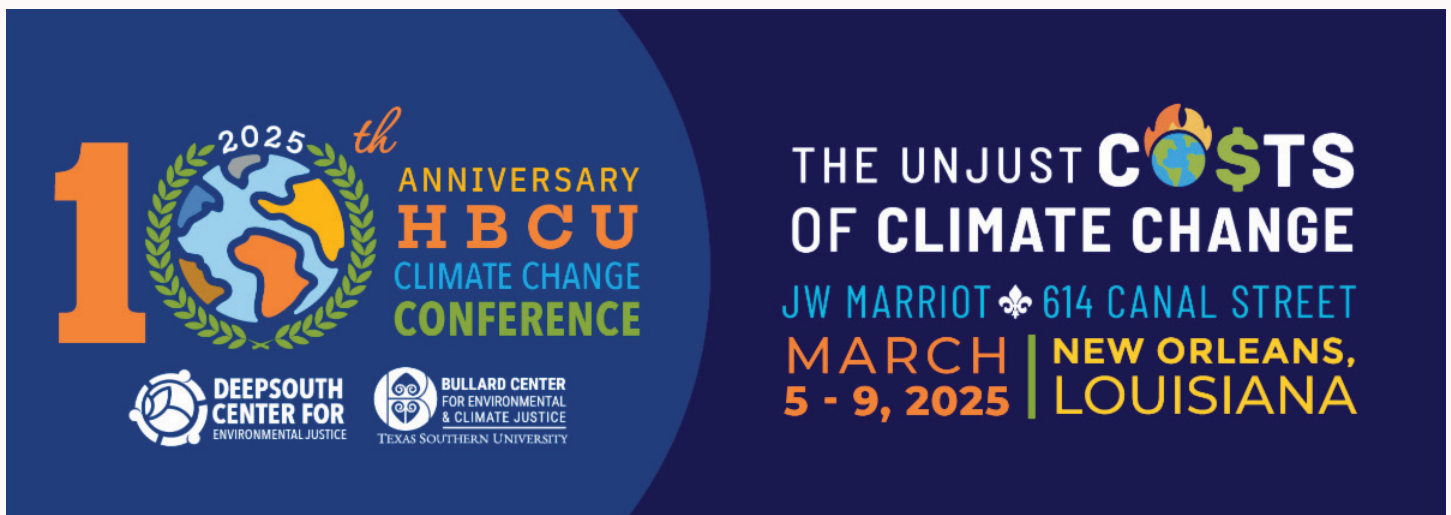


**Class of 2025 Environmental Career Worker Training Program –
30th Anniversary**

HBCU CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE: A DECADE OF ACTION AND IMPACT

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The 10th Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference successfully advanced its mission of merging science, research, and data with solution-driven actions to address climate vulnerabilities in frontline communities. With 481 attendees—including students and faculty from 16 HBCUs and seven predominantly White institutions—the five-day event featured six keynote speakers, five expert panels, seven student panels, three community panels, four breakout sessions, and 46 poster presentations, along with a book signing.



HBCU ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CLIMATE CORPS

The 2025 HBCU Environmental Justice Climate Corps (EJCC) wrapped up its third year of training the next generation of climate justice leaders. Hosted by the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice at Texas Southern University, and funded by the Macquarie Foundation, the 20-student cohort, represented 14 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country. Students were versed on a range of topics, including disaster resilience, environmental health, climate policy, and community mapping.



**From HBCUs to the Frontlines:
Training the Next Generation of
Climate Justice Leaders**



**EJCC Culmination Showcases Next Generation
of Environmental Justice Leaders**

BULLARD CENTER STUDENT ON-CAMPUS ORGANIZATION

The Bullard Center's student organization, TSU Environmental Conservation Organization (ECO), has been active across campus and in the Houston community. From campus cleanups to community gardening and biking, students are taking action to promote environmental care.



TSU ECO Hosts Gardening Initiative for Earth Month



TSU ECO Launches Fall Semester with First Meeting and Movie Night



TSU ECO Supports Students with Free Final Exam Toolkits



TSU ECO Students Lead Campus and Community Cleanup Efforts



ECO Club Pedals Toward Cleaner Air and Stronger Communities

EARTH DAY

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On April 22nd, the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice marked Earth Day 2025 with a lively and impactful Farmers Market that drew more than 250 students, faculty, and staff. The event transformed the campus into a hub of sustainability, featuring fresh local produce, live music, and eco-conscious vendors.

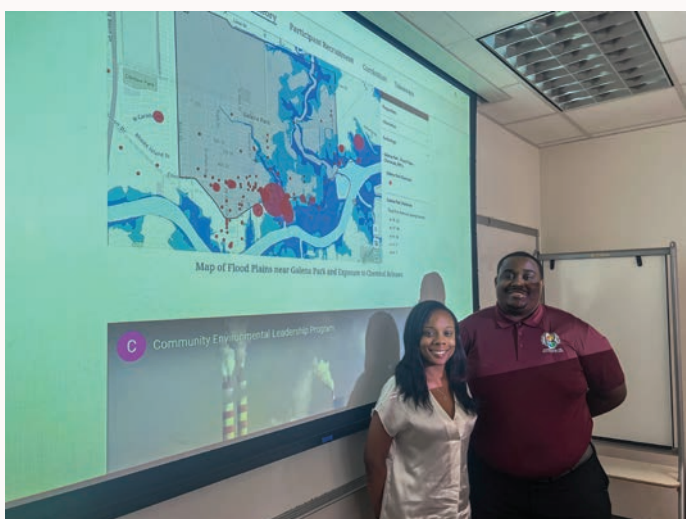
Attendees explored a range of community resources while celebrating environmental justice and climate action. With every bite, beat, and conversation, the market showcased the power of collective action rooted in joy and justice.



MORE FROM OUR STUDENTS



**UPEP Launches Summer 2025 Study Abroad:
Sustainable Urbanism in Seoul**



**Bullard Center Students Showcase Digital
Storytelling at Rice University Conference**



Esther Aina, a 2023 Bullard Center HBCU EJCC participant and undergraduate student assistant, was selected as (1) of (10) students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities to intern with leading community health and sustainability organizations nationwide sponsored by the Sustain Our Future Foundation. In addition to hands-on experience, each Fellow received professional development, a \$5,000 internship stipend, and a \$10,000 scholarship.

Students from Texas Southern University, Morgan State University, North Carolina A&T State University, Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, Dillard University, Bennett College, Tennessee State University, Bowie State University, and Chicago State University were part of this year's impressive cohort. Each of the ten host sites also received a \$10,000 grant to support local impact projects.

STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

ECWTP Graduate Joins CRG Texas

CRG Texas Environmental Services, Inc., a trusted source for expert environmental consulting solutions in Texas, welcomed 2025 Environmental Career Worker Training Program graduate Mark Pier in June. As an Environmental Technician, Mark is already contributing by screening Potentially Polluting Chemical Areas (PPCAs), drafting Release Determination Reports, and supporting projects wherever needed.

His initiative and eagerness to learn reflect both his personal drive and the strength of the ECWTP program at the Bullard Center, which continues to prepare the next generation of environmental professionals.



(photos courtesy of CRG)

CONVENINGS

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HBCU Consortium Hosts Gulf South Water Justice, Climate & Health Equity Convening



Bullard Center Hosts Emergency Management Convening



Welcome Trust Grant Convening

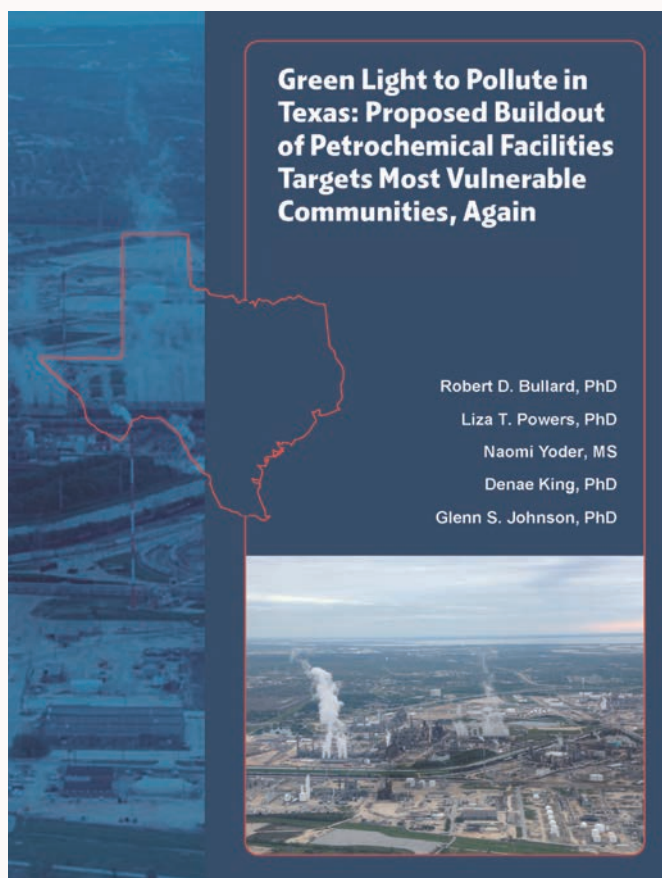
NEW REPORT

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Green Light to Pollute in Texas

Proposed Buildout of Petrochemical Facilities Targets Most Vulnerable Communities, Again

“Green Light to Pollute in Texas: Proposed Build-out of Petrochemical Facilities Targets Most Vulnerable Communities, Again” is a comprehensive report exposing the impact of petrochemical buildout and federal rollbacks on fence-line communities that are long treated as sacrifice zones, and are calling on all levels of government to reject new petrochemical and plastics plants.



[READ THE REPORT](#)

STAFF CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

- Environmental Justice & E-Mobility: A Path Forward
- Bullard Center's Ed Pettitt to Speak at TEDxThirdWard
- Dr. Liza T. Powers Presents Citizen Mapping Research at TLA Black Caucus
- Dr. Robert Bullard Keynotes Workshop on Community-Engaged Environmental Health Research
- Bullard Center Research Assistant Engages Energy Leaders at Microgrid Knowledge 2025 Conference
- Dr. Pinkney Delivers Keynote on Environmental Justice and Sustainability at Statewide Conference
- Dr. Robert Bullard Presents on U.S. Environmental Justice at Paris Forum
- Bullard Center Showcases Environmental Justice Work at AAPS 2025
- Dr. Denae King Lends Expertise at Houston EJ Data Symposium
- Spotlight on Urban Research and Global Engagement
- Keynote Addresses Housing Justice and Equity at TAREB Conference
- Publications: environmental justice
- National Academies Workshop Spotlights Dr. Bullard's HBCU Climate Justice Vision
- Centering Fenceline Communities in the Fight for Equity
- Hurricane Katrina 20th Anniversary: Race, Place, and Environmental Justice
- Communities First: Flooding, Resilience, and Environmental Justice
- Dr. Denae King Presents at 2025 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.
- TSU Joins \$12.7M Gulf Scholars Program to Train the Next Generation of Resilience Leaders
- Bullard Center's Destiny Anaele Presents TSU's Success Model at 32nd Annual HBCU Faculty Development Network Conference
- Robert D. Bullard: We Can All Do MORE



2025 American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) Annual Conference



Clean Air for the 2026 World Cup: Houston Kicks Off Summit

PUBLICATIONS

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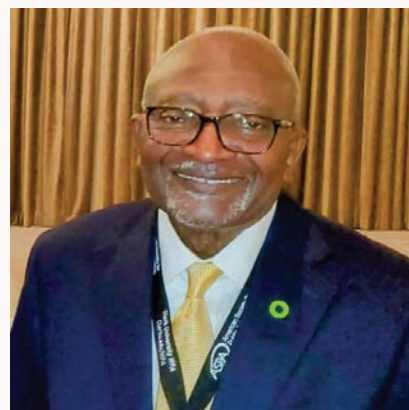
1. Shaye Wolf, Robert Bullard, Jonathan J Buonocore, Nathan Donley, Trisia Farrelly, John Fleming, David J X González, Naomi Oreskes, William Ripple, Robin Saha, Mary D Willis, Scientists' warning on fossil fuels, Oxford Open Climate Change, Volume 5, Issue 1, 2025, kgaf011, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfclm/kgaf011>
2. Bumseok Chun, Jaebum Jun. (2025). A Century of Population Change with Regional Disparities in South Korea: Application of Cohort-component Analysis. Journal of Real Estate Policy Research, 26(1), 37-55. [10.54091/krepa.2025.26.1.37](https://doi.org/10.54091/krepa.2025.26.1.37)
3. Jessica April Ward and Glenn S. Johnson. (June 4, 2025). "An Oral History of African American Seniors Seeking Hurricane Recovery and Climate Justice in the Gulf Coast." Environmental Justice Journal. <https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/env.2024.0072>
4. Jessica April Ward and Glenn S. Johnson. (Fall 2025). "An Oral History of African American Seniors Seeking Housing, Health, and Climate Justice in the Gulf Coast After Hurricane Harvey." Journal of Public Management & Social Policy Vol,31, Issue 1, Fall 2025. <https://digitalscholarship.tsu.edu/jpmisp/vol31/iss1/3/>
5. Libby H. Koolik, Robert D. Bullard, Esther Min, Rachel Morello-Frosch, Manuel Salgado, Nico Wedekind, Julian D. Marshall, and Joshua S. Apte. Eliminating air pollution disparities requires more than emission reduction. PNAS December 5, 2025, 122 (50) e2505888122 <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2505888122>
6. Powers, L., & Bullard, R. (2025). Rooted and uprooted: Freeport East End's fight for environmental justice and place. Sound Historian, 25. <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:va6c2:39a6fff7-3039-4afb-8047-0af8bb8a7dc9>

AWARDS & HIGHLIGHTS

The Macquarie Group Foundation awarded the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice a \$600,000 grant to support programming for the HBCU Environmental Justice Climate Corps undergraduate student internship summer program.



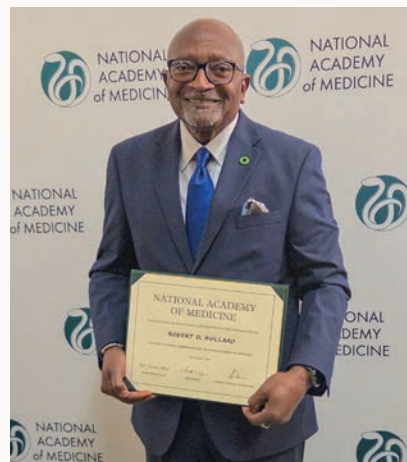
People's Justice Council Gala Honored Dr. Robert D. Bullard



Robert Bullard Named 2025 Gloria Hobson Nordin Social Equity Award Honoree



Texas Southern University is one of Five HBCUs Selected by Sustain Our Future Foundation and Southface Institute for Sustainability Partnership



Dr. Robert D. Bullard Inducted into the National Academy of Medicine

INTERVIEWS & MEDIA

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- **ABC 13 Houston Highlights Dr. Robert Bullard's Legacy in Environmental Justice** ([Read article](#))
- **Black FedEx Driver's Justice, Black Ala. Community's Environmental Fight, AG Kristen Clarke Honore** ([Watch video](#))
- **Eyes on the Prize III | Official Trailer | HBO** ([Watch video](#))
- **How Microgrids Can Save Lives and Power the Future | Ed Pettitt | TEDxThird Ward** ([Watch video](#))
- **True Climate Solutions: Dr. Robert D. Bullard Makes the Case for Climate Justice** ([Watch video](#))
- **True Climate Solutions: Dr. Robert D. Bullard Says Science and Justice Must Go Hand in Hand** ([Watch video](#))
- **Shiloh Community receives thousands to help with devastating flooding** ([Watch video](#))
- **2025 Forbes Sustainability Leaders Summit | Climate Justice on the Frontlines** ([Watch video](#))
- **TSU Pollution Study Documentary featuring TSU icon Dr. Robert Bullard** ([Watch video](#))
- **Voices from the Global Ethical Stocktake Arrive at COP30** ([Watch video](#))
- **Toxic Legacy: Texas chemical industry's dangerous divide** ([Watch video](#))
- **Univision Houston: Green Light to Pollute in Texas...Again** ([Watch video](#))
- **Race, Place and Pollution: The Fight for Environmental Justice** ([Listen to podcast](#))

SOCIAL MEDIA & VIDEOGRAPHY

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Green Light to Pollute In Texas....Again ([Watch full documentary](#))

Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the ECWTP Program ([Watch video](#))

Toxic Tours ([Watch video](#))

Student Reels:

- **What does EJ mean to you** ([Watch video](#))
- **EJ Trivia** ([Watch video](#))
- **Future climate leaders on the frontline** ([Watch video](#))
- **EJCC Recap** ([Watch video](#))


**STAY CONNECTED
WITH THE
BULLARD CENTER**

ONE LINK – ENDLESS RESOURCES!

DISCOVER OUR LATEST EVENTS, INITIATIVES,
AND WAYS TO GET INVOLVED.

SCAN ME!

VISIT US DIRECTLY: [LINKIN.BIO/BULLARDCENTER](https://linkin.bio/bullardcenter)

 **BULLARD CENTER**
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