

SAGE Legacy Fellow Projects for 2018-2019

On June 20, 2019, SAGE honored the fourteen graduates of our fifth Legacy Fellowship Program. Each fellow defined a community challenge or area of need and carried out a solution.

Below is a summary of each fellow's project. Some projects are complete, and others are ongoing. To learn more or to get involved, call SAGE at 971-717-6570 or email hello@wearesage.org.



Micah Child. Stories inspire us to address the challenges in our communities and to motivate others to get involved. Micah is listening to the stories of community activists, reflecting on his own, and crafting a broader story to inspire people to engage more deeply in community service.



Dave Conklin and Carol Sweeney. Over six hundred million people around the world boil their water every day to make it safe to drink, and most use charcoal or wood as fuel. Dave and Carol are working to deploy at scale a hand-cranked UV household water treatment device, Water for Life, to provide a convenient and efficient alternative to boiling water, improve public health, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation.



Ward Greene. Elders Action Network is a nonprofit based in California that engages elders to confront the social and environmental crisis of our time. Ward is exploring ways that EAN and SAGE can co-lead a shared initiative to expand the reach and impact of both organizations.



Katelyn Hale. Katelyn is initiating a new oral history-style media project, collecting and disseminating stories from community leaders about the overwhelming effects of the climate crisis on their work and on their meanings of life. Starting through self-published books and community events, Katelyn aims to bring this quite difficult conversation to light in order to generate collective meaning, healing, and power.



Amy Hall. Shifting our diets to more plant-rich foods is nutritious, diverse, healthy and part of Portland's Climate Action Plan to reduce carbon emissions, and #4 on Project Drawdown's Climate Solutions. Amy created a program called "Greener World Lunches" and has been organizing international, regional and community partners (especially parents and students) to work together with Portland Public Schools to add one delicious plant-based entrée to the menus regularly in school cafeterias.



Jonathan Harker. Oregon's jurisdictions have comprehensive land use plans that meet statewide mandatory planning goals, but, as these goals are over 40 years old and don't address climate change, none are required to address climate change mitigation when making land use decisions. Jonathan is working to convince lawmakers to rectify this situation by initiating amending the goals as part of the Oregon Climate Change Program.



Leah Klass. In our busy lives, it's often difficult to slow down and take advantage of the moments we have to authentically connect with others. Leah is leading an initiative to remind people of the simple, yet stifled act of reaching out to new people to connect and engage them in conversation.



Mary Markley. As our communities urbanize, we need to find ways to make walking, biking and transit safe, healthy, easy and green. Mary is exploring the feasibility of installing a walk and bike path along an urban corridor to give people choices of how to get around town without a car, increase safety, promote health, and reduce congestion.



Lynn Merrick. Education about climate change is very difficult because teachers need to convey the serious consequences of this global crisis, while helping students see themselves as part of the solution. Lynn is managing the first SAGE Team, an ongoing collaborative to develop a keystone lesson to raise awareness about climate change in a solutions-focused way that helps students feel capable of addressing the challenge.



Jenny Dempsey Stein. The Eco-School Network helps volunteers lead projects that reduce food waste, disposable cafeteria products, milk cartons, and other trash from schools. Jenny is helping to develop, administer and analyze surveys to assess student knowledge, values and behaviors around waste and waste reduction.



Jaime Torres. Minds Matter Portland is an academic mentoring organization serving accomplished high school students in low-income communities. As the volunteer finance director, Jaime is raising money for scholarships to equip underprivileged high school students with the tools to gain acceptance to a four-year university.



Peter Wilcox. The Inside Passage Decarbonization Project is working to replace fossil fuels and lubricants supplying vessels and ports in the Inside Passage with much cleaner renewable fuels and bio-based lubricants, and to spur the replacement of fossil fuel-based electricity with fully renewable electric shore power. Peter founded the IPDP and is working with a team of boaters, bands/tribes, ports, fuel dealers, chandleries and fishermen to create a cleaner, greener Inside Passage for our children, wildlife and future generations.



Steve Higgs. There are hundreds of solutions to tackle climate change, but communities are slow to adopt them due to funding limits, including legal costs. Steve's project is to help overcome these challenges by framing pro bono legal projects that lawyers can manage to accelerate these solutions.