

April 30, 2021

Dr. Henry McKoy  
400 W. Main St.  
Suite M201A  
Durham, NC 27701

Dear Dr. Henry McKoy,

For several weeks this past spring over 30 organizations in Durham, NC, and surrounding communities participated in a Racial Equity and Environment Workshop. It was offered by the Diversity and Equity in Environmental Programs (DEEP) Collaborative in partnership with the Durham Environmental Coalition. DEEP brings together local community organizations and university-led initiatives that address diversity, equity, and inclusion; K-12 education; and the environment.

We learned about historical racial inequities in our community, and we are looking for ways our organizations can work to right historic wrongs. The homework for our last class was to watch a video about the destruction of homes and businesses in the Hayti community that resulted when Interstate 147 was built through the center of the Hayti neighborhood. Two days before our last class met, *The News and Observer* ran an article about your proposal to the Kellogg Foundation to revitalize part of the Hayti community.

We are writing to let you know that our organizations stand ready to assist with you with your efforts. We want to make sure we are inclusive in our efforts to serve Durham, and we would like to work with you to make Durham a model city - an example of how a community comes together to improve the environment for all of its residents.

Sincerely,

Nicolette Cagle,  
*Ecologist, DEEP Collaborative Facilitator, and NSOE Director of Undergraduate Diversity,  
Equity, and Inclusion; The Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University*  
Linda Tugurian  
Sandy Sweitzer  
Dan Schnitzer

Caroline Durham

*Triangle Land Conservancy*

Anne C Weston

*President and Founder, Green Burial Project*

Violette Blumenthal

Linda Patenaude

*Planning Associate Manager & Burt's Bees Foundation Fellow, Burt's Bees/Clorox*

Marcy Lowe

*CEO, Datu Research LLC*

Rebecca Hoeffler

Beth Carmichael

*Citizens Climate Lobby*

Ed Pikaart

Laura Mindlin

Douglass Coleman

*BOOST Program Director*

Lisa Miller

William M. LeFevre

*Executive Director, Sarah P. Duke Gardens*

Page Potter

*Volunteer, Citizens Climate Lobby*

Tania Dautlick

*Executive Director, Keep Durham Beautiful*

Sharon Bagatell

*Volunteer Leader - Anti-racism Working Group, Citizens Climate Lobby*

Benjamin Sellers

*Green to Go*

Damon Waitt

Matt Kopac

*Sustainable Business & Innovation Manager, Foundation VP; Burt's Bees/Burt's Bees Foundation*

Alison Klein

Valerie Anderson

Karen Lauterbach

*Volunteer, Citizens Climate Lobby*

*Volunteer, Durham County Extension Master Gardeners*

David Singleton

*Board Member, Eno River Association*

Cavett French

Wafa Khalil

*Durham Environmental Affairs Board*

Cecilia S. Polanco

*Executive Director, SEEDS*

Blair Johnson

*Duke University Graduate Student*

Raafe-Ahmaad Purnsley

*Durham Co-op Community, Durham Co-op Market*

Sara Huckbody

*Teacher, Durham Public Schools*

Tracy Weidert

Hannah Ball-Damberg

Julia Black

Marcia Mandel

*Chair, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee; New Hope Audubon Society*

Barbara Driscoll

*President, New Hope Audubon Society*

Jennifer Peterson

Hillary Harrison

Lynda Hambourger

Kim Livingston

*Director of Conservation and Stewardship, Eno River Association*

Heidi Hannapel

*Partner, Landmatters*

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*Associate Professor of Chemistry, Catawba College*

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*Program Manager - Public Engagement with Science, NC Museum of Life and Science*

Elizabeth Wilcox

*Chair, TreesDurham*

Samantha Horn

Deanna Knighton

Steven Anderson

*President, Forest History Society*

Laura Pancoast Smith

Niki Saylor

Nick Adams

*North Carolina Botanical Garden*

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*Land Protection Manager, Triangle Land Conservancy*

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*Vice President, Durham Area Designers*

Ashley Meredith

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*Senior Policy Analyst and Qualitative Researcher, Southern Coalition for Social Justice*

Shaundrelle Todd

Anne Dayer

John Tallmadge

*Executive Director, Bike Durham*

Ashley Troth

Page 5

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Robbin Randolph

Julia Black

Jackie MacLeod

Chair, Public Events Committee, Durham County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

Julia Fiore

*Durham County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer*

Crystal Dreisbach

*Executive Director, Don't Waste Durham*