



What Is in the Air We Breathe? October 21, 2026



Diana Van Vleet is the Director of [Nationwide Clean Air Advocacy for the American Lung Association](#), where she works to advance science-based federal clean air and climate protections. Prior to working at the American Lung Association, she served as Manager of Policy Communications at Climate Nexus, a non-profit communications organization focusing on climate and clean energy solutions.



Kevin M. Stewart is Director of Environmental Health, Advocacy and Public Policy, for the American Lung Association. His major responsibilities address air pollution, indoors and out, and include informing the public about its health effects, its sources, and its means of control, and advocating for laws and policies to control it. Mr. Stewart holds a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University.



Benjamin Lu is the Clean Air advocacy manager for American Lung Association's California branch. His background is in decision-making and neuroeconomics and earned his PhD in neuroscience from New York University. Prior to joining the Lung Association, he was the Science Policy Fellow for California State Senator Catherine Blakespear, staffing her on climate and budget policy. In his current role, he has supported numerous air quality and health measures in the California legislature and in state agencies.



Ector Olivares is Program Manager for the [Diocese of Stockton's Environmental Justice Program](#). Ector grew up in Stockton but currently lives in Lodi. After high school, he served 6 years in the U.S. Army where he was stationed in Missouri and South Korea. After his service, he attended San Joaquin Delta College where he received his A.A. in Criminal Justice. From there, he attended CSU Sacramento where he received his B.S. in Criminal Justice. He then worked for the San Joaquin County District Attorney's office as a Victim Advocate for 10 years. Afterwards, he worked at the

Women's Center Youth and Family Services as the manager of the Safety Net program. Throughout his career, Ector has had a strong passion to help those in our community who have been victimized, disenfranchised, and marginalized. When not working, he enjoys spending time with his family and coaching youth baseball.