

# REVISIONING RECOVERY

## NC IMPACT REPORT 2020-2022

WORKING FILMS 



# REVISIONING RECOVERY

FILMS UNCOVERING THE ROOTS OF DISASTER

**Revisioning Recovery: Films Uncovering the Roots of Disaster** illuminates the current injustices, systems at play, and the solutions needed to prepare and respond to climate disasters. The short films bring overlooked stories into the light and expose the historical inequities that are exacerbated when disasters hit.

**Revisioning Recovery** is designed to support Just Recovery organizing in critical locations, in North Carolina and beyond, led by those on the frontlines of the issues at hand. Events have been taking place across the state to forge connections and catalyze community conversations and action toward just, inclusive disaster preparedness and recovery.

# THE FILMS



## ***COOKED: Survival By Zip Code***

**Directed & Produced by Judith Helfand,  
Produced by Fenell Doremus**

In her signature serious-yet-quirky connect-the-dots style, Peabody Award winning filmmaker Judith Helfand takes audiences from the deadly 1995 Chicago heat disaster deep into one of our nation's biggest growth industries – disaster preparedness. Along the way she forges inextricable links between extreme weather, extreme wealth disparity and extreme racism, daring to ask: What if a zip code was just a routing number, and not a life-or-death sentence.



## ***Razing Liberty Square (Work-in-Progress)***

**Directed by Katja Esson, Produced by Ann Bennett**

"Razing Liberty Square (Work-in-Progress)" tells a dramatic story fueled by a long history of housing policies that have left this once prominent African-American community trapped within an unrelenting cycle of poverty. A group of strong women to lead the fight against what is rapidly becoming the newest form of covert racial injustice; climate gentrification.



## ***Robeson Rises***

**Directed by Michael Pogoloff & A Project of EcoRobeson,  
Appalachian Voices, and Green Hero Films**

On the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina chances are good you won't hear about the enormous impact this disaster had on people with disabilities. So, we went to New Orleans and asked people with disabilities what happened. The answer was simple and sad: There was no plan to rescue them. During Katrina, people with disabilities were denied the right to be rescued. It's time for change.



## ***The Right To Be Rescued***

**Directed & Produced by Rooted in Rights and Jordan Melograna**

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## ***The Sacrifice Zone***

**Directed & Produced by Julie Winokur**

The Ironbound district of Newark, New Jersey, is one of the most toxic neighborhoods in the country. Maria Lopez, a Honduran-American resident there, is waging a war for environmental justice. "The Sacrifice Zone" follows Maria as she leads a group of warriors who are fighting to break the cycle of poor communities of color serving as dumping grounds so the rest of us can live in comfortable ignorance.



## ***We Still Here (Sneak Peek)***

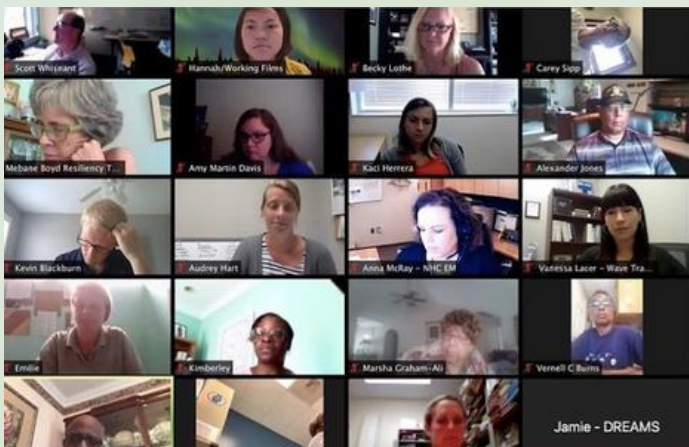
**Directed & Produced by Eli Jacobs Fantauzzi and Defend Puerto Rico**

"We Still Here" introduces the incredible youth of Palomas navigating the aftermath of Hurricane Maria which brought an unprecedented level of devastation to Puerto Rico that has affected the present and future of an island already in crisis. Follow them in this coming-of-age story to find their power and begin creating a sustainable future for themselves and their community.

# NORTH CAROLINA TOUR

## 2020-2022

Headquartered on the East coast, Working Films is no stranger to disaster recovery. Learning from and building on the relationships we made through our community work after Hurricane Florence, Working Films launched a NC tour of Revisioning Recovery soon after the pandemic began. Since then, we have coordinated 16 (mostly virtual and hybrid) screening events in collaboration with organizations working toward climate justice and equitable disaster response. These events have supported organizing for equitable and transparent emergency management, environmental and climate justice, adequate disaster housing and sheltering, more accessible resources and information, and mutual aid. Hosted by organizations in Wilmington, New Bern, Charlotte, Boone, Asheville, Greenville, Alamance County, Wake County, Watauga County, and Macon County, each screening was paired with discussions and actions that supported the work of each host. By offering mostly virtual and hybrid events, with a couple in-person events, over 500 audience members were able to attend and connect with others working on similar issues, those being impacted in their local area, and those being impacted outside their area (statewide and nationally).



The film screening allowed us to highlight the injustices that exist with environmental and natural disasters. Our goal [was achieved] to increase awareness that would lead to dialogue and ultimately result in action. The group participated in a 25 minute discussion and submitted ideas for potential next steps. Our DEI committee will be meeting to discuss next steps based on the feedback that was provided at the event.

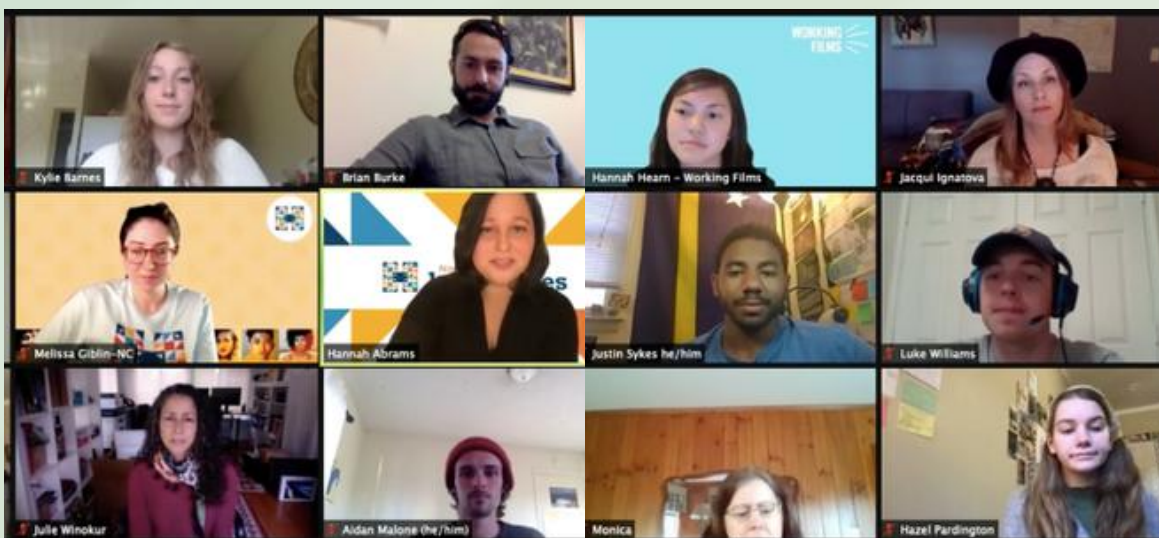
-Lisa Perkins, Exec. Director of Catholic Charities

# NC HUMANITIES PARTNERSHIP

During the NC tour, we were able to partner with North Carolina Humanities to bring Revisioning Recovery to areas impacted by climate disasters across North Carolina. North Carolina Humanities and Working Films partnered on this presentation of Revisioning Recovery as part of North Carolina Humanities' "Watershed Moments" initiative, which explores our varied relationships with the environment, culturally and historically. The program included a Statewide Read of *The Water Knife* by Paolo Bacigalupi, and *Dry* by Neal and Jarrod Schusterman as well as the statewide tour of the Smithsonian exhibit, *Water/Ways*. Hosts of these events included museums, libraries, and universities; and local organizations working on climate justice and environmental sustainability.



During these virtual events, audiences were able to watch the films, engage in a community discussion, and sign up to join and support the organizations leading this work in their areas. Libraries were highlighted as key places to get disaster information and resources from, and they were also able to share out suggested reading lists about the impacts of climate change. "Watershed Moments" is part of the national initiative on "Democracy and the Informed Citizen" administered through the Federation of State Humanities Councils and funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. North Carolina Humanities is a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



# ACCESSIBILITY

One of the main goals of Revisioning Recovery is to advocate for equitable disaster preparation and response for people with disabilities. So it was especially crucial that we expand the accessibility of our screening events. During the past two years, we were able to offer the films and the trailer with open captions in English and Spanish as well as with audio description. We were also able to offer live Spanish interpretation, ASL and International Sign interpretation, and live English captioning at events when needed.



Big thanks to the agencies and organizations who worked with us!



**WASLI**

World Association of  
Sign Language Interpreters



*Cenzone*  
LANGUAGE JUSTICE  
COOPERATIVE



block *by* block  
creative



CaptionAccess

# SCREENINGS

## **Soft launch at National Low Income Housing Coalition's Disaster Housing Policy Convening**

Hosted by National Low Income Housing Coalition, NLIHC Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition and Working Films

**OCTOBER 28, 2019**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2020**

**Virtual World Premiere and Discussion**  
Hosted by California Rural Legal Assistance, Houston Organizing Movement for Equity (HOME) Coalition, World Institute on Disability, and Working Films

## **Soft launch - Film screening and discussion in Wilmington, NC**

Hosted by New Hanover Disaster Coalition and Working Films

**JUNE 23, 2020**

**JUNE 30, 2020**

## **Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Carolina Nature Coalition, Croatan Sierra Club, NC Environmental Justice Network, Craven County NAACP, and Working Films

**JULY 29, 2020**

**Film screening & discussion**  
Hosted by New Hanover Resiliency Task Force, New Hanover Disaster Coalition, and Working Films

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2020**

## **Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Cape Fear River Watch, New Hanover County NAACP, and Working Films

**OCTOBER 2, 2020**

**Film screening & discussion**  
Hosted by Clean Air Carolina, Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, Sol Nation, International House, School of Good Citizenship, and Working Films

**NOVEMBER 10, 2020**

## **Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Appalachian State University's Office of Sustainability and Working Films



**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Alamance Community College,  
North Carolina Humanities, and Working Films

**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by University of NC at Wilmington's  
Office of Diversity and Inclusion, New  
Hanover Disaster Coalition, New Hanover  
Resiliency Task Force, and Working Films

**MARCH 10, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Wake Forest Historical Museum;  
Wake Forest University Program in  
Interdisciplinary Humanities & Program in  
Environmental Studies; North Carolina  
Humanities; and Working Films

**MARCH 23, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Watauga County Public Library,  
Appalachian State University's Sustainable  
Development Dept., Climate Stories  
Collaborative, Climate Action Collaborative,  
North Carolina Humanities, and Working Films.

**APRIL 22, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by AMY Regional Library, North  
Carolina Humanities, and Working Films

**APRIL 24, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Macon County Public Library,  
Smoky Mountain STEM Collaborative, North  
Carolina Humanities, and Working Films

**JUNE 16, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Catholic Charities and Working  
Films

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by Mountain Area Health Education  
Center and Working Films.

**OCTOBER 9, 2021**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by East Carolina University's  
College of Health and Human Performance  
and Working Films

**FEBRUARY 18, 2022**

**Film screening & discussion**

Hosted by University of NC's Social Work  
Organization & Association of Self Care, and  
Working Films.

**MARCH 22, 2022**

# THANK YOU

The Revisioning Recovery tour could not have happened without the support, collaboration, and expertise from our strategy partners.

## Special thanks to:

Block by Block Creative  
Community Justice Project  
North Carolina Environmental Justice Network  
North Carolina Justice Center  
North Carolina Humanities