

#GREEN FOR ALL

A Future to Fight For

***Energy Burden: Transportation, Mobility, and Housing Challenges for
Low-Income Households***

***Kerene Tayloe, Policy Director
Green For All***

Green for All, Our Mission

Green For All is building a green economy that lifts people out of poverty. We do this work by:

- Advancing solutions that bring clean energy, clean water, and green jobs to families at the frontlines of pollution.
- Connecting across cultures and disciplines to build a stronger, more integrated, and more collaborative movement





#GREEN FOR ALL

**NOT ON OUR
WATCH**

ALFRE WOODARD

#AFUTURETOFIGHTFOR

Join the fight at
greenforall.org

Transportation Burdens



“The average household in the US spends almost 20% of its total income on transportation expenses. For low-income households, this average burden can be as high as 30%”

Housing & Transportation Cost Trade-offs and Burdens of Working Households in 28 Metros
Center for Neighborhood Technology Study

Transportation Solutions

Targeted policies and programs can help. These policies should...

- achieve a balance of housing and jobs
- provide communities with transportation alternatives
- and reduce commute distances



“The scale of this settlement shows just how damaging VW’s cheating has been. By selling cars they knew exceeded safe pollution levels, VW has hurt public health and the environment—and betrayed the trust of consumers who had every reason to believe they were driving an environmentally responsible car. ***This settlement will help hold [VW] accountable, but it can’t undo the harm they’ve caused.***” -

David Cooke, Senior Vehicles Analyst at the Union of Concerned Scientists.

Clean Buses Healthy Niño's Campaign



Our State Needs a #CleanRide4Kids

Dear Governor

Personalize your message

We have a historic opportunity. After Volkswagen cheated federal emission tests, they are paying back the consumers and states they harmed with a \$14.7 billion settlement.

Our state is set to receive millions of dollars from the settlement and you need to put it to immediate use by transitioning to zero-emissions electric school buses and reducing toxic diesel pollution! This will protect the health of our kids who ride buses to and from school, as well as the air of the communities they drive through every day.

Our kids shouldn't have to pay any price in order to receive an education. I urge you to use our state's VW Mitigation Trust Fund money to upgrade our aging diesel-powered school buses to zero-emissions electric buses, giving our kids the clean ride they deserve!

Sincerely,
Your Name

Energy Burdens for People of Color and Low Income Communities

Many low income American are forced to choose between energy and basic needs like food and medicine. Though African Americans and Latinos pay similar or lower utility bills than whites, they pay a higher percentage of their household income on energy bills.

Federal/State Assistance Dwindling

2009-14 LIHEAP Funding¹³

FY	Appropriations (in billions)	Average Grant	Households Served (in millions)¹⁴	Eligible Households Not Served (in millions)
2009	\$5.1	\$505	7.3	21.5
2010	\$5.1	\$520	8.1	24.6
2011	\$4.71	\$481	8.0	25.3
2012	\$3.47	\$413	6.9	24.1
2013	\$3.25	\$398	6.7	24.8
2014	\$3.43	\$406	6.9	24.8

Most affordable housing is in older buildings, which use more energy.

Apartments built before 1970 use

55%

more energy than apartments built in 1990

...

This threatens affordability

Within ten years, the US lost

24%

of affordable rental housing built before 1970

5 million

families live in federally subsidized affordable housing.

We need affordable housing more than ever.



Almost **4 in 10**

low-income households can't find adequate housing

Rising utility costs are a big burden for both residents and those who manage affordable housing.

Residents paying for utilities often have to choose between paying their bills and buying necessities like groceries or medication.

Average Americans spend

3%

of their income on utility bills.

Low-income residents spend

12%

of their income on utility bills.

That's

4x

the burden

Affordable housing managers can't keep up with the utility costs, but they often can't pass on the costs to renters.

Utility costs are rising

3.7x

faster than rents

AND utility bills are going through the roof. In the space of ten years, energy and water rates rose



55%



23%

and

and will continue to increase utility burdens.

We need energy and water efficiency upgrades to keep utility costs low, keep housing affordable, and protect low-income households.



Data sources for this infographic can be found at www.greenforall.org/mpower/.

On-Bill Energy Efficiency Programs



Solutions for Economic Burdens in Utility Payments

Federal/State Funding for Utility Assistance for Low income Homes

Weatherization Programs

On Bill Programs that Advance Multifamily Energy Efficiency

Let's stay connected beyond today.



#GREEN FOR ALL

A Future to Fight For

Kerene Tayloe, Policy Director
Email: kerene@dreamcorps.us
Twitter: @greenkerene