WORKSHOP

BRINGING LABOR & CLIMATE JUSTICE MOVEMENTS TOGETHER FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

DATE: Friday, September 27, 2019
TIME: 10:00AM–11:30AM (support group following)
LOCATION: 246 Greene Street, New York, NY 10003
New York University, Kimball Hall, 1st Floor
Interpretation available upon request.
Venue is wheelchair accessible.

Workers, labor, climate justice activists, and all people have a common interest in a sustainable future. Working together to achieve that future is not only desirable but possible and necessary. It will require an unprecedented amount of unity and cooperation among people everywhere in every sector. In this workshop led by labor leaders we will:

★ Provide information about how we have organized to make sure all voices are valued and heard, understand our differences, and unite around our common interests as workers who share the same planet,
★ Consider the divisive effects of racism, genocide, classism, and other oppressions on our work together,
★ Learn the approaches used by Sustaining All Life and United to End Racism to heal from the damage of oppression, increase our effectiveness in the climate justice movement, and prevent burnout.

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THE WORK OF SAL & UER

It is possible to limit the effects of human-caused climate change and restore the environment, but some very large changes in our economy and the lives we live are needed for this to happen.

Sustaining All Life (SAL) and United to End Racism (UER) believe the environmental crisis cannot be resolved without ending racism, genocide toward indigenous peoples, classism, sexism, and other oppressions.

We believe that the barriers to building a large and powerful movement sufficient to make the needed changes include (1) longstanding divisions (caused by oppression, and especially racism and classism) between nations and between groups of people, (2) widespread feelings of discouragement and powerlessness, (3) denial of or failure to engage with the escalating damage to the earth’s climate, and (4) difficulties in effectively addressing the connections between the environmental crisis and the failures of our economic system.

The mental and emotional harm done to us by oppression and other hurtful experiences interferes with our ability to think clearly and sets groups of people against each other. In SAL and UER we have learned that it is possible to free ourselves from these hurts and address barriers to effective organizing. By taking turns listening to each other and encouraging emotional release, people can heal from the mental and emotional harm and become better able to think, speak out, and organize and lead others in building a sustainable world. SAL and UER are projects of and use the tools of Re-evaluation Counseling, which currently exists in 95 countries.

For more information, see:
www.sustainingalllife.org or www.unitedtoendracism.org
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