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# The Swetland Scoop

January 2022

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*The Sweetland Center wishes you*  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

We hope your 2022 is filled with joy and health.  
We look forward to having the chance to connect, in-person and virtually,  
as we work together for environmental health equity.

## Swetland Center Updated Mission, Vision and Values

In 2021, the Swetland Center conducted a Community Engagement and Racial Equity Assessment and held a Racial Equity retreat among staff, partners, and community leaders. From this work, action was taken to update our Mission, Vision, and Values.

Our **mission** is to study the complex interplay between environmental determinants and population health outcomes. The center places special emphasis on community-engaged approaches that address the role of structural racism in creating and sustaining environmental health inequities. We seek to translate these findings into policies, practices and relationships that promote community and population health equity. The strategic **vision** of the Swetland Center is to leverage diverse skills and experiences through transformative research, training and community engagement in order to achieve environmental health equity by:

- Advancing applied and community-engaged environmental health research.
- Integrating environmental health and community systems science into medical and graduate education.
- Engaging the community in research translation to inform changes in policy and practice.

Our **values** are to be:

- Innovative – We believe that honoring differences is foundational to cultivating a culture of innovation and changing the status quo.
- Collaborative – We believe in the strength of our collective voices, knowledge, and individual experiences as foundational strands woven together to create a tapestry of co-creation.
- Community Engaged – We believe that organizational transparency and elevation of community power and voice is essential to building trusting relationship between research staff and the broader community to achieve environmental health equity.
- Inclusive – We acknowledge and honor diverse traditions, learning styles and experiences of individuals and value the dignity of all

- Racial Justice – We partner with the community to build sovereignty and promote environmental justice by sharing power, igniting change, and dismantling racist structures. We seek to enact Research, Community Engagement, Training, and Education that heals historical scars and ongoing trauma of structural racism.

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## Swetland Center 2022 Summer Internship

The Swetland Center is committed to providing training and professional development opportunities to educate the next generation of public health researchers and increase research capacity within our community. Are you interested in:

- Community systems science to advance environmental health equity?
- An experience that will enhance your awareness of the environment's disparate impact on communities?
- Collaborating with diverse researchers and learning transferable skills?

Our 2022 Internship will follow an in-person model and is open to any student interested in community based environmental health research. Find details about our internship opportunity [here](#).

**Application opens January 15th!**

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*Be sure to keep up with Swetland news through our online [News & Events](#) page!*

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## Events & Opportunities

POSTPONED

January Swetland Seminar: Rid-All Farm



Due to the ongoing pandemic, we are postponing our in-person seminar at Rid-All Farm with Keymah Durden, Co-Founder of the Rid-All Green Partnership and Swetland Center Advisory Council Member. Details on when this event will take place will be shared once we are able to safely meet in person!

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### **February Swetland Seminar: Swetland Center 2021 Year in Review**

February's seminar will highlight the work of the Swetland Center in 2021 in addition to a presentation of the Center's Racial Equity Assessment in response to the findings from our 2021 Racial Equity Retreat. Presenters will include multiple Swetland Center staff and trainees. Learn more about this seminar and register [here](#).

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## **Swetland Spotlight**

**Swetland Abroad! Ravin Award Recipient Attends  
The 2021 Global Conference on Health and Climate Change**



# World Health Organization

Stephanie Worttrich, a fourth year medical student at CWRU and the 2021 – 22 Ravin award recipient, had the opportunity to attend with assistance from the Daniel Lewis Ravin scholarship, the [World Health Organization's Global Health and Climate Change Conference](#). This event was part of the 26 United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP26). The conference aimed to address the impacts of climate change on health in the form of discussion and informational lectures. Read about Stephanie's full experience [here](#).



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