

# Stand Up for Workers and Residents of East Palestine!



In a historic conference held March 23, 2024, in the village of East Palestine, Ohio, approximately 100 activists from across the United States formed a new coalition, **Justice for East Palestine Residents and Workers**. Their purpose: to demand that the federal government and State of Ohio provide full healthcare coverage for the victims of the toxic train derailment that occurred in East Palestine more than a year ago. During this conference, union, healthcare, environmental and community activists came together as **ONE MOVEMENT!**



Shortly before 9 pm on Feb. 3, 2023, a train nearly two miles long roared through East Palestine. As it reached the edge of town, bordering Pennsylvania, 18 cars (many containing hazardous materials) careened off the tracks and burst into flames. Jarred from their evening routines, residents scrambled to evacuate during one of the year's coldest nights.

Three days later, **authorities unnecessarily dumped and burned** more than two millions gallons of vinyl chloride and other chemicals held in damaged cars, spewing a toxic black cloud spreading for miles. Since then, residents have reported a number of unusual health symptoms, including bloody noses, rashes, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue. Some are unable to return homes that are making them sick. Meanwhile, Norfolk Southern trains rumble through town, reminding people that the company continues to profit while residents suffer.



**To this day**, dozens of families, workers and citizens have been abandoned and forgotten, trapped in homes, unable to leave a town and area whose water, air and soil have poisoned them with deadly toxins. Unable to work because of the injuries suffered during and after the derailment crash, many of these workers have no healthcare coverage. If you can take a few minutes to hear their stories [see links on back] and witness their pain and suffering --it will invoke tears of rage!



## What you can do to help!



**August 2024:** Justice for East Palestine Conference in Iowa.  
**October 2024:** Rally/Lobby Trip in Washington, D.C. to demand that the Administration invoke the the Stafford Act, to declare East Palestine a mass casualty incident site, provide full health care, and evacuation/relocation support for victims. Contact us below for more information.



Call or email AFL-CIO President, Liz Shuler, 202-637-5018, or [pressclips@aflcio](mailto:pressclips@aflcio), and urge her to mobilize the strength of 12 million union members to support the injured and harmed in East Palestine.



**Sign on** to support our Resolution {see attached} demanding full healthcare coverage for these American citizens; get your church, union or community organization to endorse it.



**Donate** to support Justice for East Palestine Residents and Workers' campaign and coalition effort. Please visit us at:  
**[JusticeForEastPalestineResidentsAndWorkers.com](http://JusticeForEastPalestineResidentsAndWorkers.com)** for more details.



**For more information or to get involved**, please contact Penny Logsdon; [onecent7921@gmail.com](mailto:onecent7921@gmail.com) or (319) 520-8742, Chris Albright; [albright1776@comcast.net](mailto:albright1776@comcast.net), Steve Zeltzer; [lvpsf@igc.org](mailto:lvpsf@igc.org), Mike Stout; [miststout629@gmail.com](mailto:miststout629@gmail.com), or visit us at **[justiceforeastpalestineresidentsandworkers.com!](http://justiceforeastpalestineresidentsandworkers.com!)**

**The tragedy in East Palestine was recognized as a call to action by rank-and-file union members, and advocates for affordable healthcare, a clean environment and strong communities. These activists have, for decades, operated in “silos,” each laboring separately. Now they’re united!**

**Partial List of Sponsors to date:**

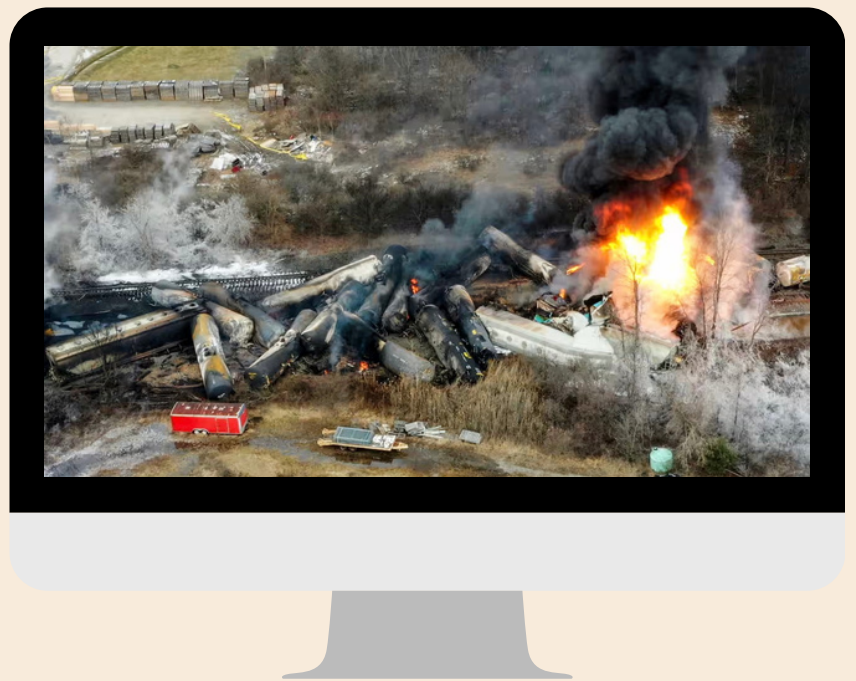
- Justice for East Palestine Residents and Workers Campaign
- Railroad Workers United
- Food and Water Watch
- Clean Air Council
- Jami Wallace, Unity Council for the East Palestine Train Derailment
- Nuclear Workers For Justice (NNWJ)
- Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) - Western PA Harry Enstrom Chapter
- United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America – Eastern Division (UE)
- Iowa Des Moines/Henry Alliance Chapter
- Iowa Great River Area Of Labor Federation
- Iowa United Steel Workers - Local 444L
- Iowa International Association Of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation 0445TD
- Keokuk Fraternal Council
- International Association of Machinists And Aerospace Workers (IAMAW) Local 1010, Iowa
- Lee County Labor Chapter
- Max Alvarez - Real News Producer
- Vina Colley - President, Portsmouth/Piketon Residents for Environmental Safety and Security (PRESS) and Nuclear Workers for Justice (NNWJ)
- John Palmer - International Brotherhood of Teamsters Vice President At-Large
- Andrew Sandburg - District 19 Assistant Directing General Chair, IAM Local 754
- Steve Zeltzer - Workweek and Pacifica Producer

**Norfolk-Southern Settlement:  
An Insult to the  
Injured and Harmed**

To settle several lawsuits related to the crash, Norfolk Southern recently agreed to pay \$600 million. With possibly hundreds of thousands of plaintiffs involved, this is pittance for a company whose revenues in 2022 alone eclipsed \$12 billion.

The agreement fails to adequately address many issues – including health problems that may not show up for years. It’s a “slap in the face,” said one resident.

Clean Air Action Fund (Clean Air Council’s sister C4 organization) and Riverwise collaborated on a video project about the impacts of the East Palestine / Norfolk Southern train derailment. The project is now complete and we're proud to unveil it! Visit our website to see videos, read quotes / interviews, and support calls to action for workers and residents



**[JusticeForEastPalestineResidentsAndWorkers.com](https://JusticeForEastPalestineResidentsAndWorkers.com)**