



# BREAK THE CYCLE

## OF CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES

Promoting Health Equity for ALL Children



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference:

## Break the Cycle of Children's Environmental Health Disparities in Africa

### Hosted by:

Centre for Children's Environmental Health of South Africa

University of Zambia- School of Public Health

Break the Cycle of Health Disparities, Inc.

### Call for Abstracts.

Children who grow up in circumstances of social and economic disadvantage are at greater risk for exposure to adverse environmental factors and are more likely to suffer adverse health and developmental consequences. These adverse consequences operate during pregnancy in utero, play out in the perinatal period and persist into childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. They not only affect health and well-being of the children but also affect their education and employment opportunities, which results in limited earning potential. The limited income, in turn, reduces access to critically necessary resources for their children to grow, develop, and reach their full potential, thus perpetuating poverty and an intergenerational *Cycle of Health Disparities* (see cycle diagram below).

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Visit us at:

[www.breakthecycleprogram.org](http://www.breakthecycleprogram.org)





Our Annual *Break the Cycle of Children's Environmental Health Disparities Program* supports an interdisciplinary set of student-driven research projects that explore the social, economic, and environmental factors that adversely affect children's health and well-being. University students are encouraged to develop creative strategies to reverse or mitigate those adverse factors and thereby improve the health and well-being of vulnerable children to *Break the Cycle of Children's Environmental Health Disparities* and promote health equity for all children. Since its inception in 2004, *Break the Cycle* has partnered with over 50 university departments across 21 States in the US, from 6 countries in Latin America and 2 countries in Africa, and has supported research for over 180 trainees. Please see our website for examples of previous presentations. <https://www.breakthecycleprogram.org/>

We announce our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual ***Break the Cycle Africa*** program to provide a platform for students from universities in Africa to showcase research they have done that will *Break the Cycle of Children's Environmental Health Disparities* at any point in the cycle. Projects that are accepted will be presented at our 3<sup>rd</sup> International conference on **July 15-16, 2026**.

We invite interested students (including those who have recently graduated) to submit an abstract of their projects for consideration by **March 1, 2026**. Abstracts should be submitted online at <https://www.breakthecycleprogram.org/btc-international#btc-africa>. Abstracts will be reviewed by the *Break the Cycle* faculty and decisions on selection for participation will be communicated by **April 1, 2026**. Questions on project ideas or program details can be directed to our *Break the Cycle* Coordinator, Ximena Guillen at [contact@breakthecycleprogram.org](mailto:contact@breakthecycleprogram.org).

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