

Rachel's Network 2026 Fall Regional Event

Rooted in Community: Women Leading Environmental Progress in the East Bay

Dates: October 22-23, 2026

Location: Oakland, CA

DRAFT AGENDA/WILL BE UPDATED AS SPEAKERS ARE CONFIRMED

This program is designed for women environmental funders and leaders. Some sessions available a la carte—register for what your schedule allows.

Thursday, October 22, 2026

11:30am–2:30pm

Rooting in Community & Gathering Wisdom Brunch

Enjoy brunch with Bay-area women environmental funders and leaders, grounding in the wisdom of women working on key environmental justice issues such as urban agriculture, land remediation and fighting toxics in communities. *Speakers announced as confirmed.*

2:45 pm

Transportation to Site Visit

3:15-5:30 pm

Mending Connections to the Land

Site Visit

Friday, October 23, 2026

9-11 am

Building Power Through Elected Women's Leadership Breakfast

Join local women elected leaders for remarks and a discussion over coffee and breakfast. *Speakers announced as confirmed.*

Sponsored by Rachel's Action Network

11:30 – 3:30 pm

Narrative Justice Workshop: How Stories Shape Power, Policy, and Philanthropy

The stories we tell shape what people believe is possible—and what institutions choose to fund, protect, or ignore. Join award-winning journalist, narrative strategist, and Counterstream Media Co-Founder and President **Shilpi Chhotray** for an interactive workshop exploring Narrative Justice: a framework for understanding how stories influence public perception, policy, philanthropy, and power.

Drawing from years of reporting alongside frontline communities and her forthcoming book, participants will examine how dominant narratives often reinforce extraction, exclusion, and environmental injustice—and how shifting those narratives can help build public will for systemic change.

Through case studies, facilitated discussion, and hands-on exercises, participants will learn how to identify dominant narratives, uncover the assumptions that shape their work, and develop stories that center community leadership, historical context, and collective liberation.

Lunch included in registration fees.