

The Year of Climate Change and Health: The Fierce Urgency of Now

PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF COMMUNITIES IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine
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Why Should The Health Sector Be Engaged?

- Climate change is the biggest global health threat we face
- Affects every facet of our lives
- Mitigating it is an excellent opportunity to use:
 - A public health & health-in-all policies approach
- APHA has been engaged in this area since 1900s and has a unique opportunity to bring our knowledge to the table
- Aligns with APHA strategic plan & central challenge of ***“The U.S. Becoming the Healthiest Nation”***

There Is An Opportunity

- Climate change effects are here & impacting health
- Some important policy makers do not support climate change
 - Therefore, it is a issue we must take on now!!
- Chance to set the table from a health perspective
- Action now will keep the issue in the forefront of the minds of the public, policy makers & funders

Suggested Health Sector Goals

1. Shift the narrative around climate change to speak to people's values regarding their health and that of their families and loved ones
2. Serve as a science and policy resource to inform sound policies and decision-making and to evaluate the health equity impacts of those policies
3. Influence and advance climate policies that would have the greatest impact on environmental justice and health equity outcomes
4. Galvanize action to advance climate-healthy practices and behaviors that will make the greatest impact on public health and health equity

2017 The Year of “Climate Change And Health”



The goals are:

- **Raise awareness** by educating people that climate change is a public health issue and not just an environmental issue.
- **Mobilize leaders** that are interested in climate change but have not started to take action.

Year of “Climate Change and Health”

MONTHLY THEMES:	
January	Kick Off
February	Climate Justice & Health
March	Clean Energy
April	Transportation & Healthy Community Design
May	Air Quality, Respiratory & Cardiovascular Health
June	Mental Health
July	Agriculture and Food Safety & Security
August	Water Quality
September	Extreme Weather
October	Vulnerable Populations, Focus on Children
November	Tribal and Indigenous Health
December	Co-Benefits



Photo credit Climate Reality

CLIMATE & HEALTH

MEETING

- Filled void of deferred CDC Climate & Health Summit
- Five primary Co-Hosts:
 - American Public Health Association
 - Climate Reality Project – Vice President Al Gore
 - Harvard Global Health Institute
 - University of Wisconsin Global Health Institute
 - University of Washington Center For Health & the Global Environment
- Funded by Turner Foundation
- 340 local participants & thousands viewed remotely
- Webcasted world wide; Robust social media using APHA hashtag #climatechangeshealth (#2 on twitter at one point)

CLIMATE & HEALTH

MEETING

Partnership Circle

ALLIANCE OF NURSES FOR HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS • AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
• AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION • AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION • AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS • ASTHMA AND ALLERGY FOUNDATION OF AMERICA • C4 CITIES • CENTER FOR
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH, PHI • CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK • CITIZENS'
CLIMATE LOBBY • CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER, DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH • CLIMATENEXUS
• COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH • ECOAMERICA • EMORY DEPT. OF
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH • EMORY DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES • GEORGE WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY COLLECTIVE • GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING AND
HEALTH STUDIES • GLASER PROGRESS FOUNDATION • GLOBAL CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE • GREEN
SCHOOLS NATIONAL NETWORK • GREENPEACE USA • GROUP FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PSYCHIATRY,
CLIMATE PSYCHIATRY COMMITTEE • HARVARD GLOBAL HEALTH INSTITUTE • INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT
ENGINEERS • INTERNATIONAL LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE • INTERNATIONAL TRANSFORMATIONAL
RESILIENCE COALITION • JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND ENGINEERING • KRESGE FOUNDATION • MOM'S CLEAN AIR FORCE • NAACP • NATIONAL
ASSOC. OF CITY & COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS • NATIONAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD • NATIONAL
RESILIENCE INSTITUTE • NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL • PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY • PLANET LABS • PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE • STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CENTER FOR
INNOVATION IN GLOBAL HEALTH • THE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS OF PUBLIC HEALTH
• THE CLEO INSTITUTE • TRUST FOR AMERICA'S HEALTH • TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND • TULANE
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND TROPICAL MEDICINE • TURNER FOUNDATION • U.S.
CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE • U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL • UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
CONSORTIUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH • UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC
HEALTH • UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

“Creating the Healthiest Nation: Climate Changes Health”



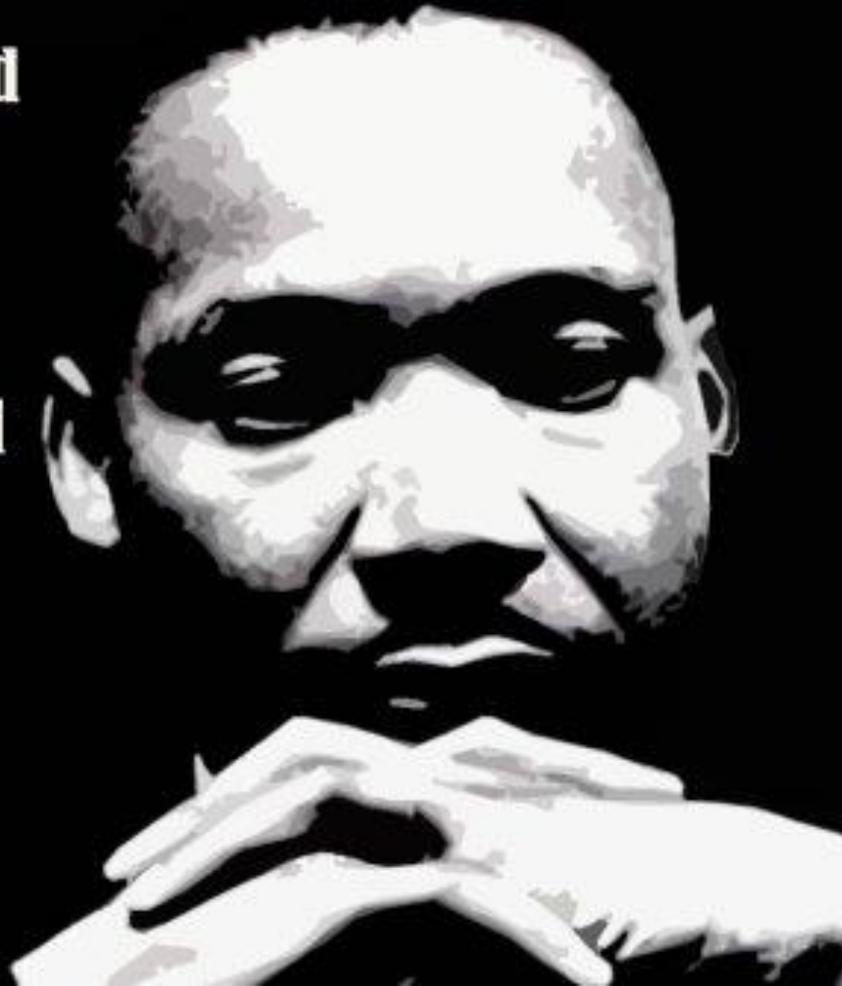
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“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history there is such a thing as being too late. Procrastination is still the thief of time... We must move past indecision to action.”

~MLK, Jr.



About APHA

APHA is a global community of public health professionals and the collective voice for the health of the public. APHA is the only organization that combines 140 years of perspective, a broad-based constituency and the ability to influence federal policy to advocate for and improve the public's health

- Founded – April 18, 1872
- 501C(3) & Nonpartisan
- Over 50,000 individual & affiliate members



CLIMATE & HEALTH

MEETING

