2023 Annual Meeting
SEIZE THE MOMENT FOR CLIMATE ACTION:
Building the Climate Health Movement

Meeting starts at 9:00 am, please remain muted.
Zoom Names & Video

Please add your affiliation and state to your Zoom name

e.g. Bev Harp-MSCCH (DC) (she/her)

Please keep your camera off while others are speaking to reduce internet bandwidth use.
Please select a breakout room!

Pick one or two questions to engage as a group or come up with your own:

- What’s your name, occupation, and where are you from?
- What do you hope to get out of this meeting?
- What’s your favorite climate/health/equity book or movie?
- How did you first become interested or involved in addressing the health and equity issues of climate change?
- What’s your biggest concern as it relates to climate, health, and equity?
Participating in Breakout Rooms

Self-selecting a Breakout Room

1. Click Breakout Rooms in your meeting controls. This will display the list of open breakout rooms created by the host.
2. Hover your pointer over the number to the right of breakout room you wish to join, click Join, then confirm by clicking Join.
3. Repeat as necessary to join other breakout rooms, or click Leave Room to return to the main session.

Leaving the Breakout Room

You can leave the breakout room and return to the main meeting session at any time, or you can leave the meeting entirely from the breakout room.

1. Click Leave Breakout Room.
2. Choose if you want to leave the breakout room or the entire meeting.
3. When the host ends the breakout rooms, you will be notified and given the option to return to the main room immediately, or in 60 seconds.

Asking for Help

If you click Ask for Help, it will notify the meeting host that you need assistance and they will be asked to join your breakout room.

1. Click Ask for Help in the meeting controls.
2. Confirm that you would like assistance by clicking Invite Host.

You can invite the host to this Breakout Room for assistance.
Welcome!

Lisa Patel, MD, MESc, FAAP
Executive Director
Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health
Housekeeping

- Program Guide with the agenda and all the bios are available under the Resources tab on the 2023 annual meeting page found on our website (www.docsforclimate.org)

- The hashtag for this meeting is #ClimateHealth2023. If you have questions during a session, please place those in the chat. Several sessions will have time for questions.

- If you are having difficulties with any aspect of the meeting, you can send a question to info@climateconsortium.org There will be someone there who can answer your question promptly.
Please Amplify!

Please use #ClimateHealth2023 to share your learning & comments on social media. (bonus points if you take a selfie of yourself attending the meeting!) Tag @docsforclimate

Questions: Please enter questions into the chat box in the bottom-right. If chat box doesn’t appear, click chat bubble at bottom of screen.
Are you interested in learning how to communicate about the intersection of climate change and health most effectively? This 5-part training series will build your confidence and skills as a public voice to change hearts and minds.

Join us and our communications partner, Burness, for the following workshops:

- Communications 101: How to Make the Case About Climate Change, Health & Equity
- Best Practices for Working with the Media
- Weighing in on Policy: How to Testify and Provide Public Comment
- Weighing in on the News: Writing Op-eds and Letters to the Editor
- Social Media: Getting Started and Being Strategic
- Rules of the Road for Engaging with Policymakers

Dates and registration details to come. Scan the QR code to sign up for more information about the trainings. Questions? Email ConsortiumMedia@burness.com
The Day Ahead

**Education Track**

9:10-10:00 am: Climate Clinicians on Call

10:10-11:00 am: Advances by Medical Societies in Climate Education

**Advocacy Track**

11:10-12:00 pm: Opportunities for Advocacy with the EPA and Federal Agencies

12:00-1:15 pm: Keynotes: Transitioning Off Fossil Fuels Rapidly and Justly: The Path Ahead

1:15-2:00 pm: Break and Networking Fair

2:00-3:00 pm: State-Level Implementation of IIJA and IRA: Centering on Justice40
The Day Ahead (continued)

**Education Track**

3:10-4:00 pm: Innovations in Climate and Health Medical Education

4:10-5:00 pm: Climate Change and Maternal-Child Health: Impacts and Counseling for the Reproductive Landscape

**Advocacy Track**

Legislative Visits Training *(REQUIRED if participating in Capitol Hill visits on Tuesday)*

Soapbox Hill Briefing *(REQUIRED if participating in Capitol Hill visits on Tuesday)*

End of Monday Sessions
Choose Your Track

- To join the **Advocacy Track/General** session, please remain in this Zoom meeting
  - 9:10-10:00: Climate Coaching: Tools to Build the Movement

- To join the **Education Track/CME** sessions
  - **In-Person**: Please move to Room 113 down the hall
  - **Virtual**: Please use the new Zoom link that’s listed in the Program Guide and here in the chat *(click “Chat” button at the bottom of your screen)*
  - 9:10-10:00: Climate Clinicians on Call (CME)

*If you join the **Education Track**, please return to this Zoom for Opportunities for Advocacy With the EPA and Federal Agencies at **11:10 am ET** (link is in Program Guide & chat as well)*
Climate Coaching: Tools to Build the Movement
9:10-10 am ET

Brian Archie
Organizing Coach
People Power Health and the Leading Change Network Health Justice Team

Jonathan Shaffer, PhD
Hecht-Levi Postdoctoral Fellow in Global Infectious Disease Ethics,
Johns Hopkins University Berman Institute & the Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities at the University of Oxford
Organizing Campaigns for Health Justice

March 20th, 2023

#LCNetwork
Goals for today

- Introduce the basics of our organizing practices:
  - public narrative, relationship building, structuring teams, strategy, and taking action
- Get to know Leading Change Network and our Health Justice team
- Imagine how organizing can grow as a part of your movement building work
Originally adapted from the work of Marshall Ganz, Harvard University. Modified by the Leading Change Network and the New Organizing Institute with the help of many dedicated partners.
What do you think are the biggest challenges to the climate - health movement in the years ahead?
The Case for Organizing:

How do we make change in the world?
What is Organizing?
Organizing is not...

- Raising Awareness
- Posting on Social Media
- Writing Op Eds
- Legal/Policy Work
- Movies and Media
- Publishing Research
Organizing is...

Turning the **RESOURCES** that you have...

To achieve to the **CHANGE** you want!

Into the **POWER** you need...
What is Leadership?

Accepting responsibility for enabling others to achieve shared purpose in the face of uncertainty.

(self) (others) (action)
Cognitive Strategy Analysis

How

Meaningful action

Affective Story Motivation

Why
3 Organizing Questions

1. Who are my PEOPLE?
2. What is the CHANGE we need?
3. How can we turn our RESOURCES into the POWER we need?
Win
Grow
Get Better
Five leadership practices

1. Creating a shared story (Public Narrative)
2. Relational commitment
3. Creative strategy
4. Shared structure
5. Effective action
Public Narrative
Leadership is...

... accepting responsibility for enabling others to achieve shared purpose in the face of uncertainty.
Public Narrative - Self, Us and Now

Story of SELF
(call to leadership)

Story of US
(shared values & experience)

Story of NOW
(strategy & action)

community

purpose

urgency
Values -> emotions -> ACTION!
Building Relationships
Leadership is...

... accepting responsibility for enabling others to achieve shared purpose in the face of uncertainty.
Trust + commitment to each other?

Trust + commitment in a shared purpose?
How Do We Build Relationships

One-to-Ones

Potlucks and Parties

Group Meetings
A 1-1 is...
- Conversation with a purpose
- Involves active listening and asking question
- Sharing stories and experiences
- Discovering shared visions
- Clear about specific next steps together

A 1-1 is not...
- Chit chat
- Skip stories to ‘get to the point’
- Try to persuade rather than listen
- No ask for commitment
- No clear next steps
Strategy
Leadership is...

... accepting responsibility for enabling others to achieve shared purpose in the face of uncertainty.
What is Strategy?

Turning what you have...  (resources)

into what you need...  (power)

to get what you want  (change)
"Power, properly understood, is the ability to achieve purpose."

Dr. M.L. King
Every Campaign Should Help Your Team

- Win
- Grow
- Get Better
SAMPLE CAMPAIGN:

Cedars-Sinai Union Contract Fight 2022

JAN 7
1,010 Surveys
886 Nominations
196 Nominees

JAN 20
889 Voted for
72 Candidates
1,048 Participants

MID-FEB
Bargaining

APRIL
Picket &
Strike Vote

May 9
5-Day
Majority
Strike!

NOV 23
Kick-Off
Nominations &
Surveys

Oct/Nov
Leader 1:1s
Create
“Clusters”

Results are in!
Creating Leadership Teams and Clear Structure
Leadership is...

... accepting responsibility for enabling others to achieve shared purpose in the face of uncertainty.
COMMON LEADERSHIP MODELS

“I’ll take care of it.”

“Hail Caesar!”

“Who’s in charge here?”
The snowflake structure: INTERDEPENDENT leadership model
Leadership Team
...to a distributed structure

Multiple Teams
Trend of numbers

Trend in numbers determines model for your growth and also toolbox that you need for each phase

Phase 1
SNOWFLAKE

Phase 2
SNOWBALL

Phase 3
AVALANCHE
Ingredients of effective teams

- Bounded
- Stable
- The right mix of people

- Purpose
- Norms
- Roles

Adapted from the work of Richard Hackman and Ruth Wageman
Organizing is...

Turning the **RESOURCES** that you have...

**GOAL**

To achieve to the **CHANGE** you want!

Into the **POWER** you need...
LCN Health Justice Community: Our Strategy

Create Communities of Practice

Ongoing

Health Justice Community

Building Health Justice Constituency and Interest For Relational Organizing

Tactics:
- Health Justice Resource Center
- Orientation to Organizing Session (Health Edition)
- 1:1s

Partner with Health Justice Organizations Interested in Practicing Relational Organizing
Join a vibrant community of educators, organizers, researchers and practitioners www.leadingchangenetwork.org
Learning events on best practices

LCN Resource Center

Orientation to Organizing

1-1 Coaching
LCN Health Justice Community 🙌
Concluding Questions…

- Who are your people?
- What is the change they need?
- How will you get there?
Take a break

The meeting will resume at 10:10 am ET

Next up... Confronting Misinformation
Empowering Health Professionals to Confront Disinformation
10:10-11 am ET

Colin Nackerman, MA
George Mason University

Nick Seaver
Vice President and Co-Director of Training Programs
EDF Renewables North America

Rob Gould
Strategic Counselor and Director of Strategic Communications
Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health (MSCCH)
Empowering Health Professionals to Confront Disinformation

www.docsforclimate.org
The Changing Messaging Context

- Public sentiment has shifted toward greater concern and engagement
- Increased awareness of passage of major legislation to address climate change
- Fewer people asking if climate change is happening and harmful (the strong majority now believe both)
- More people will be asking what these changes will mean – especially for them and their community
- Fossil fuel supporters are conducting misinformation campaigns to dampen support for change
Why You?

- Health professionals are among the most trusted voices on climate
- You can make clear how climate change is harming health now
- You can make the case for how solutions will improve health and equity
- You can be effective in countering the misinformation efforts of those who want to prevent or stall progress
Guiding Principles

- Localize and personalize climate impacts
- Layout a positive vision for the future
- Name the challenge explicitly, but quickly pivot to focus on solutions
- Research shows that specific health harms and specific solutions resonate with audiences
- Help people understand why some people are impacted more than others
Shared Aspiration Message:
We all want safe, healthy and stable communities.

As a health professional, I want to make sure that my patients, friends, family and neighbors are healthy and thriving. We all need clean air and water, and neighborhoods that are built to help people be safe and healthy. We can do that by moving quickly toward cleaner, more reliable and more affordable energy.
Challenge Message:  
Fossil fuels and climate change harm health

We’re seeing more and more threats to our health because of fossil fuel pollution and the climate change it’s causing. We’re seeing poor air quality days and smog and soot that worsen asthma, lung and heart disease, and more frequent and intense heat waves, hurricanes, wildfires and floods that displace people and harm our health.

These harms are felt the most by babies and children, pregnant individuals, older adults, those with health conditions, people with lower incomes and communities of color. The fossil fuel industry is putting profits ahead of health and spending millions to make false claims that they are part of the solution.
Communities that are home to people with lower incomes and people of color are less likely to have the resources to prepare for and respond to climate change and its harms. These communities are often subject to policies and practices by government and businesses that expose them to more pollution and conditions that make them more vulnerable to climate change.

A person’s age, health status or where they work, learn and live can result in worse health harms from climate change. For example, hotter days, climate pollution, smog and other climate impacts put people who are pregnant and their babies at higher risk of premature birth and low birth weight, and can cause problems with an infant’s brain development.
Solution Message:
We can improve the health of people and the climate together.

We can act today to address climate change and make our families and communities healthier and safer, almost immediately. Decisions to enforce stronger regulations of soot, methane and other climate pollution, and switching to clean energy sources like wind and solar are a triple win that give us cleaner air and water, more affordable energy, and reduce the pollution that causes climate change.
Hope Message: We know rapidly adopting these solutions is possible. There is widespread and growing support, and action is already happening.

People across the U.S. overwhelmingly support climate action that reduces fossil fuel pollution, improves our health and provides cleaner air and water grows each year. Public support for climate action has grown rapidly over the past several years and Congress passed the most significant piece of climate legislation in history last year, the Inflation Reduction Act. Electric vehicle sales have hit record levels, and renewable energy sources are now cheaper and producing more of our electricity than ever before. We can build on this momentum.
**Examples of Supporting Hope Messages**

- The public understands climate change to be a health emergency and wants leaders to respond. More than 7 in 10 voters support policies like federal investments into research on renewable energy and regulating carbon dioxide as a pollutant.

- We’ve made progress where renewable energy sources like wind and solar now produce more of our national electricity than nuclear power and nearly as much as coal power. We’re moving in the right direction already and we need to move even more quickly.

- Support for solutions will only grow when people begin to experience the immediate health benefits in their community and realize that supporting rapid change to clean energy is about trading up to a healthier, safer and more prosperous future for everyone.
Why should we care?
What’s happened?
What’s happening now?
What can we do?
Climate misinformation in conservative think-tanks

Proportion of Claims

- Solutions won't work
- Science is unreliable
- It's not us
- It's not happening
- It's not bad

Year:
- 2000
- 2005
- 2010
- 2015
- 2020
Climate misinformation in climate denial blogs

- Science is unreliable
- It's not us
- It's not happening
- Solutions won't work
- It's not bad
Climate solutions misinformation from conservative think-tanks

Highlighted periods: (A) 2003 Climate Stewardship Act; (B-C) 2005 and 2007 Climate Stewardship and Innovation Acts; (D) Climate Security Act of 2007; (E) American Clean Energy and Security Act; (F) Clean Power Plan.

http://sks.to/cardspap
An activist group is spreading misinformation to stop solar projects in rural America

February 18, 2023 · 8:41 PM ET
By Miranda Green, Michael Copley, Ryan Kellman

I Joined 40 Clean Energy Opposition Groups on Facebook. Here's What I Learned.

To understand local opposition to solar and wind projects, it helps to see the misinformation spreading on Facebook

Meet the Man Fueling Clean Energy Opposition in the Midwest

Kevon Martis and a group of fossil fuel-funded allies have led a decades-long campaign to sow fear and misinformation about renewable energy. It’s working.

Michael Thomas and Emily Atkin
Feb 9

Anti-wind activists want to create fake grassroots campaign against industry

A memo reveals how wind energy opponents came together last year to launch efforts to undermine support for the industry.
Context & Landscape

- Astroturfing
- Paid witnesses
- Physical threats
- County-level moratoriums

“As of March 2022, wind and solar projects were delayed by local opposition in 49 states. By that time, local governments in 31 states had passed restrictive policies.”

- Michael Thomas & Columbia Law

Kevon Martis
December 4 at 9:09 AM

Some political advice for folks advocating for safe turbine siting at the county level.

Your county commissioners will not be moved by facts. They will be moved by political fear. If your plan for success involves urging the county government to take steps that require some blend of courage and intelligence, you will lose.
Common Myths, Misconceptions, & Logical Fallacies

- “Wind turbines cause cancer”
- “Radiation from solar panels causes cancer”
- “Solar panels leak toxic materials like cadmium and PFAS”
- “Solar panels melt birds”
Common Myths, Misconceptions, & Logical Fallacies

“Wind turbines cause cancer”
Infrasound & low-frequency sound is not linked to cancer

“Radiation from solar panels causes cancer”
Exposure to low-level electromagnetic fields has been studied extensively, & there is no evidence that it is harmful to human health (WHO)

“Solar panels leak toxic materials like cadmium and PFAS”
PV panels are self-contained & less than 5% have cadmium

“Solar panels get dangerously hot and melt birds”
PV panels typically operate between 70-120°F
Common Myths, Misconceptions, & Attacks

- “clean energy is unreliable”
- “wind turbines kill birds”
- “renewables can’t deliver baseload power.”
- “solar uses valuable land”
Health Benefit Realities

We know cleaner energy can help reduce premature deaths & respiratory illness by the *thousands* every year.
3 ELEMENTS TO AN EFFECTIVE DEBUNKING

FACT
Replace the myth with a more compelling and memorable fact

MYTH/MISCONCEPTION
Warn people before mentioning the myth so they’re cognitively on guard

FALLACY
Explain the technique used by the myth to distort the fact.

F - Fake Experts
L - Logical Fallacies
I - Impossible Expectations
C - Cherry Picking
C - Conspiracy Theories
Lead with the fact if it’s clear, pithy, and sticky—make it simple, concrete, and plausible. It must “fit” with the story.

Warn beforehand that a myth is coming... mention it once only.

Explain how the myth misleads.

Finish by reinforcing the fact—multiple times if possible. Make sure it provides an alternative causal explanation.
Thank you!

Colin Nackerman
colin.nackerman@gmail.com
@ClimateColin
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACT</th>
<th>MYTH</th>
<th>FALLACY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our planet has continued to build up heat since 1998 - global warming is still happening.</td>
<td>&quot;Global warming stopped in 1998.&quot;</td>
<td>Cherry picking: looking at one region or a short period ignores the full picture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global warming is like rigging the weather dice, making it more likely to get hot days.</td>
<td>&quot;It’s cold outside, so global warming must have stopped.&quot;</td>
<td>Impossible Expectations: global warming doesn’t mean no more cold weather, just fewer cold days compared to hot days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall, glaciers across the globe are shrinking at an accelerating rate, threatening water supplies for millions of people.</td>
<td>&quot;Glaciers around the world are increasing, disproving global warming.&quot;</td>
<td>Cherry picking: picking a handful of growing glaciers ignores the vast majority of glaciers that are shrinking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenland on the whole is losing ice, at a rate of over 2 Mount Everests worth of ice every year</td>
<td>&quot;Greenland Ice sheet is thickening in the middle so it must be gaining mass.&quot;</td>
<td>Cherry picking: looking at the whole ice sheet shows it’s thickening in the middle but ice loss at the edges is accelerating.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Context & Landscape

U.S. coal and renewable energy consumption by source (1950-2019)
quadrillion British thermal units

- Coal
- Solar
- Wind
- Geothermal
- Biofuels
- Waste
- Wood
- Hydro
Clean energy won’t work
Take a break

The meeting will resume at 10:10 am ET

Next up… Opportunities for Advocacy with EPA
The Day Ahead (continued)

Education Track

2:00-3:00 pm: State-Level Implementation of IIJA and IRA: Centering on Justice40

3:10-4:00 pm: Innovations in Climate and Health Medical Education

Advocacy Track

3:10-4:00 pm: Legislative Visits Training

4:10-5:00 pm: Climate Change and Maternal-Child Health: Impacts and Counseling for the Reproductive Landscape

Soapbox Hill Briefing

If you are participating in Legislative Visits on Tuesday, March 21st, the sessions “Legislative Visits Training” and “Soapbox Hill Briefing” starting at 3:10 pm are REQUIRED.
Break and Networking Fair
1:15-2 pm ET
The following two sessions will be highest yield for those doing **in-person legislative visits** on March 21st, however, any virtual participant is welcome to stay. If you'd like to join the **medical education session** instead entitled "Innovations in Climate and Health Medical Education" click on the zoom link in the chat.

- **3:10-4 pm: Legislative Visits Training**
- **4:10-5pm: Soapbox Hill Briefing**
Legislative Visits Training
3:10-4 pm ET

Liz Scott
National Director of Advocacy
American Lung Association’s Healthy Air Campaign
Building the Climate and Health Movement through Advocacy

March 2023 Hill Day

Liz Scott
National Director of Advocacy, Healthy Air
American Lung Association
Purpose

• Your voices are trusted

• Your voices are powerful

• Your voices are needed
The Congressional Landscape

• Change in leadership in the House + solidified Dem majority in the Senate

• Legislative opportunities less likely; Oversight & defense

• Major victory last Congress with passage of Inflation Reduction Act

• Shift in climate advocacy towards Administration
  ○ Set stronger air pollution standards to work in tandem with IRA investments to drive down emissions
Administrative Opportunities

• National Ambient Air Quality Standards
  ○ Particulate Matter
  ○ Ozone

• Power Plant Emissions Reductions
  ○ Mercury & Air Toxics Standards
  ○ Carbon Rules

• Oil & Gas Emissions Reductions
  ○ Limiting methane & emissions from oil and gas sector
  ○ Appliance efficiency standards

• Vehicle Standards
  ○ Greenhouse Gas Standards on light-duty vehicles starting Model Year 2027
  ○ Pollution limits on heavy-duty vehicles (trucks) starting Model Year 2030
Important Reminder:

• The American Lung Association and the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health are nonpartisan and do not get involved in elections for any office.

• The purpose of these meetings is educational.

• We are not lobbying for a specific piece of legislation and will not talk about specific bills in our visits.
What are Hill visits like?

• **Meeting with Congressional staff**
  ○ These are individuals who have the direct ear of the member of Congress and are involved in the writing of policy.
  ○ Some staff may be involved in health policy, some others may be environmental or other positions.

• **Meetings will last 15 – 20 minutes**

• **Be prepared for Members to be in the office or even in your meeting.**
General reminders:

- Arrive at the building at least 15 minutes early to allow for security & finding your way

- Most offices are not masking anymore (but you do you)

- Business attire (but comfortable shoes!)

- Wait for the full group before starting
House Buildings (Canon, Longworth, Rayburn/CHOB, LHOB, RHOB)

- For Longworth & Rayburn, look at the 2\textsuperscript{nd} digit to determine the floor
  - Ex: Longworth 1340 is on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} floor; Rayburn 2130 is on the 1\textsuperscript{st} floor
  - ‘0’ in 2\textsuperscript{nd} digit means the ground (G) floor

- Basement (B) is the tunnel that connects the buildings underground and the Longworth cafeteria

Senate Buildings (Russel, Dirksen, Hart/SR, SD, SH)

- “0” means ground (G) floor
  - SD-12 means Senate Dirksen ground floor office 12
  - SR-255 means Senate Russel room 255
  - SH-309 means Senate Hart 3\textsuperscript{rd} room 309

- Basement (B) is the tunnel & the Dirksen cafeteria
Types of visits to prepare for

Climate Action
Champs

Climate Action
Opponents
Finding Your Story

- It connects our experiences with others.
- It provides a human identifier to a challenge.
- Cuts to the root of the issue in a more effective way than numbers.
- Not everyone can relate to the technical, but they can relate to the emotional.
Main Elements of a Personal Story

- Descriptive
- Defines a Value
- States a Challenge
- Identifies an Opportunity
Recognizing who you’re talking to & adjusting your language can lead to a more productive conversation. Sometimes our go-to phrases are shut-off points for some offices.

Word/Phrase Switches to Consider:

- *Climate or Climate Change*  
  Environmental surroundings; extreme weather events
- *Regulations*  
  Health protective measures or standards
- *Environmental Justice*  
  Protecting those facing higher burdens of health harms

Topics that travel well:

- Flooding, wildfires, increased risk of cancer, children, asthma, healthcare costs
Meeting Outline

Start with Introductions

• Keep these BRIEF.
• Remember: only 20 minutes max to get through the whole meeting.

Establish Authority

• The Consortium is an impressive coalition, but many might not know what it is.
• YOU are also impressive – you’re taking care of the member’s constituents, make sure they know that.
Meeting Outline

Share Your Story

• After you’ve introduced yourself and the Consortium, take the time to explain in more descriptive detail why you’re meeting with them.

• Be specific, use compelling – and office appropriate – language.

• Paint the picture for what their constituents are dealing with, relying on your medical background as the framing/authority.
Meeting Outline

State the Challenge

• Identify the concerns about health impacts of emissions and extreme weather events and the exacerbation of health inequities and healthcare costs.

Confirming Responsibility

• Both you and the Member have a responsibility to protect patients.
• Reminding them of that responsibility sets the stage for the ask.
Talking About Soot Pollution

• Investments made by Congress are only half the picture.

• The Administration has the responsibility to protect health further by setting health-protective air pollution standards.

• Particulate matter is deadly and pervasive across the country

• Utilize **State of the Air**
  ○ Head to lung.org/sota to find local PM data
  ○ Even if your local grades are good according to the 2022 report, any county can be at risk from short-term spikes
We ask You/Senator NAME/Congresswoman NAME/Congressman NAME to sign a Dear Colleague that closes next week urging EPA to follow the science and set the most health protective standards for PM pollution.
Remainder of Meeting

• Use the opportunity to learn more from the Member

• Some suggested starting questions:
  
  · *How can we help you highlight health impacts of climate change in the state/district?*
  
  · *Are there any upcoming in-state or in-district events where we can help highlight the health impacts of climate change?*
  
  · *What are you hearing from constituents about (pick local event – wildfires, for ex)?*
  
  · *Who is your office hearing from on pollution and climate change issues?*
Dear Administrator Regan:

We write to strongly express our support for strengthening the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) draft proposal on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for fine particulate matter pollution (PM2.5), also known as soot. We were pleased that EPA reconsidered the inadequate 2020 standards, and we urge you to finalize standards no higher than 8 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) for the annual standard and 25 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) for the 24-hour standard, which are in line with the recommendations of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC).

Exposure to fine particle pollution causes a range of health issues, such as increased infant mortality, cardiovascular and respiratory disease, asthma attacks, diabetes, and premature death. The public health benefits that could be realized under an annual standard of 8 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) were estimated to total $44,000-93,000 million annually. Adopting the most stringent annual standard proposed by EPA - 9 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) - saves 4,300 lives, but adopting the standard recommended by CASAC - 8 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) - saves more than twice that number in the year 2022. These health impacts disproportionately affect communities of color, frontline communities, and lower-income communities who are already overburdened by pollution. People of color also face worse outcomes from exposure to air pollution and stand the benefit the most from stronger standards. EPA’s own analysis shows that every other race compared to Whites would see greater mortality reductions with tighter standards. For Black Americans, mortality reductions are over double for a standard of 8 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) compared to 9.

According to the American Lung Association, over 65 million Americans experience unhealthy particle pollution spikes and 20 million live with dangerous levels of particle pollution year-round. Further, recent research shows air pollution and its harmful impact on human health and the environment are increasing. The American Lung Association’s 2022 “State of the Air Report” found 9 million more people were impacted by particulate matter from 2018-2020 than in the previous report.

It is critical that EPA strengthen both the annual and 24-hour standards. Both standards are necessary for adequately protecting public health. The 24-hour standard is the basis for the Air Quality Index, which millions of Americans rely on to know the quality of the air they breathe each day. An inadequate 24-hour standard, like the current 35 \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \), can mark short-term pollution spikes that are dangerous to millions of people such as children, the elderly, and people with cardiovascular and respiratory problems and pregnant people. Strengthening only the annual standard is not enough to protect communities from dangerous short-term pollution spikes.

Strengthening particle pollution standards will improve air quality from coast to coast and will start to address historic inequities and injustices in communities suffering from cumulative exposure to multiple pollutants. People and their families have waited far too long to breathe healthy air. The science is clear and we urge you to move swiftly to finalize these standards so that we can finally begin to achieve the promise of clean air for everyone.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bluestein Rochester Naneet Diaz Barragan Edward Markey
Meeting Follow-up

• Don’t forget to hand over the leave behind folder and grab a business card of who you met with!

• Send thank you emails post meeting
  ○ Designate someone to do this from your group, preferably by the end of the week

• FILL OUT THE SOAPBOX POST-MEETING SURVEY to tell us you did your meeting & to help us understand how the meeting went.

• Continue the conversation! Advocacy does not end when you leave DC. Follow the Consortium’s future advocacy opportunities and connect with the DC staff you met with.
Final Reminders

- We are **not** advocating for a specific piece of legislation – **no lobbying**
- This is a conversation, first and foremost
- It’s ok to not know an answer to a question
- If you have any issues, call the Soapbox helpdesk
State Breakouts

- Determine speaking order
- Designate speakers for larger groups
- Confirm everyone knows what will happen during the meetings
QUESTIONS?

Liz Scott – 443-504-4640  
liz.scott@lung.org

Nicole Duritz – 571-437-1456  
nduritz@ms2ch.org
Soapbox Hill Briefing
4:10-5 pm ET

Kevin Schultze
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- Team Names and Contacts
- Copies of Documents

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** NOT an App **

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