



# FROM THE CLINIC TO THE CAPITOL

## 2024 Annual Meeting

—Program Guide—



The Medical Society Consortium on  
**CLIMATE & HEALTH**

# • Welcome •

Dear Friends,

We're excited to welcome you to our 2024 Annual Meeting for the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health! This year, we've collaborated with 14 other organizations to create a coalition-based meeting understanding that both the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead will require a vibrant coalition of health voices. Our theme this year is From the Clinic to the Capitol. From the social determinants of health we encounter in our patient visits to the structural determinants we have the ability to influence on a policy level, there are multiple levers for change. Whether you're looking to counsel your patients to improve their safety in the face of climate hazards, build climate resilience in your health center or hospital, or advocate for strong federal legislation, you play a key role in this movement.

Our annual meeting this year is about collaboration and action. After hearing feedback from previous annual meetings, we found that our attendees didn't just want to learn from their sessions— they wanted to roll up their sleeves, get to work, and meet more peers to work together. This year, we've developed a number of workshops and networking activities that will facilitate connection and action. We hope you walk away from the meeting with new friends, new skills, and new ideas for how to get involved.

Each year, our meeting harnesses our collective will and clarifies the challenges we face to achieve our goals in the year ahead. This year, we are excited to be bringing together some of the nation's top experts on health equity, policy, communication, advocacy, and education to deliver an agenda that we believe will serve your needs. On our legislative advocacy day on February 13th, we will talk to our decision-makers about the critical importance of supporting and enforcing strong climate pollution standards being passed by the Environmental Protection Agency. Working in partnership with the American Lung Association and the Climate Action Campaign, we've set up meetings with both congressional representatives and administrative offices.

Thank you for joining us for our annual meeting. We are excited for the year ahead as we work together to center climate solutions in health and equity. Thank you for all that you do in making this world a more sustainable, just, and beautiful world for all.



Lisa Patel, MD, MEd, FAAP  
Executive Director  
The Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health

## OUR PARTNERS



# • How to Get There •

## Getting to Van Metre Hall



### Address

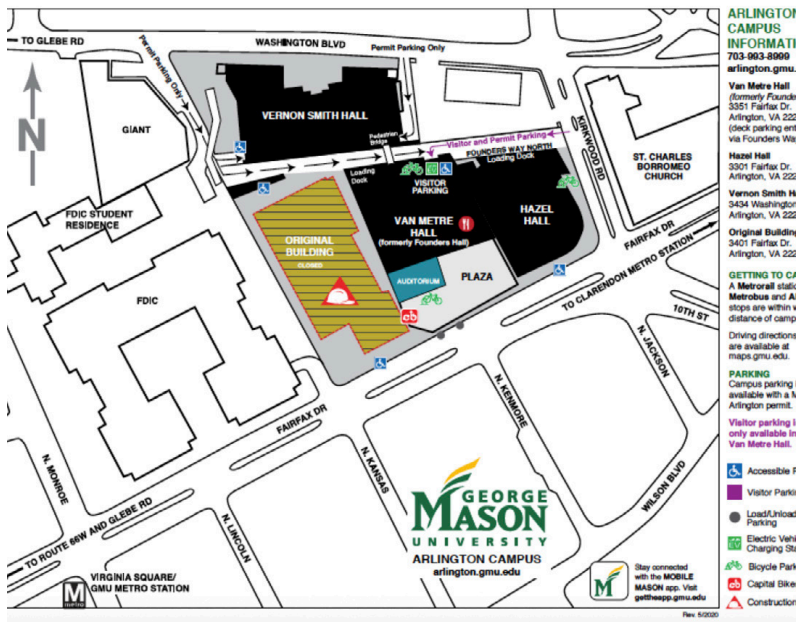
Van Metre Hall  
George Mason University  
3351 Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22201

### Public Transportation

Van Metre Hall is easily accessible via the Metro by taking the Orange or Silver line to the Virginia Square/GMU Station. We highly encourage the use of public transportation.

### Driving

A parking garage is located on the same block as Van Metre Hall (see above) with public parking available at an hourly rate. Please follow the purple arrows on the map to enter the parking garage at the correct location. You can find driving instructions depending on your starting location here. You can also do a ride app like Lyft or Uber. Rates can vary widely based on time of day/weather but you can roughly expect to spend \$20-30 if coming from central Washington, DC.



## • How to Join Online •

All of our sessions will be available to attend via Zoom. Use the link below or tap the Zoom icon to join.



<https://gmu.zoom.us/j/92694685055?pwd=bTVMOTBEY2syNHVmVHh6R21QWm1KUT09>

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# • Thank you to our sponsors •

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## CONVENERS



# ● Agenda ●

## Day 1 - Sunday, February 11

8:00 - 9:00AM

### Registration and Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30AM

### Welcome and Introduction

*Lisa Patel, Executive Director, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health*

*Ed Maibach, Director of the Center for Climate Change Communication*

*Al'ice Hall-Myers, President of the American Indian Society of Washington, DC*

*Stacey Abrams, Former Georgia State Representative, Rewiring America Senior Counsel*

9:30 - 10:00AM

### Forging Climate Solutions to Accelerate Action Across America (CME/CE)

*Dr. Mustafa Santiago Ali, Executive Vice President of Conservation & Justice, National Wildlife Federation*

10:00 - 10:45AM

### Big Oil v. Our Health: How Industry Has Stymied Action (CME/CE)

**Moderator:** *Bev Harp, Director of State Affairs, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health*

*Ben Franta, Senior Research Fellow in Climate Litigation, Oxford Sustainable Law Programme*

*Linda Rudolph, Senior Advisor, Climate, Health and Equity, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health*

*Laalitha Surapaneni, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Hospital Medicine, University of Minnesota*

10:45 - 11:00AM

### Break

11:00AM - 12:00PM

### Why Don't We Talk About Fossil Fuels Like We Talk About Tobacco? (We Should) (CME/CE)

*John Kotcher, Research Associate Professor, George Mason University's Center for Climate Change Communication;*

*Abby Novinska-Lois, Executive Director, Healthy Climate Wisconsin;*

*Nick Seaver, Senior Vice President and Co-Director, Training Programs, Burness;*

*Rob Gould, Strategic Communications Director, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health*

12:00 - 1:00PM

### Lunch

### Virtual Networking Session

1:00 - 2:30PM

### Preparing Vulnerable Populations for 2024 Heat Waves: A Speciality-Based Approach (CME/CE)

**Moderator and speaker:** *Kate Huffling, Executive Director, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments*

*Caleb Dresser, Director of Healthcare Solutions, Harvard C-CHANGE*

*Gaurab Basu, Director of Education and Policy, Harvard C-CHANGE*

*Mani Berenji, Assistant Clinical Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health, UCI Program in Public Health*

*Hayley Blackburn, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, University of Montana*

*Robert Feder, American Psychiatric Association*

2:30 - 3:15PM

### Youth Engagement in Climate Solutions and Mental Well-Being (CME/CE)

**Moderator:** *Leyla McCurdy, Chair, Children's Environmental Health Committee APHA, Environment Section*

*Michelle Loosli, Senior Manager, Climate Education, American Public Health Association*

*Elizabeth Pinsky, Associate Director for Advocacy, MGH Center for Environment and Health*

3:45 - 4:45PM

### Collaborating With Frontline Communities for Climate Action (CME/CE)

**Moderator:** *Julian Watkins, 2023 Climate & Health Equity Fellow*

*Dana Johnson, Senior Director of Strategy and Federal Policy, WE ACT for Environmental Justice*

*Camilo Mejia, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Catalyst Miami*

4:45 - 5:00PM

### Break

# ● Agenda ●

## Day 1 - Sunday, February 11

5:00 - 6:00PM

### **Climate & Health Equity Fellowship Presentations (CME/CE)**

**Esmeralda Morales-Weston**, 2023 Climate & Health Equity Fellow

**Cheryl Holder**, 2023 Climate & Health Equity Fellow

**Julian Watkins**, 2023 Climate & Health Equity Fellow

6:00-7:30PM

### **Reception**

**Lori Byron**, Chair, Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate

**Julia Olson**, Executive Director & Chief Legal Counsel, Our Children's Trust

## Concurrent Workshops (In-person Only)

5:00 - 6:00PM

### **Developing Speciality-Specific Patient Guidance for Heat: A Peer Review Workshop (CME/CE)**

**Description:** With the summer of 2024 projected to be worse than the historic summer of 2023, preparing vulnerable populations for heat has become an imperative for clinicians. In this workshop, participants will have the chance to provide feedback and help improve patient-facing materials on heat developed by Harvard C-CHANGE and AmeriCares that targets vulnerable populations, such as patients with asthma/COPD, diabetes, mental health disorders, or chronic kidney disease.

**Caleb Dresser**, Director of Healthcare Solutions, Harvard C-CHANGE

### **Communicating With Patients on Climate Change With an Equity Lens (CME/CE)**

**Description:** Specialities are considering how best to integrate climate change into patient encounters and visits. With limited time during clinical encounters, how this information gets integrated for maximum impact is an area of active development. This workshop will bring interested participants together to discuss the challenges and barriers along with the opportunities to integrate climate counseling into our patient visits using an equity frame. This workshop will aim to produce a framework or roadmap that can be used by practitioners to guide further research on high impact opportunities to best protect vulnerable patients from the health harms of climate change.

**Maya Ragavan**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of General Academic Pediatrics, University of Pittsburgh

**Shalini Shah**, Assistant Director, Pediatric Environmental Health Center/Region I PEHSU, Boston Children's Hospital

### **Making the Case That Fossil Fuel Pollution Is the Common Enemy of our Health and Our Climate: The Power of Naming Big Oil (CME/CE)**

**Description:** New research shows naming fossil fuel pollution and Big Oil misinformation is effective for increasing engagement and activation. At the same time, messaging should be crafted carefully to ensure that it does not worsen existing political polarization. Learn and practice how to use this messaging with decision-makers and the public in your presentations, social media, or op-eds.

**Nick Seaver**, Senior Vice President and Co-Director, Training Programs, Burness

**Rob Gould**, Strategic Communications Director, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health



# ● Agenda ●

## Day 2 - Monday, February 12

- 7:30 - 8:15AM **Breakfast**
- 8:15 - 8:30AM **Welcome and Introduction**  
*Lisa Patel, Executive Director, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health*
- 8:30 - 9:30AM **State-Level Climate Policy: How We Win and Why We Lose (CME/CE)**  
*Moderator: Bev Harp, Director of State Affairs, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health*  
*Tonyehn Verkitus, Executive Director, PSR Pennsylvania*  
*Samantha Ahdoot, Chair and Founder, Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action*  
*Cheryl Holder, Founding Co-Chair & Interim Executive Director, Florida Clinicians for Climate Action*
- 10:00 - 10:45AM **State-Level Organizing on Climate-Smart Healthcare (CME/CE)**  
*Moderator: Lisa Del Buono, Executive Director, Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action*  
*Anna Goldman, Co-Founder, Clean Power Prescription, Boston Medical Center*  
*Lauren Koch, Sustainability Program Manager, Ohio State Wexner Medical Center*  
*Noe Copley-Woods, Assistant Dean for Sustainability, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine*
- 10:30 - 11:00AM **Break**
- 11:00AM - 12:00PM **Indigenous Health and Climate Change**  
*Amba-Rose Atkinson, PhD Candidate, Faculty of Medicine, University of Queensland and Harvard University FXB Center Visiting Scholar*  
*Victor Lopez-Carmen, MD Candidate, Harvard Medical School*
- 12:00 - 1:00PM **Lunch**
- 1:00 - 2:00PM **Research Hot Topics From the Journal on Climate and Health (CME/CE)**  
*Moderator and speaker: Ann-Christine Duhaime, Associate Director, MGH Center for the Environment and Health*  
*Ritu Parchur, Senior Research Fellow, Prayas Health Group, Pune*  
*Ratika Samtani, Faculty -Assistant Professor-III, IIHMR Delhi*  
*Iris Blom, World Health Organization Youth Council*  
*Ilyssa Gordon, Associate Professor of Pathology and Medical Director, Sustainability, Cleveland Clinic*  
*Eva Rawlings Parker, Assistant Professor, Dermatology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center*
- 2:00 - 2:45PM **Federal Climate Policy: Wins, Opportunities and How Health Orgs are Weighing In (CME/CE)**  
*Laura Kate Bender, National Assistant Vice President, Healthy Air, American Lung Association*
- 2:45 - 3:15PM **Break**
- 3:15 - 4:15PM **The Importance of Get Out the Vote in 2024 (CME/CE)**  
*Aliya Bhatia, Executive Director, Vot-ER*  
*Ben Fulgencio-Turner, Director, Climate for Health*  
*Nathaniel Stinnett, Environmental Voter Project*
- 4:15 - 4:30PM **Remarks**  
*U.S. Representative Kathy Castor (D-FL 14th District), Chair of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis*

# ● Agenda ●

## Day 2 - Monday, February 12

4:30 - 5:15PM

### Preparing to Speak to Your Lawmakers (In Person Only)

This session is required for those attending the in-person visits to Congress on February 13.  
**Liz Scott**, Director of Advocacy, American Lung Association

5:15 - 6:00PM

### Soapbox Presentation: Logistics of Meetings on Capitol Hill (In Person Only)

This session is required for those attending the in-person visits to Congress on February 13.  
**Kevin Schultze**, Senior Vice President, Soapbox Consulting

## Concurrent Workshops (In-person Only)

11:00AM - 12:00PM

### 1. Op-Ed Write-athon (CME/CE)

**Description:** Bring an idea, partially, or fully written op-ed, and join this session with Burness Communications to take your op-ed to a new level. This session is designed to be a follow-up to our previous op-ed 101 session hosted in 2023. If you did not attend that session, please watch this webinar prior to this breakout. A recording of that workshop is [available here](#) as a refresher.

**Anne Chen**, Senior Associate, Burness

### 2. Climate-Resilient Clinics and Hospitals: How to Navigate Opportunities Through the Inflation Reduction Act (CME/CE)

**Description:** New funding through the Inflation Reduction Act can provide transformative support to community health centers, clinics, and hospitals to improve their climate resilience, improve their efficiency and reduce operating expenses, and decrease their carbon footprint. In this workshop, learn about resources you can use to advocate for mitigation and resilience measures at your health care institution in addition to what support and resources exist through the HHS Office of Climate Change and Health Equity to catalyze change.

**Jess Hinshaw**, Environmental Health Director, National Association of Community Health Centers  
**Aparna Bole**, Senior Consultant, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
**Jenny Keroack**, Senior Policy Advisor, HHS Office of Climate Change and Health Equity.

1:00 - 2:00PM

### Organizing for Change on Climate-Smart Health Care: Lessons From Community Organizing (CME/CE)

**Description:** The most impactful change comes from talented leaders who understand the importance of organizing. This workshop will introduce you to Marshall Ganz's framework for people, power, and change. This framework has already been applied with success by other health professionals, and you will learn how it can be applied to your health systems to motivate more ambitious action on climate change.

**Pedja Stojicic**, Executive Director, People Power Health

## Virtual Sessions

4:15PM - 5:00PM

### Self-Care for Climate Activists (CME/CE)

**Robert Feder**, American Psychiatric Association

5:00 - 5:45PM

### Environmental Justice: Inclusive Emergency Preparedness for Persons With Disabilities (CME/CE)

**Liz Treston**, City Council Vice President, Long Beach NY  
**Carol Myers**, Occupational Therapists for Environmental Action

## ● Keynote Speakers ●



**Stacey Abrams**

**Stacey Abrams** is Senior Counsel to Rewiring America. She is a political leader, small business owner, and New York Times bestselling author. She rose to national prominence in 2018 as the Democratic nominee for Governor of Georgia, winning at the time more votes than any other Democrat in the state's history and becoming the first Black woman to become the gubernatorial nominee for a major party in the United States. She served 11 years in the Georgia House of Representatives, seven as her party's leader.

Abrams has worked throughout her career on issues of voting rights, environmental justice, health equity, and economic empowerment – and for her, electrification merges these lanes of work. Abrams has founded multiple organizations devoted to voting rights, training and hiring young people of color, and tackling issues at both the state and national levels. Abrams launched Fair Fight to ensure every American has a voice in our election system. She created Fair Count to ensure accuracy in the U.S. Census and greater participation in civic engagement. She established the Southern Economic Advancement Project, a public policy initiative to broaden economic power and build equity in the South.

Abrams is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations, as well as a number of nonprofit and corporate boards. She served on former Secretary of State John Kerry's World War Zero bipartisan coalition on climate change and as an advisor to multiple initiatives to support a cleaner environment, including reducing our carbon footprint and advocating for environmentally just policies. She speaks and writes regularly on global affairs and democracy internationally.

Abrams received degrees from Spelman College, the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas and Yale Law School. Born in Madison, Wisconsin, she and her five siblings grew up in Gulfport, Mississippi, and were raised in Georgia.

## ● Keynote Speakers ●



**Dr. Mustafa  
Santiago Ali**

**Dr. Mustafa Santiago Ali** is the Executive Vice President of Conservation & Justice for the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), former Interim Chief of Programs at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), and Instructor at American University. He is the Founder and CEO of Revitalization Strategies. He also serves as a commissioner for The American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS).

Before joining NWF, Mustafa was the Senior Vice President for the Hip Hop Caucus (HHC), a national nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that connects the Hip Hop community to the civic process. Before joining the HHC, Mustafa worked 22 years at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and two years on Capitol Hill working for Congressman John Conyers, chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Mustafa began working on Social Justice issues at 16, and joined the EPA as a student, becoming a founding member of the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ). He most recently served as Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization and Assistant Associate Administrator. He led the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG), which brought together 17 Federal Agencies and departments and White House offices to leverage resources to strategically uplift vulnerable communities across the country. He has also worked with over 1,000 domestic and international communities to secure environmental, health, and economic justice.

In 2019, Mustafa co-designed and co-moderated the first Presidential Forum on Environmental Justice with Amy Goodman, host of Democracy Now. He has interviewed some of America's most influential leaders in Politics, Hip Hop, Civil Rights, Climate, and Social Justice.

He currently works with several Fortune 500 companies as they journey towards becoming 21st-century organizations, focused on integrating justice and equity into their respective programs, policies, and budgeting decisions.

In late 2020, he launched the Clean Economy of Color Coalition (CECC) to better prepare and educate entrepreneurs, frontline organizations, and local officials for the new sets of opportunities that the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, Inflation Reduction Act, and Chip's Act provide to build wealth, lower emissions and address the climate crisis. To date, thousands of participants have engaged with the CECC, which continues to grow monthly.

Mustafa has also worked with a number of Congressional representatives in the design of legislation focused on health care, gun violence, climate, housing, transportation, jobs, and environmental justice. He has testified on Capitol Hill numerous times, highlighting how stronger legislation can drive more inclusive policies, investments, and actions that directly affect our most vulnerable communities.

Dr. Ali is frequently seen on television, including appearances on MSNBC, ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, VICE, FUSE, BET, National Geographic, Full Frontal with Samantha Bee, and Democracy NOW! Mustafa is also a regular guest on Roland Martin Unfiltered, Black News Channel, The Dean Obeidallah Show, and many others.

## ● Keynote Speakers ●



**Julia Olson**

**Julia Olson** is the Co-Executive Director and Chief Legal Counsel of Our Children's Trust, a non-profit public interest law firm she founded in 2010 on the idea that courts are vital to democracy and are empowered to protect our children and the planet. Without a stable climate system, every natural resource we rely upon to exercise our basic human rights—life, liberty, home, happiness—is under threat.

Julia graduated from UC Law San Francisco, formerly Hastings, in 1997, and founded Our Children's Trust in 2010, initiating a global movement of rights-based climate litigation. She and her team at Our Children's Trust have since pioneered a globally replicated model for youth-led legal action that draws from and integrates children's rights, constitutional rights, climate science, and the public trust doctrine to protect the planet's most vulnerable citizens: children.

Julia is lead counsel in *Juliana v. United States*, the constitutional climate change case brought by 21 young Americans against the U.S. government for violating their Fifth Amendment rights to life, liberty, property, public trust resources, and equal protection of the law. Julia also leads *Genesis v. U.S. EPA*, filed in December 2023 by 18 California children against EPA for violating their rights to equal protection of the law, life, and a life-sustaining climate.

Julia also represents the plaintiffs in *Held v. State of Montana*, where the first-ever constitutional climate trial in the nation's history in June 2023 resulted in a sweeping win declaring Montana's fossil fuel-promoting laws unconstitutional. Our Children's Trust's case *Navahine F. v. Hawai'i Department of Transportation*, the second-ever constitutional climate case to go to trial in the U.S., is scheduled for June 2024.

Our Children's Trust's work will be achieved when there is universal recognition of children's climate rights by courts around the world and children's fundamental rights to life on this planet are protected. [www.ourchildrenstrust.org](http://www.ourchildrenstrust.org).

## ● Keynote Speakers ●



**Kathy Castor**

**Kathy Castor** has served as the U.S. Congresswoman for Florida's 14th Congressional District since 2006, representing Tampa, St. Petersburg, Hillsborough County, and parts of Pinellas County. As the first woman to represent Hillsborough and Pinellas counties in Congress, she has prioritized issues crucial to Tampa Bay area families and businesses.

Castor's tenure has been marked by her significant focus on building a stronger economy and addressing climate change. As the Ranking Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and former Chair of the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, she has been instrumental in pushing for policies that create jobs, protect the environment, and improve healthcare access.

She has successfully advocated for bringing new job opportunities to the region, supporting entities like Port Tampa Bay, University of South Florida, Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, Tampa International Airport, and MacDill Air Force Base. Castor's dedication to environmental protection is evident through her leadership in drafting comprehensive climate action plans and translating climate solutions into law.

Castor has also been a vocal opponent of offshore drilling, introducing legislation to protect Florida's coastline from environmental risks. Her advocacy extends beyond climate issues to disaster response, healthcare reform, support for military personnel and veterans, and immigration solutions.

In summary, Kathy Castor's congressional career is characterized by her unwavering commitment to advancing policies that promote economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, and social equity in Tampa Bay and beyond.



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## • Speakers •



**Dr. Benjamin Franta** is a Senior Research Fellow in Climate Litigation at the Oxford Sustainable Law Programme and the founding head of the Climate Litigation Lab. His research focuses on applying rigorous methods to practical challenges presented by climate litigation worldwide and has been published in *Nature Climate Change*, *Global Environmental Change*, *The Guardian*, and more, translated into 10 languages, and cited in the US Congressional Record. Dr Franta holds a PhD in Applied Physics from Harvard University, a separate PhD in History (History of Science) from Stanford University, a JD from Stanford Law School, an MSc in Archaeological Science from the University of Oxford, and a BA in Physics and Mathematics from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He is also a licensed attorney and a member of the State Bar of California.



**Dr. Mani Berenji** is a double board-certified Occupational and Environmental Medicine as well as Preventive Medicine physician with over 10 years of clinical experience in occupational and environmental health. She is currently Chief of Occupational Health as well as Lead Environmental Health Physician at VA Long Beach Healthcare System. She is also Clinical Assistant Professor at UC Irvine Program in Public Health in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health as well as at UC Irvine School of Medicine in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. She is Lead of Academic and Community Partnerships at the UC Center for Climate, Health and Equity.



**Lauren Koch** is the sustainability program manager at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. She brings over fifteen years of healthcare and sustainability experience, seven of those spent working for Practice Greenhealth. During her time working there, she led the authorship of multiple toolkits such as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Toolkit. Lauren participates in national sustainability industry groups, including the U.S. Health Care Climate Council, the Health Care Plastics Recycling Council's Hospital Advisory Board and the American Society of Healthcare Engineers Sustainability Taskforce. Locally, she also serves on the Ohio Hospital Association Environmental Leadership Council and the advisory board for Green Columbus. She completed a dual masters in environment and natural resources and public policy from Ohio State University.



**Aliya Bhatia** is the Executive Director at *Vot-ER* and Civic Health Month where she works to bring voter registration into health care settings, including emergency rooms, hospitals, and community health centers. She completed her Masters in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School as a Sheila C. Johnson Leadership Fellow and is a graduate of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. Aliya was drawn to the connection between health and democracy through the combination of being raised by parents in the medical field and various defining experiences while studying, teaching, and working on housing and health initiatives. Aliya started her career as a high school educator and then as a strategy consultant at the Boston Consulting Group (BCG). She prioritizes diversity and inclusion in all her endeavors. Aliya resides in Washington, DC where she works to realize *Vot-ER's* vision of healthy communities powered by an inclusive democracy. She is a Georgia native and has worked in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Missouri.



**Dr. Robert Feder** recently retired from a 40 year career as a general adult psychiatrist in New Hampshire. He majored in psychology at the University of Michigan, went to medical school at the University of Washington, and completed his psychiatry residency at Yale. He has published in the areas of substance abuse, affective disorders, anxiety disorders, and psychotic disorders. Dr. Feder is active in a number of climate groups, including the Climate Psychiatry Alliance, the New Hampshire Healthcare Workers for Climate Action, and No Coal No Gas. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health, where he represents the American Psychiatric Association. Dr. Feder recently published *A Brief Guide to Individual Therapy for Climate-Related Mental Distress*, and has given testimony to the Environmental Protection Agency and State Legislatures on the mental health effects of environmental pollution. In addition to working for greener energy, Bob enjoys singing, playing guitar, hiking, skiing, and boogie-boarding.

## • Speakers •



**Dr. Linda Rudolph** is a public health physician with decades of leadership experience in local and state public health agencies and in non-profits and advocacy. She has served as Director of the Center for Climate Change and Health at the Public Health Institute, Deputy Director for Chronic Disease Prevention and as a local health officer. Social justice has been at the heart of Linda's work since she started her public health career as a union doctor with the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers' International Union. She has been a national thought leader on Health in All Policies and the nexus of climate, health and equity. Linda was honored as a White House Champion of Change for Climate and Health. She currently serves as a policy advisor for the Public Health Institute and for the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health.



**Liz Scott** is a former political operative turned health and climate advocate working as the National Director of Advocacy for the American Lung Association's Healthy Air Campaign. Her focus area is on pushing for scientific clean air and climate protections both in Congress and the Administration, such as stronger air pollution standards, investments in zero-emission technologies, and a more robust public health response to climate change. She holds a degree in political science and psychology from the College of Charleston and lives in Towson, Maryland.



**Gaurab Basu, MD, MPH** is a primary care physician and Director of Education and Policy at the Center for Climate, Health, and the Global Environment (Harvard Chan C-CHANGE) at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is an Instructor at Harvard Medical School (HMS). His work focuses on the intersection of climate change, global health equity, human rights, medical education, and public policy.

Dr. Basu has developed and evaluated numerous innovative health equity curricular programs. He is the director of the HMS Climate Change and Health curricular theme, co-founded the CHA Center for Health Equity Education and Advocacy, co-directed the HMS social medicine curriculum, and co-directs the Climate Health Organizing Fellowship. He serves on the education committee of the Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability at Harvard University. Dr. Basu has received the inaugural HMS Equity, Social Justice and Advocacy Faculty Award and the HMS Charles McCabe Faculty Prize in Excellence. He has been a HMS Curtis Prout Academy Fellow and a Harvard Macy Scholar.



**Ben Fulgencio-Turner** leads the Climate for Health program, a national initiative to build climate leadership and action in the health sector, advancing solutions that protect personal and community health. Ben started his career as a community organizer in New Orleans, supporting neighborhood leaders and building power in communities recovering from Hurricane Katrina. He has studied and worked within systems of safety-net health care for over fourteen years, developing cross-sector partnerships to address root causes of health inequities. He received a BA from Tulane University and a MPP from Georgetown University.



**Jenny Keroack** is a Policy Advisor in the Immediate Office of the HHS Secretary, where she works closely with the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE). She also previously worked as a Policy Advisor in OCCHE, as a Health Insurance Specialist at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and as a Fulbright research grantee in Romania.

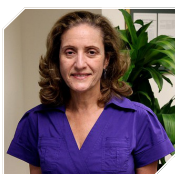
## • Speakers •



**Shalini Shah** is a practicing board-certified pediatrician, environmental medicine physician, and assistant director for the Boston Children's Pediatric Environmental Health Center (PEHC) and Region I Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU). She provides clinical care in primary care pediatrics and environmental health clinics for patients with environmental exposures. She is passionate about the intersection of the climate crisis, environmental justice, and children's health. Her research and academic efforts are aimed at bringing environmental health to the "bedside" via the development of an environmental health screening tool that is integrated into the clinical care to bolster referrals and resource utilization by families. Other collaborative projects she is working on include ClimateRx – developing patient-facing materials on how climate change impacts health and sharing what families can do to prepare/adapt, as well as the creation of an American Board of Pediatrics approved Maintenance of Certification IV Quality Improvement Project to help pediatric providers integrate climate counseling into primary care visits. She has additional roles as co-director for the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Scholars program hosted by the Region I PEHSU, national climate advocate for the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and serves as the co-chair for the Academic Pediatrics Association Environmental Health, Climate Change, and Sustainability SIG.



**Caleb Dresser** is the Director of Healthcare Solutions at Harvard Chan C-CHANGE. In this role, he leads efforts to develop operational, analytical, and informational approaches to improve climate readiness in healthcare settings and enhance the capability of healthcare systems and professionals to address the climate crisis. Caleb leads the Climate Resilient Clinics project at Harvard Chan C-CHANGE. Through this collaboration with AmeriCares, Climate Central, and other organizations, he is working to develop evidence-based, patient-centered approaches to climate change adaptation, preparedness, and resilience in frontline health clinics. Current projects include evaluation and refinement of toolkits for patients, administrators, and clinicians, a pilot assessment of the use of targeted heatwave alerts for clinic staff, and adaptation of existing resources to new settings. Caleb is also Assistant Director of the Physician Fellowship in Climate Change & Human Health, which is offered through a collaboration between Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Chan C-CHANGE, and other centers at Harvard. This fellowship trains physicians to become leaders in climate change and human health research, education, communication, and advocacy.



**Leyla McCurdy** has over twenty years of experience in public health and the environment, including climate change, environmental justice, and children's environmental health. Currently she is an environmental health consultant. She is the founder and chair of the Children's Environmental Health Committee of the American Public Association, chairs the Climate for Health Executive Committee at ecoAmerica, and is a board member of Children's Environmental Health Network. She also serves on expert committees, including the American Public Health Association's Center for Climate, Health and Equity Advisory Board, and the National Council for Environmental Health & Equity. She has been instrumental in creating thousands of environmental health champions and developing model environmental health interventions which have been successfully implemented in numerous communities. She has organized conferences, led public education campaigns, developed environmental health publications, published articles in peer-reviewed journals, and served on several governmental and non-governmental committees. She has been recognized for her contributions to the environmental public health field and recently received the Excellence in Climate Leadership Award from the American Public Association. She holds a Master of Philosophy in Chemistry from George Washington University. Her work experience includes ecoAmerica, National Environmental Education Foundation, American Lung Association, and Johnson & Johnson.

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**Tonyehn Verkitus** is the Executive Director for Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania and the Northeast Counties Medical Society. She is also the host of *Keyston Edition Health* on WVIA TV. Her work in the nonprofit world has mostly centered on health and food though she also spent many years training organizations and communities on fundraising and telling their mission-based stories. In 2007, Tonyehn along with other family members and friends started Africa Community Exchange, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support an effective model of education for youth and educators. Currently their work centers in Liberia with plans to expand to neighboring countries. Tonyehn also sits on the boards of the Lackawanna County Arts, Culture and Education Department; WVIA Community Advisory Board; NEPA Healthcare Foundations and leads professional education programs for the Luzerne County Opioid Task Force through the District Attorney's Office. As a Wholistic Life Coach and writer, Tonyehn is interested in the intersection between personal stories and community activism. As a person with many personal stories that shatter and empower she has developed and facilitated workshops on healing and reducing personal trauma through self-care and shared stories.



**Dr. Katie Huffling** is a Certified Nurse-Midwife and the Executive Director of the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE). With ANHE, Dr. Huffling works with nurses and nursing organizations to elevate environmental health issues, such as climate change, toxic chemicals, and sustainability in healthcare, amongst the nursing profession. Dr. Huffling is a passionate supporter of nurse-led advocacy in support of healthier environments for all.



**Anna Goldman** is a primary care physician, researcher, and Medical Director of Climate and Sustainability at Boston Medical Center. In October 2023, she co-founded Clean Power Prescription, a program to bring solar energy to low-income patients with energy insecurity. This initiative, created in collaboration with Bob Biggio, Senior Vice President of Sustainability and Real Estate at Boston Medical Center, uses solar net-metering credits generated at Boston Medical Center to reduce the cost of utility bills for patients with energy insecurity. As a PCP in Boston Medical Center's adult primary care clinic, she cares for largely Medicaid-insured adult patients and has a particular interest in helping patients address social determinants of health, such as food and energy insecurity. Her research focuses on health equity in multiple domains, including the effects of health care payment policy on historically-underserved patients and the intersection of human health and climate change. She is currently funded by the National Institute of Mental Health to study the impacts of a novel health care payment strategy, Accountable Care Organizations, on adults living with serious mental illness. In addition, she has served as an advisor to Mayor Michelle Wu's administration on climate-friendly food procurement for hospitals and universities.



**Lori G Byron, MD, MS, FAAP** is a general pediatrician, married to climate advocate and internist Robert Byron. She practiced pediatrics for 27 years on the Crow Indian Reservation, and now works part-time as a pediatric hospitalist. She recently earned a Masters from Johns Hopkins in Energy Policy and Climate program. Along with her husband Rob, they co-founded and co-chair the Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate. She and Rob are authors of the 2021 Climate Change and Human Health—a Special Report of the Montana Climate Assessment. She is a past president of the Montana Chapter of the AAP and founder of their climate committee. She was recently appointed to the National Academy of Medicine's Communicating About Climate Change & Health Project. She was honored to serve as expert witness in the *Rikki Held v State of MT* trial in 2023.

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**Anna Chen (she/her)** is a senior communications associate with Burness, a communications firm based in Bethesda, MD, that supports nonprofits and foundations. Since the start of her time at Burness in 2017, Anna has worked alongside The Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health. Some of her most gratifying work has been helping health professionals, scientists, researchers and advocates tell their stories to create change and providing fun, educational communications training workshops. Her first job at the Environmental Protection Agency grew her passion for understanding the health impacts of climate change and the environments we live in. As that passion has evolved, she is set on ensuring that strategic climate change communications help us build a healthier, more equitable world.



**John Kotcher** is a research associate professor in the Center for Climate Change Communication at George Mason University. His work focuses on identifying ways to effectively communicate about the health implications of climate change and air pollution, and developing strategies to help a wide range of organizations more effectively activate and empower citizens to shape our society's response to climate change. John also works on the Climate Change in the American Mind project, a series of national public opinion surveys carried out in partnership with the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication to investigate and track public attitudes toward climate change and support for climate policies in the United States.



**Nick Seaver** is a Senior Vice President and Co-Director of Training Programs at Burness, a mission-driven global communications firm working to advance social change. Since 2007, Nick has worked both domestically and internationally on issues including climate change, health policy, public health, biomedical research and global health. He works to provide strategic counsel and guidance, writing support, training and coaching, and guide communications research for a diverse group of organizations that include the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health, The Mayday Fund, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. As co-director of Burness' training programs, Nick develops new curriculum and has led hundreds of highly interactive in-person and virtual workshops and training sessions for foundations, nonprofits, and universities working on health, climate change, science and social justice issues. He leads sessions ranging from two hours to three days focused on message development, working with media, storytelling, op-ed writing, effective presentations, among other topics. Nick is a 2007 graduate of the George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs with a bachelor of arts in political communication.



**Hayley Blackburn, PharmD** is a clinical pharmacist and Associate Professor at the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy. Her academic role includes teaching climate and health topics across several institutions and leading interprofessional experiential learning opportunities in public health and planetary health. Her current research interests focus on the role of pharmacists in promoting environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient healthcare systems and communities, including exploring pharmacists' roles in the public health response to wildfire smoke and extreme heat, and designing interventions to reduce the environmental and climate impacts of pharmaceutical use. She serves as a Board Member of Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate and is a co-founder of Rx for Climate, an international pharmacy network focused on promoting climate-smart pharmacy practice through advocacy and education.



**Michelle Loosli** is the Senior Manager for Climate Education at APHA's Center for Climate, Health and Equity. She promotes climate and health awareness and advocacy to students from age three to thirty. Michelle previously served as the Director of the Department of Health and Human Service Office of Minority Health Resource Center. While there she implemented a program to increase research awards to minority- serving institutions, led social media campaigns addressing climate drivers and adaptations, and supported programs to increase social justice throughout the federal government. Michelle's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equity has guided her work at DOL, HUD, USAID and HHS. She holds a master's degree in Malnutrition and Hunger Policy from Tufts University and a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Spanish from Brigham Young University. Michelle spends her free time exploring the world and has been to more than 50 countries.

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**Laura Kate Bender** is the National Assistant Vice President, Healthy Air at American Lung Association. Laura Kate has spent nearly a decade working for protections from air pollution and climate change. She currently serves as National Assistant Vice President, Healthy Air at the American Lung Association, where she leads the Healthy Air Campaign, directing advocacy initiatives in Washington, DC; field work in multiple states; and coordination of a broad group of national public health and medical organizations. She previously served as the campaign's lead representative to Congress, advocating for limits on outdoor air pollution to protect public health. Prior to that, she worked in Virginia to implement the Healthy Air Campaign on the state level. She also served on the board of the Virginia Asthma Coalition. Prior to joining the Lung Association, Laura Kate worked as an organizer on clean air issues for Environment America. Laura Kate studied political science and communications at American University in Washington, DC. She lives in Fairfax, Virginia with her husband and two children.



**Elizabeth M. Treston, M.A.** is a graduate of Hofstra University. Her degrees are in speech therapy and speech pathology. She is a C6 tetraplegic from a diving accident. She was elected to the City Council of the City of Long Beach, beginning her term on January 1, 2020 and ended last year. She is a "Recovering Politician". An expert on resiliency and preparedness, Elizabeth has been a strong advocate for all residents in Long Beach, NY in advocating and attaining resources from disaster recovery groups in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy. Rather than letting her challenges consume her, they galvanized her. She led the efforts to form the Long Beach Community Organizations Active in Disasters (LB COAD), a group that assists residents after natural disasters. Ms. Treston is the former board chair of Heartfire, Inc. a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the artist as a catalyst for personal and global evolution. The director of this program stated. "Ms. Treston is a consummate professional and strong yet humble leader in every room she enters. I have witnessed over the years her ability to communicate with intelligence, compassion, professionalism and humor with profoundly diverse populations. She is extremely reliable and when challenges arise never retreats". She is a current board member for Sustain Our Abilities. An international non-profit addressing climate justice and issues of climate change throughout the world. She is also a volunteer speaker and team partner with Canine Companions for Independence. Her current partner is MacGyver II.



**Elizabeth Pinsky** is a child and adolescent psychiatrist and pediatrician at Massachusetts General Hospital, where she is the Associate Director of the Pediatric Psychiatry Consultation Service, and at Shriners' Hospital for Children Boston. Her clinical interests focus on the intersection of child mental and physical health, including childhood trauma associated with medical care and fostering resilience in medically ill children. Dr. Pinsky believes that climate change poses the most urgent threat to children at that intersection of physical and mental health, and that clinicians caring for children have a responsibility to advocate for a rapid and just transition off fossil fuels. She serves as the Associate Director for Advocacy at the MGH Center for Environment and Health and is also a founding member of Climate Code Blue, a Boston-area climate action group for physicians and other health professionals.



**Dr. Cheryl L. Holder**, a graduate of Princeton University and George Washington University School of Medicine, a National Health Service Corp Scholar, Internist, and HIV Specialist who served as Medical Director of one of Miami's largest community health centers and on NIH and CDC health advisory and programmatic review panels. She dedicated her career to improving the health of underserved populations. In 2009, she joined Florida International University's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine's founding faculty, where she taught about the social determinants of health, diversity, and the health impact of climate change. She retired 12/31/22, as the Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity, Inclusivity and Community Initiatives. She co-founded Florida Clinicians for Climate Action and now serves as its executive director. Additionally, she is co-chair of Miami Dade Heat Health Task Force and member of National Academy of Medicine's Climate Collaborative. Her TED Talk "The link between climate change, health and poverty" garnered over 300,000 views.

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**Samantha Ahdoot** is a practicing pediatrician at Pediatric Associates of Alexandria in Virginia and an Assistant Professor of Medical Education at University of Virginia School of Medicine. She was elected to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Council on Environmental Health Executive Committee for two terms, during which time she served as lead author on their Global Climate Change and Children's Health Policy Statement and Technical Report, published in *Pediatrics* in November 2015. Dr. Ahdoot wrote the Climate Change chapter of the AAP's book, *Pediatric Environmental Health*, 4th Edition, published in 2019. She serves on the Board of the Virginia Chapter of the AAP and is Chair and Founder of Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action, a coalition of clinicians bringing climate and health education and advocacy opportunities to the medical community in Virginia.



**Pedja Stojicic, MD, MPH**, is passionate about enabling health leaders to use community organizing practices to advocate for equitable health and well-being. He currently serves as an executive lead for People Power Health. In the past, he was working with the CMS, Center for Public Health Leadership, Primary Care Progress, Way to Wellville, Healthcare Anchor Network, Center for Health Progress, and many others. Dr. Stojicic is an instructor for the DrPH Program at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health teaching two courses - Enabling Teams and Enabling Large System Change. Previously, Dr. Stojicic has served as president and executive director of Youth of JAZAS, a Serbian NGO fighting HIV/AIDS, and as a consultant for the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia implementing health care financing reform. Dr. Stojicic completed a fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School studying Leadership and Organizing with Prof. Marshall Ganz and later worked as a member of Ganz's HKS Teaching Team. As a life-long activist, he currently serves on the advisory board of Leading Change Network, one of the largest global networks of social movement leaders.



**Abby Novinska-Lois** played a pivotal role in the launch of Healthy Climate Wisconsin, first known as Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action. Serving as its inaugural Executive Director, Abby leads the charge in mobilizing health professionals to address climate-related health challenges. In Wisconsin, their team has been instrumental in building a network of health workers dedicated to safeguarding both environmental and community well-being. Abby holds a Masters in Public Health, a Bachelors in Environmental Science, and certificates in Environmental Studies, Graphic Design, and Interdisciplinary Women's Health.



**Iris Blom** is a Ph.D. candidate at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, researching greenhouse gas mitigation in health care systems and its relation with adaptation in the context of climate change. She is a medical doctor from the Netherlands with a Master's Degree in Global Affairs from Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, as a Schwarzman Scholar. She has attended the UNFCCC COP25, COP26, COP27, and the first-ever UN Youth Climate Summit to advocate for planetary health. She is the first next-generation representative on the Steering Committee of the Planetary Health Alliance and serves on the Lancet Commission on Sustainable Healthcare. She represented medical students worldwide to the World Health Organization from 2020 to 2022, during which she jointly set up the WHO Youth Council of the Director-General Dr Tedros. She now continues to support youth engagement with the WHO.



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**Jess Hinshaw** is the Director of Environmental Health in the Population Health Division at the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). In her role, she works alongside community health centers engaging in environmental health work and oversees initiatives that build climate resilience, promote learning about the health impacts of climate change, and address environmental justice issues. Jess's work has focused on community-based participatory research in public health and environmental health. Before coming to NACHC, Jess held various positions with AMOS Health and Hope in Managua, Nicaragua focused on community based primary health care. She also served as the Health Equity Evaluator at the New Mexico Department of Health in response to COVID-19. In addition to her role at NACHC, Jess leads a course on Monitoring and Evaluation for non-profits and civil society organizations at the United Nations University for Peace, in San Jose, Costa Rica. Jess received her Master of Public Health from Vanderbilt University and is also currently a doctoral candidate at George Washington University.



**Dr. Ritu Parchure** works for a non-profit organization called Prayas, based in Pune, India. As a public health professional, Ritu is keen to understand the health ramifications of climate change and explore health adaptation through sustained community engagement and strengthening of primary health care. In the past two decades, she has worked on issues related to HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health and Covid-19, through programmatic interventions as well as research.



**Ilyssa O. Gordon** is an Associate Professor of Pathology in gastrointestinal pathology at the Cleveland Clinic. She earned her MD and PhD at The University of Texas Health Science Center and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston Texas, completed pathology residency and fellowships at The University of Chicago, and began her career at the Cleveland Clinic in 2012, where she has become an internationally recognized expert in the pathology of inflammatory bowel disease. Dr. Gordon has been involved at the intersection of health care and sustainability since medical school and has spoken at several national conferences. Dr. Gordon serves on the Health Care Without Harm Physician Advisory Committee and is a founding member and co-chair of the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories Landfill Diversion Working Group, engaged in projects enhancing communication between laboratory scientists, institutions, and suppliers, and applying upstream thinking to product and equipment purchasing. She is one of the Cleveland Clinic Liaisons to the Healthcare Plastics Recycling Council. In January 2019, Dr. Gordon became the first Medical Director of Cleveland Clinic Sustainability, an Enterprise-wide team founded by the CEO over a decade ago. In addition to her focus on waste and laboratories, her Climate Change and Health areas of interest include physician engagement, education, community health, and research. She has contributed to the Lancet Countdown US Brief, serves as an Associate Editor of The Journal of Climate Change and Health, and is the inaugural Faculty Lead for the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine Climate and Health Pathway.



**Carol Myers** practiced occupational therapy for thirty-eight years in California and Colorado. She taught in Vietnam, India, and Nepal from 2018-2019. Carol is a co-founder of Occupational Therapists for Environmental Action (OTEA), a grassroots organization raising awareness of the intersection of climate change and occupational therapy. Carol is passionate about preserving the planet for future generations, sustainable life-styles, spending time in nature, international travel and spending time wither husband, Dan, and new kitty, Ollie.



**Dr. Vishnu Laalitha Surapaneni** is a practicing physician at the University of Minnesota with a public health degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Surapaneni has co-authored white papers on health harms of fossil fuel infrastructure, provided testimony to the Minnesota legislature on numerous occasions, served on the Department of Transportation's Sustainable Transportation Advisory Council in a governor-appointed role, and regularly speaks with media outlets about health equity impacts of climate change.

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**Dr. Ann-Christine Duhaime** is a senior pediatric neurosurgeon at the Massachusetts General Hospital and is the Nicholas T. Zervas Distinguished Professor of Neurosurgery at Harvard Medical School. While practicing pediatric neurosurgery for over 3 decades, her research has focused on traumatic brain injury, repair, and recovery in infants and young children. A longstanding interest in the relationship between brain, behavior and environmental issues led to a fellowship at the Radcliffe Institute where she explored the neurobiology of reward circuitry and plasticity and its relevance to pro-environmental behavior, and also worked with a diverse team to design a prototype advanced “green” biophilic pediatric hospital. Her book on this work, *Minding the Climate*, was published in 2022 (Harvard University Press). She currently serves as Associate Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Center for the Environment and Health and as Associate Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Climate Change and Health*.



**Dr. Julian L. Watkins** is an Internal Medicine trained physician and public servant who serves as Assistant Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Bureau of Health Equity Capacity Building. Dr. Watkins leads city-wide efforts to reduce health inequities and empower communities through tailored community engagement, narrative power building, and equitable program design. He leads efforts to build agency and community capacity to prepare for and respond to the public health impacts of climate change. Dr. Watkins was recognized for his leadership in the field when he was named in the de Beaumont Foundation's 40 under 40 in Public Health class of 2023. He is on the board of the Catskills Agrarian Alliance, a collective of farms focused on land stewardship, community organizing, and mutual aid. His deep medicine practice and cultural work draw from social medicine, philosophy, literature, art, and social movements to invite people into a larger conversation about community sovereignty, safety, sustainability, resilience, belonging, and care.



**Ratika Samtani** is a Ph.D. in Anthropology from University of Delhi and was awarded the Teaching Fellowship by University of Delhi while pursuing her research. She has also cleared UGC-NET. Ratika worked as an Assistant Professor at Amity University, Noida for a span of ten years. She was also awarded the Young Investigators award by Department of Biotechnology for her project proposal in the field of Cancer Biology. Under this, she was the Principal Investigator of the DBT funded project, “Screening and Epigenetic Profiling of Ovarian Cancer in Malwa region of Punjab” for a span of four years. She has supervised and mentored a number of doctoral students’ scholars in their research endeavors.



**Victor A. Lopez-Carmen, MPH**, is a Dakota and Yaqui writer and Indigenous climate health advocate who graduates with an MD from Harvard Medical School this Spring. He is Co-Founder of the Ohiyesa Premedical Program at the Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) and Translations for our Nations, which partnered with the UN to translate accurate COVID-19 information into over 40 Indigenous languages from over 20 different countries. Over the past decade, he has advocated for Indigenous youth health and climate action across the UN system as the former Co-Chair of the UN Global Indigenous Youth Caucus and as a current Associate Board Member of Health in Harmony, an international NGO dedicated to protecting Indigenous rainforest rights. His writing and commentary have been featured across major media networks like ABC News, the UN News Centre, and the BBC, and in 2022 he became the first documented Native American to make the Forbes 30 under 30 list in the Healthcare category. Currently he is a climate justice, representation, and healthcare Contributor at Forbes Magazine.

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**Kevin Schultze** has been working directly with advocates and Capitol Hill staff for more than 17 years, following 15 years as an Emmy-nominated television news reporter. He oversees Congressional relations and client relations at Soapbox. Kevin has facilitated the growth of advocacy days and site visits for clients including the Human Rights Campaign, American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, and the Independent Community Bankers Association. Kevin is a graduate of James Madison U. and holds a Masters Certificate from George Washington U.



**Dr. Lisa Del Buono** is a retired diagnostic pathologist with an expertise in GI and Breast pathology who practiced the majority of her career in a large community hospital in Traverse City Michigan. In 2013, Lisa started to cut back her practice in order to have more time to advocate for a healthy climate, primarily as a volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) for which she served as State Liaison Coordinator and co-lead CCL's Health Action Team along with Lori & Rob Byron. In early 2020, Lisa retired and founded Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action (MiCCA) through which she has the good fortune to work with inspiring people to grow the climate, health, & equity movement in Michigan.



**Nathaniel Stinnett** is the Founder & Executive Director of the Environmental Voter Project, a non-partisan nonprofit that uses data analytics and behavioral science to mobilize environmentalists to vote. Named one of five global “climate visionaries” by The New York Times in 2018, and dubbed “The Voting Guru” by Grist magazine, Stinnett is a frequent expert speaker on cutting-edge campaign techniques and the behavioral science behind getting people to vote. He has held a variety of senior leadership and campaign manager positions on U.S. Senate, Congressional, state, and mayoral campaigns, and he sits on the Board of Advisors for MIT’s Environmental Solutions Initiative. He holds a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from Boston College Law School, and he lives in Boston with his wife and two children.



**Beverly Harp** is an organizer and communicator with a decade of experience in the climate movement. As Director of State Affairs, Beverly is responsible for the administration and management of the Consortium’s Climate and Health State Network. Beverly supports the growing network of 23 state-based health professional climate advocacy groups with organizational development, communication strategy, campaign coordination, and coalition building. She also develops training programs, guidance documents, peer-learning structures, and other technical assistance to support these groups. Beverly previously served as Associate Director for Communications and Campaigns for the Consortium team. Prior to joining the Consortium full-time, she worked as the Communication Manager for the Health and Climate Solutions initiative at the GMU Center for Climate Change Communication (4C), where she supported equitable, community-based health and climate projects across the country. Before joining the team at 4C, Beverly completed a Fulbright research grant in India on the distribution of finance for climate change adaptation. In her free time, she organizes young people to take action for global climate justice with the organization SustainUS. Beverly received her B.A. in Global Affairs and Data Analysis from George Mason University.



After a career in public relations and social marketing, **Rob Gould** founded an independent consultancy, One Degree Strategies in 2014 to support organizations that promote health and social causes. A primary focus of his work has been on advancing public understanding and support for action to solve climate change. His previous climate work includes projects with AAAS, CDC, Aquarium of the Pacific, and the award-winning “Ostrich” campaign for SciencetoGo with the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. Since the Consortium’s launch in 2017, Rob has served as strategic counselor and director of strategic communications. Rob is also a Scholar in Residence at GMU, teaching social marketing and advising graduate students. Rob earned a doctorate in experimental social psychology from the University of Maryland.

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**Esmeralda Morales, MD** is a Pediatric Pulmonologist and earned her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine. She completed her subspecialty training at the University of Arizona known for its excellence in asthma care and research. She practiced in the southwestern United States for 7 years and served as Interim Chief of the Pediatric Pulmonary Division at the University of New Mexico (UNM), UNM Cystic Fibrosis Center Director and co-chair of the New Mexico Council on Asthma. She has been a member of the Pediatric Pulmonary Division through Stanford University School of Medicine for 8 years and is leading the division's asthma clinical efforts. Her main interest areas are childhood asthma with an interest in environmental impacts on asthma, aerodigestive disorders in children, respiratory disorders in children with complex healthcare needs, and the care of diverse/historically marginalized patient populations. She is a former National Hispanic Medical Association Leadership Fellow.



**Maya Ragavan** is an assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of General Academic Pediatrics. She is also the Associate Vice Chair of Diversity Equity and Inclusion Research for the Department of Pediatrics and Associate Core Director for the Clinical and Translational Science Institute Community PARTners Core. She completed her medical school from Northwestern University, pediatric residency from Stanford Children's Hospital, and a general academic pediatric fellowship from Boston Medical Center. Her research interests focus on preventing intimate partner violence (IPV), specifically by supporting IPV survivors in pediatric healthcare settings and examining the impact of cultural and structural racism on IPV survivors and their families. She also does work focused on engaging parents in supporting their adolescent-age children in developing healthy romantic relationships. She is deeply passionate about uplifting community voices through research and the majority of her research is conducted in partnership with community-based organizations. She also is interested in language equity in research, and focuses her work on communities who speak languages other than English.



**Amba-Rose Atkinson (she/her)** is a proud Gumbaynggirr nyami from the mid-north coast of New South Wales, undertaking a PhD at the University of Queensland. Her research explores the health impacts of Indigenous cultural practices – like cultural burning – on Country and people, emphasizing the vital role of Indigenous Knowledges in addressing environmental, climate, and health challenges. Amba-Rose completed her mid-candidature in June 2023 and is currently writing her thesis. Outside of her PhD, she mentors First Nations students at the University of Melbourne and serves on the Advisory Board of Connecting Climate Minds. In Spring 2024, she will be a Visiting Student at Harvard's FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, where she aims to connect with First Nations communities and scholars and complete her thesis. Beyond her PhD, Amba-Rose is eager to continue building upon global Indigenous scholarship on the health of Country and its people, and the role of Indigenous Knowledges and cultural practices in responding to global environmental, climate, and health challenges.



**Dana Johnson** serves as Senior Director of Strategy and Federal Policy at WE ACT for Environmental Justice and leads an advocacy, regulatory and policy-setting team. She has successfully helped shape the environmental industry narrative in the areas of clean air, healthy homes, water quality, energy democracy, and transportation standards. A sought after thought leader, Dana has moderated conversations about equitable policy-making on behalf of the New York Bar Association and Massachusetts Institute of Technology Water Club. She also conceptualized and co-hosted an environmental justice education series on Clubhouse titled All Heat, No Shade. This series built awareness of President Biden's Climate Executive Orders and his "whole of government" approach to addressing environmental justice and the climate crisis. Dana is a Board Member of Green 2.0 – a non-profit organization that believes that the voices and leadership of a powerful environmental movement must be as diverse as the causes' it champions. She also is on the Advisory Council of the State Energy & Impact Center of NYU School of Law.

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**Camilo Mejía** has a background as a peace and immigrant rights activist, which is what originally led him to Catalyst Miami, where he currently serves as Director of Policy and Advocacy. Camilo's work revolves around community-led policy and engagement initiatives designed to build collective power and achieve collective gains, with a special focus on housing, climate, financial and health equity. Camilo has a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in conflict resolution. He lives in Coconut Grove with his daughter.



**Noe Woods, FACOG, MD**, is currently an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (UPMC). Previously, she worked for several years as an Ob-Gyn in Navajo Nation, Arizona. She is currently the assistant dean of Healthcare Sustainability and specializes in gynecologic ultrasound. Her research involves environmental life cycle analysis of medical procedures, and she is a graduate of Harvard's Climate Health Organizing Fellowship. She is the course director of the UPMC course on healthcare sustainability, and she is chair of Clinicians for Climate Action: a 500+ member group with a mission to decarbonize healthcare. She is the co-director of the Magee-Women's Hospital International Society of Environmental quality team and serves on the UPMC Center for Sustainability Steering committee. Fierce Healthcare named her a "2023 Women of Influence," and she was recently featured on NPR's morning edition. She loves open-water swimming and Irish fiddle playing.



**Eva Rawlings Parker, MD, DTMH** is an Assistant Professor of Dermatology and Core Faculty in the Center for Biomedical Ethics and Society at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Her academic expertise includes the health effects of climate change, global health, HIV dermatoses, tropical skin disease, and infectious disease dermatology. She serves as Faculty Lead for DEI in Dermatology at VUMC and is passionate about ensuring access to quality dermatological care for underserved populations. Dr. Parker staffs Nashville General Hospital's dermatology clinic and VUMC's HIV clinic, while providing volunteer dermatologic care to immigrant, refugee, and underserved populations in Nashville, TN at Siloam Health and Shade Tree Clinic. Additionally, she is a member of Addis Clinic's volunteer medical corps, providing telehealth consultation services in Africa and is an external supervisor/mentor at the Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Moshi, Tanzania. She has a B.S in Environmental Science and is the Co-Chair of the American Academy of Dermatology's Expert Resource Group on Climate Change and Environmental Issues, Associate Editor of the Journal of Climate Change and Health, and a member of the International Society of Dermatology's Committee on Climate Change. Additionally, she is a member of the International League of Dermatological Societies' WHO official relations committee. Dr. Parker actively publishes and speaks at national and international meetings on the dermatologic effects of climate change and the intersection of climate change and global health, advocating for climate justice and health care sustainability and promoting broader education on the health impacts caused by climate change



**Aparna Bole, MD** serves as Special Expert in the Office of the Director at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and a Senior Consultant in the HHS Office of Climate Change and Health Equity. She is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and practiced for many years as a primary care pediatrician in Cleveland, Ohio prior to joining HHS. She is particularly interested in the intersection between environmental stewardship, environmental justice, and pediatric public health. Dr. Bole is a past chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Environmental Health and Climate Change, and a former co-chair of the Healthcare Without Harm board of directors. She has previously served in numerous other environmental health leadership roles, including as a member of the State of Ohio's Lead Advisory Council, the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition's steering committee, the Trust for Public Land's Ohio Advisory Council, and the Ohio Environmental Council's board of Directors.

## Continuing Education (CE) Language

### Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health (MSCCH)

Annual Meeting 2024

February 11-13, 2024

Virtual and In-person

#### Accreditation Statement

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Amedco LLC and the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health. Amedco LLC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™  
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

#### Nurses (ANCC) Credit Designation

Amedco LLC designates this activity for a maximum of 15.75 ANCC contact hours.

#### Physicians (ACCME) Credit Designation

Amedco LLC designates this live activity for a maximum of 15.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### Social Workers (ASWB) Credit Designation

As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Amedco is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Amedco maintains responsibility for this course. ASWB Content Level: Intermediate. Social workers completing this course receive up to 15.75 continuing education credits.



**The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for Social Workers:** AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK\*, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WI, WV\*, WY

\* WV accepts ASWB ACE unless activity is live in West Virginia, an application is required.

**The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for Counselors:** AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MO, ND, NE, NM, NH, NV, OK\*, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WY

**AL/Counselors:** Activities not providing NBCC approval may be approved by the Board for individual licensees upon receipt of acceptable documentation prior to the activity. Please send course details to your licensing board for approval BEFORE the event. No approvals afterward by the board.

**MI:** No CE requirement.

**The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for MFTs:** AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, IA, ID, IN, KS, MD, ME, MO, NC, NE, NH, NM, NV, OK\*, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WY

**MA / MFTs:** Participants can self-submit courses not approved by the MAMFT board for review.

**MI:** No CE requirement.

\* OK accepts ASWB ACE for live, in-person activities. For all ethics and/or online courses, an application is required.

**The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for Addictions Professionals:** AK, CA, CO, CT, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MO, MT, ND, NM, NV, OK, OR, SC, WA, WI, WV, WY

### How to Get Your CME Certificate

1. Go to <http://mscch.cmecertificateonline.com>
2. Click on the **2024 Annual Meeting** link.
3. Evaluate the meeting.
4. Print, download, or save your certificate for your records.

## • Resources from our sponsors •

### Johnson & Johnson

Johnson & Johnson's commitment to environmental sustainability is grounded in the understanding that human health and environmental health are fundamentally linked. The company's current climate goals include transitioning to 100% renewable electricity and carbon neutrality for all global operations and also working with suppliers to reduce value chain emissions.

To learn more about Johnson & Johnson and their sustainability goals and progress, please go to their annual Health for Humanity report at <https://healthforhumanityreport.jnj.com/2022>



Blue Shield of California strives to create a healthcare system worthy of its family and friends that is sustainably affordable. Blue Shield of California is a tax paying, nonprofit, independent member of the Blue Shield Association with more than 4.8 million members, over 7,500 employees and more than \$24 billion in annual revenue. Founded in 1939 in San Francisco and now headquartered in Oakland, Blue Shield of California and its affiliates provide health, dental, vision, Medicaid and Medicare healthcare service plans in California. The company has contributed more than \$97 million to Blue Shield of California Foundation in the last three years to have an impact on California communities. For more information visit [www.blueshieldca.com/en/home](http://www.blueshieldca.com/en/home)

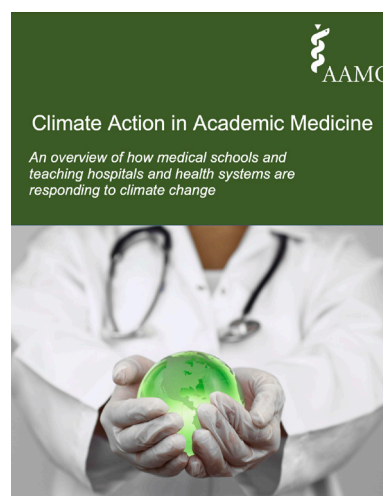
[New Poll Finds Climate Change is Taking a Toll on Gen Z Mental Health While Also Inspiring Youth to Take Action](#)

[Study: Blue Shield Virtual Care Pilots Reduced Carbon Emissions, Water Use](#)



The AAMC leads and serves the academic medicine community to improve the health of people everywhere. Founded in 1876 and based in Washington, D.C., the AAMC is a not-for-profit association dedicated to transforming health through medical education, health care, medical research, and community collaborations. For more information visit [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)

Read their report: [Climate Action in Academic Medicine: An overview of how medical schools and teaching hospitals and health systems are responding to climate change](#)



## ● Resources from our sponsors ●



Capgemini is a global leader in partnering with companies to transform and manage their business by harnessing the power of technology. The Group is guided every day by its purpose of unleashing human energy through technology for an inclusive and sustainable future. It is a responsible and diverse organization of nearly 350,000 team members in more than 50 countries. With its strong 55-year heritage and deep industry expertise, Capgemini is trusted by its clients to address the entire breadth of their business needs, from strategy and design to operations, fueled by the fast evolving and innovative world of cloud, data, AI, connectivity, software, digital engineering, and platforms. The Group reported in 2022 global revenues of €22 billion. For more information visit [www.capgemini.com](http://www.capgemini.com).



Climate and Health Program

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

The mission of the Climate & Health Program is to further understanding of the impacts of climate change on human health and to be credible advocates of smart policy that addresses the climate crisis and advances human dignity in the same effort. We are leaders in the field, deeply connected with climate and health organizations throughout the country, and we are innovators in our educational programs. The CU School of Medicine Climate & Health Program utilizes education, research, service, and partnerships to help build a sustainable community that's committed to climate health. Our education is centered around our one-year Fellowship in Climate and Health Science Policy and a 300-hour Diploma in Climate Medicine.

Learn more about our [Diploma in Climate Medicine and our GME fellowship in Climate & Health Science Policy](#)>



**HARVARD T.H. CHAN**  
**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**C-CHANGE**

**CENTER FOR CLIMATE, HEALTH,  
AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT**

From our landmark study showing coal impacting health at every stage of its life cycle, to our research on toxics in gas stoves and the benefits of clean energy, to our educational programs reaching students around the world, the Center for Climate, Health, and the Global Environment has been translating innovative science from across Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health for over 25 years. Our mission is to deliver solutions-based research and use education and outreach to shape climate actions that improve the health of our most vulnerable populations like children, seniors, and environmental justice communities.

By making climate change personal, highlighting solutions, and emphasizing the important role we all play in driving change, we help decision makers understand the health consequences of our addiction to fossil fuels, put health and equity at the center of climate actions, and keep people safe by guiding the health care industry's response to climate change.

To learn more visit: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/c-change>



## ● Resources from our sponsors ●



Research!America is a non-profit medical and health research advocacy alliance. Together, with our 300+ member organizations that represent a vast array of medical, health and scientific fields, our goals are: Achieve funding for medical and health research from the public and private sectors at a level warranted by scientific opportunity and supported by public opinion; Advocate for policies that support medical progress and innovation across the public and private sectors; Better inform the public of the benefits of medical and health research and the institutions that perform research; Promote and empower active engagement with the public and policymakers by individual members of the research community on behalf of medical and health research, public health, and science overall.

For more than 30 years, Research!America has commissioned public opinion surveys to help understand Americans' views on medical, health, and scientific research and other pressing issues related. According to data released January 2023 survey commissioned by Research!America, Americans across the political spectrum agree R&D investment drives job creation, innovation, and global leadership. There is strong, bipartisan support for federal investment in our nation's science and technology enterprise. For more information visit [www.researchamerica.org](http://www.researchamerica.org).

[View the January 2023 survey here.](#)

## [ Union of Concerned Scientists

The Union of Concerned Scientists puts rigorous, independent science to work to solve our planet's most pressing problems. Joining with people across the country, we combine technical analysis and effective advocacy to create innovative, practical solutions for a healthy, safe, and sustainable future. For more information visit [www.ucsusa.org](http://www.ucsusa.org). Join our [action network](#) or [expert network](#). [Support our work](#). Join the conversation on our blogs: [The Equation](#) and [All Things Nuclear](#); or follow UCS on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). UCS recently released a new issue brief: [Gas Malfunction: Calling into Question the Reliability of Gas Power Plants](#). An [executive summary of the issue brief is available here](#). Also, please see our blog series that highlights key findings and aspects from the analysis: <https://blog.ucsusa.org/series/gas-unreliability/>.

The issue brief examines how gas plants are not the answer to reliability concerns in the power sector, and in fact, gas plant failures in extreme weather have often been the main contributor to large rolling blackouts in recent years. The issue brief offers policy recommendations and discusses clean energy solutions that will not only bolster grid reliability, but also provide economic, public health, and climate benefits as well.



ASSOCIATION FOR PREVENTION TEACHING AND RESEARCH

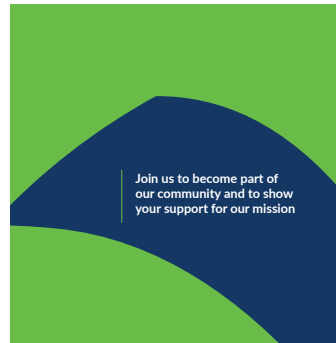
The [Association for Prevention Teaching and Research \(APTR\)](#) is a national association that brings together academic units, faculty, and professionals from across the health professions to advance prevention and public health education, training, and research. APTR connects and supports its diverse membership through the annual Teaching Prevention conference, webinars, curriculum and teaching tools, and learning and professional development opportunities. For more information visit [www.aptrweb.org](http://www.aptrweb.org)

# Become a Member

This year, the Consortium launched a new membership model to make our community more cohesive, collective, and powerful. Through our membership model, the Consortium can show the strength of our numbers to our decision-makers and the public, connect more easily and effectively with one another on projects and ideas, and raise the funds we need to ensure our sustainability and better nurture and support our growing network.

Join us as a member to become part of our community and to show your support for our mission. As we build this movement, every dollar matters and every new member helps power us forward.

To support our work,  
please scan the QR code.



The Consortium is headquartered at the Center for Climate Change Communication, on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

# Our Team



**Lisa Patel, MD, MESC, FAAP**  
Executive Director



**Edward Maibach, MPH PhD**  
Board of Advisors Liaison | Director, Center for Climate Change



**Beverly Harp**  
Director of State Affairs



**Cesar Alberto**  
Climate and Health Equity Fellowship Intern



**Crystal Smith**  
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**Clarissa Peyton**  
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**Dan Reed**  
Associate Director, Center for Climate Change Communication



**Ira Dreyfuss**  
Public Relations Consultant



**Jordan Curry Carter**  
Climate and Health Equity Fellowship, Western Cohort



**Kate Hoppe, MPH MA**  
Operations Consultant



**Kimberly D. Williams, PhD PHR**  
Climate and Health Equity Fellowship Program Manager and States' Equity Initiatives Consultant



**Linda Rudolph, MD, MPH**  
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**Vicky Markham**  
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