



AMERICAN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT
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of Public Health
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

MacArthur
Foundation

ecoAmerica
building climate leadership

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ecoAmerica would like to thank the following partners for their collaboration and support, both intellectually and financially, for the 2017 American Climate Leadership Summit.

HOSTS



PLATINUM



GOLD

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Grist

GREEN

American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Clif Bar
Convergence
George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication
National Hispanic Medical Association
Outrider Foundation
Patagonia
United Church of Christ
Utah Clean Energy
Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

“The Summit was a huge success—incredibly impressive speakers. I now have pages of notes and ideas...these ideas may make our third year of Path to Positive the most successful yet.”

— Jonathan Parfrey, *Climate Resolve*

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“As someone new to the climate dialogue, I am grateful for our partnership with ecoAmerica and in solidarity with the work everyone in this room is undertaking together. We have a relationship [with ecoAmerica] because they see faith as a crucial part of working for climate justice.”

— Rev. Sotello Long, *Disciples Home Mission*

“This was an amazing experience for me. I’m looking forward to establishing many wonderful relationships and potential partnerships as a result of this experience.”

— Catherine Flowers, *Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise Community Development Corporation*

Dear Climate Leaders,

The **2017 American Climate Leadership Summit – “Taking up the Mantle”** – recognized the inspiring leadership now burgeoning nationwide, and served as a **rallying point to amplify that leadership in 2018** and beyond.

On October 25 and 26, ecoAmerica brought together 300 diverse national leaders from across sectors and society to the National Press Club in Washington, DC. During these two days, **we strategized on how to expand and accelerate effective climate action and advocacy** through inspiring speakers and discussions, and interactive forums to work together to plan paths forward during these critical times.

We are pleased to provide you with this report that **summarizes the thought leadership from over 40 speakers, and prioritized recommendations that participants developed in the six collaborative forums.**

We encourage everyone to take the insights, ideas and recommendations from this report to heart, and bring them to life. ecoAmerica will be doing so in our partnerships with America’s largest health, faith, and community associations, to help them lead on climate and expand the base of public support and political will for climate solutions. In 2018, we’ll be shifting from building this base to activating it with specific commitments for climate restoration and for advocacy at the local, state, and federal levels.

Thank you to our speakers and attendees for your leadership, ideas and support. We look forward to continued collaboration in 2018.

Sincerely,



Bob Perkowitz

President
ecoAmerica



Meighen Speiser

Chief Engagement Officer
ecoAmerica

WELCOME REMARKS



Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley

Pastor Emeritus, *Providence Missionary Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia*

As leaders, we cannot accomplish anything unless our motives are grounded with a commitment greater than ourselves. There is a spiritual foundation that calls us to move — even when we do not desire to. This is the foundation we must draw from together. No group can do it alone.



Hon. Tommy Wells

Director, *Department of Energy & Environment*

As Americans, you can find symbolism in a Washington, DC gathering. Our nation's capital has its own rules and government and we are a community that will not change our values. For that reason, the nation's capital has joined cities around the world who are committed to addressing the existential crisis of our time; climate change.



THANK YOU TO OUR EMCEE

Meighen Speiser

Chief Engagement Officer, *ecoAmerica*

KEYNOTES



Bob Perkowitz
Founder and President, *ecoAmerica*

Welcome and thank you for joining us at the 7th American Climate Leadership Summit. **This is an unusually rare opportunity to get together and compare thoughts and plans on climate solutions.**

Things are very different now than they were in prior years — and it's not just politics. The impacts of climate change are upon us: \$100 billion in damage from wildfires in Idaho, Montana, and California — fires so large they were visible from outer space; armies of hurricanes marching across the Atlantic that have done \$200 billion in damage in America. Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced. Our oceans are faltering under warming and acidification.

But, solutions are accelerating at least as fast. Astonishingly enough, solar power was the largest contributor to new electricity generation last year, contributing 39% of the total mix — more than natural gas.

“I am absolutely sure that we can solve climate change if we keep moving in the direction and pace in which we’re going. The whole world is taking up the mantle, and now it’s our turn.”

In fact, 150,000 solar panels will be installed in America during the two days of this Summit. Wind power is accelerating just as fast, and together, wind and solar have gone from virtually nothing to 10% of America’s electricity supply in less than a decade.

So, where are we? Right now, America and the world are doing too little, too late. **But look around: China, the UK, France, Norway, and others have all announced bans on new fossil fuel vehicles in their countries by 2030 or 2040.** I am absolutely sure that we can solve climate change if we keep moving in the direction and pace in which we’re going. The whole world is taking up the mantle, and now it’s our turn. There’s more knowledge about climate solutions in this room right now than maybe anywhere else on the planet. Let’s all share and learn from each other. It’s up to us. We have to make the great transition happen now. And we can do it.

“Often times, it is faith communities and our ‘moral compass’ influence that is overlooked by donors/policymakers, but I truly believe that we are the sleeping giant catalyst for a forthcoming wave of climate engagement in this country... it was a wonderful honor to be a part of such a distinguished group of speakers.”

— Colin Christopher, *ISNA*



Joel Clement*

Former Director of the Department of the Interior's Policy Office,
Whistleblower and Climate Change Policy Specialist

Climate change is central to all of the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) work. Americans are at risk, particularly in the Arctic as permafrost there melts beneath their feet, threatening dozens of Alaska Native villages. Even after the 2016 presidential election, I naively thought that adaptation and resilience would remain priorities, but that was not the case.

Under Secretary Zinke, a small group of political appointees made a series of ham-fisted punches aimed at the rules, regulations, and policies that affect the health and safety of Americans. They frequently missed and wound up in court, but one of the punches that landed was aimed at the Department's senior executive service. **The administration reassigned nearly 50 of them at once — including what appears to be a disproportionate number of women and people of color — with the apparent intent of getting them to quit.** While new administrations often move a few senior executives around, no agency from any administration has ever reassigned such a large number of executives at one time with the apparent intention to dislodge them from federal service. I sensed that they were particularly eager for me to quit when they sent me to an office which was completely outside my area of expertise — a blatantly political move that ended my work on behalf of Alaska natives. When it became clear that the new administration had no intention of addressing the climate impacts that are affecting Alaska natives, I resigned.

To quote Roy Disney, "When values are clear, decision-making is easy." **I filed my whistleblower complaint with the Office of Special Counsel and then went public as a whistleblower with an op-ed in *The Washington Post*.** I received strong support from the Senate, which then asked the Inspector General of the DOI to do an investigation of their own, which is ongoing, and America's top legal scholars, who argued that the mass reassignment was dangerously close to politicizing the civil service. In October, I resigned from my job and called for Secretary Zinke to do the same. I called out the political appointees who have been unlawfully dismantling agencies that they are charged with running while putting Americans at risk.

But despite the federal government's backtracking, I am cautiously optimistic. There are many career civil servants at the Department of the Interior who are very knowledgeable about the laws and regulations affecting the environment. The fossil fuel industry's political hacks are so inept that many of their attacks are likely to be unsuccessful. Our public lands also have a huge role to play in protecting biodiversity, and people are having strong conversations in their regions about fostering the resources to do just this. Americans need to be ready for our next congressional election—to push aside the administration's agenda and restore the country's resolve to effectively deal with climate change.

**Summary of Joel Clement's remarks*

STATE OF THE CLIMATE & SOLUTIONS

America’s climate experts shared information, inspiration, and ideas on the state of our climate, solutions, and what we need to do to inspire American support.

Moderated by Kenneth Berlin

CEO and President, *The Climate Reality Project*



Congress has made climate change the eighteenth priority of our nation, even though it is one of the most pressing issues in the world today. Our priority is to change that. Thanks to the research of climate scientists, we have the evidence on climate change, and now 70% of America hopes for climate action. We have all of the tools we need to make climate a top priority. The most effective strategy for shifting the views of federal influencers is to promote the economic benefits of transitioning away from fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy. Transitioning could save the country billions and, more importantly, reserve America’s place as a great power in the world.

Dr. Katharine Hayhoe

Director, *Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University*



As a climate scientist, I have learned an important lesson — talking to Americans about the science of climate change does not lead to greater support for solutions. An influential climate conversation is one that allows people to make personal connections to the issue. Some Americans disagree about the science of climate change, but they cannot disagree with or deny the impacts that we see happening every day. The most important point about our changing climate is not that climate change is happening or that humans are the cause, it is that climate change will personally impact everyone. This is a difficult truth that we do not talk about, but we should. If climate leaders speak from the heart about their fears, the conversation will evolve into a discussion on climate solutions.

John E. Fernandez

Director, *Environmental Solutions Initiative, Massachusetts Institute of Technology*



Our future is dependent upon education, invention, and innovation. Tackling climate change is our chance to be innovative. At the turn of the twentieth century, the world’s population had multiplied and produced eight times the normal amount of materials. By the end of that century, we used fewer materials and created more wealth. As we peer forward to the year 2050, when our population is projected to multiply yet again, we will need to cut global carbon emissions by 85% to prevent catastrophic impacts. We have a long way to go, but “the train has left the station” for innovative solutions and the capacity is there for us to cut carbon and create wealth simultaneously.



Jamie Williams
President, *The Wilderness Society*

For more than 80 years, the Wilderness Society has focused on the protection of public lands and waters. Today, the same lands that Americans have always cherished are changing dramatically along with the climate. We see evidence of climate impacts on our national parks and forests and in the changing migration patterns of the animals who inhabit these lands and waters. We all own these lands, so we must make our voices heard to ensure that they are properly managed. If we protect our public lands, these natural areas will have the capacity to withstand the unavoidable changes already dialed into the climate. We also all own the energy resources found beneath these lands, which currently contribute significantly to the supply of fossil energy driving the climate problem. We should ensure that the energy developed on our public lands reflects a transition to clean, renewable sources. We can do that by measuring the carbon footprint of public land energy development and collectively engaging in the government's decision making.



Adam Sacks
Executive Director, *Biodiversity for a Livable Climate*

Biology is the most powerful force on Earth. Using nature's own process of photosynthesis, we can draw excess carbon down into the soil, where it can remain stable for hundreds of years. Restoring natural places will revive biodiversity, allow us to stabilize rainfall, prevent fires, and cool the Earth's surface. In turn, this restoration can improve global economics, food sovereignty, and social justice. It is truly a nonpartisan issue. People who care about food supply and clean water and people who believe in stewardship and creation care are all people who care about the climate. Biodiversity is a package deal, and nature brings it to us for free.



LEADING THE WAY

Top climate NGO leaders revealed their strategies for moving America forward on climate solutions amidst an adverse federal administration.

Moderated by Dr. Phil Sharp

Former President, *Resources for the Future*



When President Trump announced our withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, many of us were concerned that America would no longer be a leader in the world. It created a test for all of us: Where do you stand, and what are you going to do? Fortunately, other nations stepped forward, and here in America, we are seeing a rising tide in response to the lapse in leadership. We aren't going to be climate dropouts; our democracy is resilient. Americans are joiners, and that helps us move forward. The panelists here today are leading the way and representing a diversity of pathways one can take to have an impact on climate change.

Lisa Renstrom

Chair, *Confluence Philanthropy and Interfaith Power and Light*



I'm blessed to serve as chair of two boards: Interfaith Power and Light, a network providing a religious response to climate change, and Confluence Philanthropy, dedicated to helping endowments to invest with impact. The campaign for fossil-fuel divestment spans both of these. When the Rockefeller Family Fund — the heirs of Standard Oil — divested, the decision was heard across Wall Street and the philanthropic community. When *People* magazine covered Leonardo DiCaprio's decision to divest, individuals began asking HR departments for fossil free 401Ks. Divestment created a demand for new products, and the market is supplying them. It allows us to summon our spirit and resources to "be the change" and lead, and it's also a smart financial decision. You can personally divest at divestinvest.org.

Mindy Lubber

Chief Executive Officer and President, *Ceres*



The 2-degree reduction the Paris Agreement calls for will take all of us. Ceres represents the capital markets community, the largest publicly traded businesses and investors in the world. We make the case that this is about our children and also economics. We have no economy if we keep allowing the climate to change. Our mission includes moving the largest businesses and investors, because they have enormous reach and resources and the power and clout to make the case. We had 30 CEOs sign their names to a Wall Street Journal ad asking President Trump not to pull out of the Paris Agreement. Companies are committing to 100% renewable energy and pledging to reduce their carbon footprints. Last year, 66% of Exxon shareholders voted to tell the company to act on climate. Some do it willingly, some need to be pushed; but they are showing up and making this their issue.



David Yarnold

President and CEO, *National Audubon Society*

Birding is second only to gardening as a hobby in America. People care about birds; they're personal, they're local, and it's clear climate change is affecting them. Audubon spans the political spectrum, and we have a large grassroots network. Our 1.2 million members are nearly half Republicans, and they tell us they care deeply about climate change.

We have climate plans in 11 states, and by the end of fall migration, we will have taken 15 Republican congress members out birding and convinced them that climate is a "safe space" for them. Birds create common ground.

Americans feel overwhelmed about what to do about climate change. Anyone can create a bird sanctuary on their patio. You can go on our website to learn about climate-threatened species in your area, then tell your friends. We need to have bipartisan, grassroots, and authentic voices everywhere.



Gene Karpinski

President, *League of Conservation Voters*

Elections have consequences. We had made so much climate progress under President Obama. Under this administration, it's worse than we expected. LCV's work is to defend at the federal level as never before for the next three-and-a-half years.

There's reason for hope! We're making progress in the states. Since the election, six states run by Republican governors are acting on climate. One candidate for governor of New Jersey is the first in the country campaigning on a platform of 100% clean energy. A candidate in Virginia ran an ad criticizing his opponent for abandoning the Paris Agreement. We need to realize that the climate conversation is about health, communities of color, and the new economy.

We can also be hopeful that young people care. We need to organize them at the local level to get them involved in campaigns. Vote, get your friends to vote, and ask candidates their position on climate.

"When People magazine covered Leonardo DiCaprio's decision to divest, individuals began asking HR departments for fossil free 401Ks."

— Lisa Renstrom, *Confluence Philanthropy and Interfaith Power and Light*

JUSTICE & INCLUSION

We need everyone working together. National leaders talked about accelerating climate justice, inclusion, just transition, and intergenerational equity for climate.

Moderated by Peggy Shepard

Executive Director, *WE ACT for Environmental Justice*



The socioeconomic realities of American society have long prevented environmental justice from being served to all Americans. Communities of color are the most impacted by the effects of climate change and, in many cases, are still the least likely to have a say in what is happening in their environment. Grassroots work starts in the heart of these communities by getting community members involved in the process from the beginning and keeping them involved. It is because of this grassroots work that, today, communities of color are engaged in climate action and have the opportunity to speak out against injustices that impact their communities.

Claudia Withers

Chief Operating Officer, *National Association for the Advancement of Colored People*



Advancing the lives of people of color means striving to achieve equity in all areas. The NAACP approaches this task by working on multiple platforms: environmental justice, health, education, economics, criminal justice, and civic engagement. With a membership base that is working within communities of color all over the nation, local involvement occurs naturally, and the NAACP welcomes it as a way to accomplish racial justice. Through this model of change, people of color are increasingly becoming part of resilient communities that have the economic and social tools to withstand the natural disasters caused by climate change.

Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley

Pastor Emeritus, *Providence Missionary Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia*



Initiating a climate movement begins and ends with people. These should be people who are willing to make sacrifices, take risks and leave their comfort zones. During similar operations, like the Civil Rights Movement, it was the dedication of individual people that got the work done. Now, as we look at the climate change that we know is happening, we also need an attitude change, because attitudes are what move people. Allowing the caring feelings for environmental justice to reach the masses is a way of “connecting the dots” by moving the climate issue from the bottom of the list and making it number one.



Joe Uehlein

Founding President, *Labor Network for Sustainability & Voices for a Sustainable Future*

Why is it easier for other industrialized societies, like Europe and Scandinavia, to make the transition to renewable energy with the support of their workers and their unions? It is because no worker in those countries has to worry about paying for health care, saving for pensions, or sending his or her kids to college. Those things are provided as elements of public policy. It is also because of America's unjust labor laws, in contrast to those other nations. Women will soon be a majority of the American workforce and of union membership, with people of color representing large and growing segments as well. They are at a distinct disadvantage in an economic system that places a price (value) on scrap metal but that is content to throw workers on the scrap heap of history in an economic transition. This needs to change. We need a national program to address climate change, like programs on the scale of getting us out of the great depression, winning WWII, going to the Moon, and building the US highway system. The policies embodied in such a program can address income inequality as well as race and gender biases. A just transition demands that no worker and no community should be the roadkill on the path to a better world. This is not only affordable; it is a good investment.



“These stories give me certainty that climate change is the most important story of our time and probably the greatest challenge humankind will have to face. It is not a white, brown, nor black issue. This is an issue that affects every person and we need everyone to solve it.”

Vanessa Hauc

Correspondent, *Noticuous Telemundo, Telemundo Network*
via prerecorded video



PRIORITIES: JUSTICE & INCLUSION

Leaders from across sectors collaborated in a working session designed to identify opportunities for accelerating climate justice, inclusion, intergenerational equity, and just transition. Their ideas are synthesized below.

1. Listen to and prioritize diverse constituencies

Learn how to be better listeners. Those who are in positions of power and privilege must take time to listen to minority groups and invest in the most impacted communities to understand their needs and concerns, and invite their input on solutions. Remove the barriers to participation and engage with frontline communities, and communities of color globally, where they are. Eliminate barriers for excluded communities by understanding who has access to power and education, helping to make the connection. Ensure that listening is a bidirectional conversation, and engage with people's values in their space to fully understand their ideas, experiences, and complaints.

2. Partner for transformation, not transaction

Partner with communities on the front lines, including labor, communities of color, the most vulnerable, and the most affected. Go beyond the usual suspects to find new partners and ensure the partnerships are equitable, intentional, long-lasting, durable, trustworthy, and focused on the engagement and capacity-building of diverse stakeholders. Invest time as well as capital in order to be successful and just.

3. Bring forth just and inclusive climate solutions

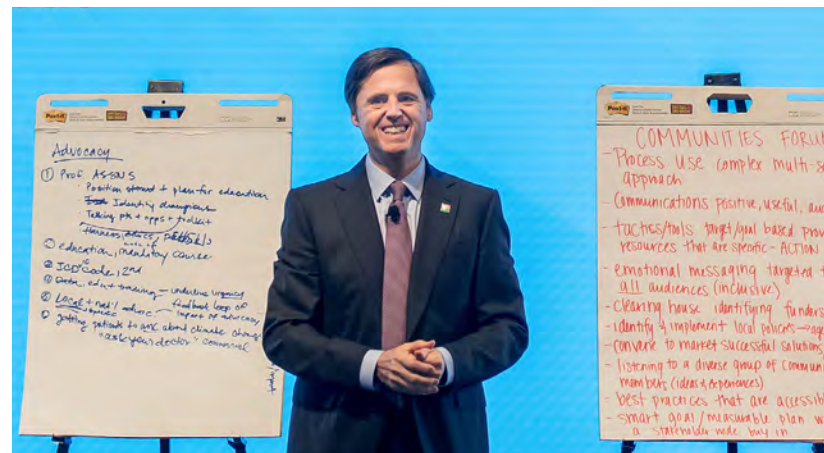
Build resilient communities with green infrastructure that address intersectional issues such as equity, access, economic viability, community cohesion, social benefit, and cultural heritage. Advocate for policies that favor green and equitable infrastructure, from wastewater treatment systems to transportation and everything in between. Promote resilience as preparedness, response, and recovery.

4. Enact legislation to advance efforts to address climate change

Advocate for legislation to mitigate climate change thereby reducing the disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged people. Ensure diverse representation in action, decision making, and design so that the solutions represent and benefit all constituencies. Pass the Reclaim Act to stimulate environmental progress leading to enormous economic revitalization. Ban FEMA from providing insurance to coastal second homes.

“In these times, when I is replaced with we, even illness becomes wellness. We can only work towards a healthy America together.”

— Bob Perkowitz, *Founder and President, ecoAmerica*



NEW FRONTIERS OF CLIMATE ACTION

The climate movement got relevant with new perspectives and tactics from a new generation of leaders.



Moderated by Geof Rochester
Managing Director, *The Nature Conservancy*

More than ever, people, especially millennials, desire to make a difference in the world through their place of employment. We are at a tipping point and many corporations and nonprofits are leading the way, not just on climate but on broader social issues as well. Telling the sustainability story is essential, and ecoAmerica is both central to this mission and in bringing different sectors together to act on climate. Key questions to consider coming out of this Summit include the following: what relationships can participants develop by virtue of being here, and what ideas from these sessions can be put in place and how can they be scaled to fit the needs of the organizations represented?



Wendell Brase
Associate Chancellor for Sustainability, *University of California, Irvine*

Research institutions — such as my home institution, the University of California — are also leading the way on climate solutions and innovation. For example, researchers are now collaborating closely with operations staff to accelerate the time it takes for innovative climate solutions to go from research to application. At the University of California, Irvine, this innovation culture has enabled us to reduce growth-adjusted energy consumption by 50% campus-wide. This reduction pays for itself, has enormous co-benefits, and is permanent due to energy efficiency improvements made to buildings, for example. On our campus, students have led an effort to completely electrify the campus bus fleet. Many types of competitions are fierce among universities, but we are sharing our sustainability action plan because we consider the global imperative to be so important and we also want all institutions to share in these benefits.



Sophia Mendelsohn
Head of Sustainability, *JetBlue Airways*

Corporations are becoming increasingly aware of the need to balance financial gain with environmental health. In my position with JetBlue, this involves showing climate leadership by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as by purchasing biofuels. It also involves learning how operations can be run most efficiently without sacrificing these goals, which, in fact, are not mutually exclusive but go hand in hand. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions actually enables us to save money. Finally, my third priority is to make the business case for conservation by focusing on the things people care about. When it comes to air travel, we recognize that people just want to go on vacation and are not much interested in having a conversation on climate inflight; however, they do want to know that we are acting on climate.



Katherine Neebe
Director of Sustainability, *Walmart*

Walmart first became engaged in corporate responsibility on sustainability following Hurricane Katrina, when we played a large role in providing aid. After this event, we thought, “Why can’t we be this kind of company every day?” Our current set of commitments includes setting a science-based target of 18% absolute reduction by 2025, including a commitment to 50% renewable energy by 2025. This year we also committed to sustainability through our supply chain by aiming to remove a gigaton of greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere by 2030. To make even greater progress, Walmart and other corporations can tie nature to their discussions on supply chain. How do our operations impact watersheds, for example? I am proud to work for a company that has such enormous potential for positive impacts on climate change and am encouraged by other companies who are also leading on climate.



Dr. Joseph Romm
Chief Science Advisor, *Years of Living Dangerously*

Viral messaging is key to any successful communications campaign strategy. Few progressive groups are doing message testing or regularly creating viral content. However, viral messaging is how the environmental movement is going to win or lose. When it comes to millennials, 50% to 75% of them get all or some of their news from Facebook. Climate change is an existential issue for them, but if you want to reach them and the rest of the “crowd” instead of the “choir,” you have to create messages that are both “clicky” and “sticky.” You have to focus on telling a story instead of sharing numbers, since, as the Nobel prize-winning psychologist Dan Kahneman said, “No one ever made a decision based on a number.”



PRIORITIES: NEW FRONTIERS OF CLIMATE ACTION

Leaders from across sectors collaborated in a working session designed to identify unique ideas to advocate for and implement climate solutions at the organizational or institutional level. Their ideas are synthesized below.

1. Create a culture for climate action

Inspire more leaders to promote climate action. Get more institutions to commit to 100% clean energy, electrified transportation. Socialize a more effective business case for sustainability and triple bottom line (social, economic, and environmental). Create an all employee effort on solutions and support the organization through good media. Share success stories to encourage civic engagement. Focus on common ground, normalization of climate action. Designate eco-champions at institutions/companies.

2. Employ hyper-local, relevant and immediate storytelling through technology

Take advantage of new, accessible grassroots tools for online organizing. This includes personalization, and localization of content, including storytelling (putting faces to stories), to make it relevant. Language and technology could be targeted to specific groups through mass customization, podcasts, and local reassessments. Create a phone app that supports real time climate conversations.

3. Accelerate education on climate, and education solutions for climate change

Require and empower K-12 curriculum that focuses on solutions to climate change. Develop and support university level courses and projects focused learning about and developing clean energy technology.

4. Make climate action engaging and entertaining

Get pop culture figures, such as music icons, and movie and TV stars, to become spokespersons for climate action on personal and community levels. This could make climate change more relatable to the general public, and can increase awareness of the urgent issue we face.

5. Harness the power of business innovation

Encourage higher corporate accountability through impact investing, investor pledges, carbon scores on products, and group purchasing for better sustainability measures. Promote climate innovation on Kickstarter.

“We stand at a time that is a tipping point for cross-sector collaboration and many people are turning to the nonprofit sector for opportunities to make a difference. ecoAmerica is central to this mission and is bringing different sectors together to act on climate.”

— Geof Rochester, *The Nature Conservancy*

PRIORITIES: PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR SOLUTIONS

Leaders from across sectors collaborated in a working session designed to identify opportunities for accelerating public support for solutions. Their ideas are synthesized below.

1. Focus on empowering leaders and influencers

Mobilize those with the financial resources to invest in climate solutions. Engage youth leaders through their vocational and school activities. Give a voice to those in coastal communities who are particularly vulnerable. Leverage role-models such as people in entertainment and thought leaders to get the message out on climate change.

2. Refine the national narrative to be personal, local, solutions- and benefit oriented

Elevate personal stories to reach people through their shared values and depoliticize conversations. Focus on the personal, local and immediate through success stories highlighting the health and economic benefits of climate solutions. Note that words like “safe”, “affordable”, and “healthier” move people. Climate change is not an issue for debate, so replace “issue” with words such as “opportunity.” Be mindful that risk can motivate people, but it needs to feel like it is immediate and relevant, and be coupled with a sense of agency and accessible calls to action, otherwise it can be safely ignored.

3. Provide a platform for citizens to discuss climate impacts and solutions

Host town hall style, climate themed conversations to help people bond and work together on a shared vision of solutions. Focus on professional and citizen conversations. Ensure that your local weather person focuses on local problems.

4. Bring people together locally, focus on local stories and engagement

Use arts, media, and culture to magnify people’s top priorities and values, and connect them with climate concerns and solutions. Integrate diverse groups through multilateral storytelling.

5. Introduce climate labeling for products

Create standards for and simple labels that inform consumers of the embedded carbon content of products, similar to nutrition labels.

“My approach to my work was greatly enhanced by your remarkable convening, and I am brimming with ideas about people I met at the conference who should be connected to foundations and other financiers with whom I work.”

— Joyce Coffee, *Climate Resilience Consulting*

KEYNOTES



Dr. Lynn Goldman

Dean, *Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University*

Natural disasters threaten our health in a major way. The general health impacts of natural disasters include contaminated food, inadequate food and water, lack of shelter, inadequate medical care, damage to infrastructure, interruption in employment, toxic releases, and enormous mental health needs that can go on for a long time after people have experienced these kinds of disasters.

The frequency of category 4 and category 5 hurricanes is dramatically rising, and we aren't prepared. During Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005 shelters and evacuation routes were inadequate. Charity Hospital in New Orleans had to be evacuated because of severe flooding. People who were critically ill were evacuated, and the very young and very old, the disabled, and people with special needs were most severely impacted.

This should have been a lesson learned, but with Hurricane Sandy in October of 2012 again there was massive flooding. Homes and neighborhoods were flooded, and patients in Bellevue Hospital in New York had to be evacuated. Then we had Hurricane Harvey in August of 2017. Again, patients had to be evacuated, this time from the Beaumont Hospital in Texas. Patients at an assisted living facility in Dickinson Texas were stranded in waist-deep water. My own 87-year-old father had to evacuate his home by boat.

“Climate change is an issue that requires connecting with people on a very personal level, and that isn't going to happen from Washington.”

Hurricane Irma developed in August of 2017, and a Hollywood Hills, Florida nursing home faced the same problems, with people forced to evacuate and nine deaths. Most recently, there was Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico in September of 2017. We still don't even know the full extent of the public health impact there, including death and injury rates.

The health community has to step up. I believe in national efforts, but national efforts don't touch people's lives personally. Climate change is an issue that requires connecting with people on a very personal level, and that isn't going to happen from Washington. We need to engage in climate action in communities. We need to take our health-care message to churches, PTAs, and Chambers of Commerce. People in every community and every state need to be involved. This is not a partisan issue — this is a health issue.

Meighen Speiser

Chief Engagement Officer, *ecoAmerica*

If we continue to see climate as a left or right issue, we will be mired in a power struggle until it is too late. We can give permission to Americans to approach climate from a different identity than politics. **Climate change has moved beyond an environmental issue to one that is personally relevant, both from a human and moral perspective.**

At ecoAmerica, we see climate as a social issue requiring social change. Our research shows us that Americans have increasing concern about climate but have been afraid to act for fear of being ostracized. They are not looking to environmentalists for guidance; rather, they are looking to leaders in their daily lives—pastors, doctors, mayors and others.

At ecoAmerica, we make it our mission to connect with people's hearts, to reach them where they are, and to empower leaders to talk about climate in familiar and authentic ways. **People of faith and health and local community leaders can reach Americans in every community, where they work, live, and pray.**

Citizens find it more relevant and activating for mayors to talk about strengthening their cities and making them more livable than it is for them to talk about melting ice caps and polar bears. Americans tune out when we talk about greenhouse gas emissions; but they are motivated to act when a doctor talks about how climate impacts health and how climate solutions protect it. Americans' eyes glaze over when we talk about 2% reductions, and they get angry when we tell them they need to sacrifice their quality of life. But when a pastor talks about the moral duty to care for Creation and our neighbors, the congregants are inspired and feel compelled to lead. If the congregation has a sustainability program, then it can engage right there, within reach.

Our programs provide the tools and resources to empower this leadership and engagement. **We ensure that Americans hear the good news on climate, understand how solutions will benefit them, and know what they can do to lead.** Because, if the American Academy of Pediatrics is visibly leading on climate and offers a program for members to lead, then pediatricians will know that climate is a pediatrician issue. The concerned pediatrician in Wichita no longer feels he or she is alone. Now, they have a robust platform and cohort to elevate climate action — the means and permission to discuss climate with patients, and they can advocate for solutions with colleagues and policy makers. Through this ecosystem of leadership and engagement, we can kick start new conversations on climate, with new reasons to lead, new ways to lead, and vastly expanding political will for solutions.



COMMUNITIES MANTLE

From signing the Paris Agreement, to climate commitments and visible statements, local leaders talked about how communities are our best prospects for affecting climate action.

Moderated by Gregory Nickels
ecoAmerica Board, *Former Mayor of Seattle*



Just over ten years ago, Seattle began to experience abnormally dry winters that threatened the water supply. This phenomenon led to a moment of clarity for local leaders. We knew that something had to be done and we could not depend on the national government to do it for us. In Seattle, we took news of the issue door-to-door, letting the community know that there were things they can do in their homes, churches, and businesses that would make a difference. But as Mayor, I didn't stop there. I knew that in cities across the United States, leaders were looking for ways to act on climate, so I helped start the US Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, which secured over 1,000 Mayors to join me in climate leadership. Today, 10 years later, leaders are still looking for ways to act on climate and get their citizens involved. How do we go from conversation to activation? The answer is that we must lead by example.

Hon. John Dickert
President and CEO, *Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative*



As mayors, you're all about planning and getting things done. So, when Racine experienced years of unpredictable flooding we knew that we needed to start planning. There is a lot of talk about climate change, but few were taking it seriously, even though it was obvious that we were paying for the effects of climate change. So, we started investing in resilience planning and implementation so that our taxpayers won't have to pay more and our children won't have to deal with it later. We need to determine, as a country and a planet, whether we are going to elect people who proactively work to solve climate change or just keep paying for its effects on us.

Tom Weisner
57th Mayor, *City of Aurora, Illinois*



Time and time again, cities have proven that they can collaborate successfully to achieve real results. Because global work can seem glacial, it is better to think globally and act locally. Municipalities have a higher probability of passing policies that make positive change than state and national governments do. Cities can become even more powerful in creating successful efforts against climate change by enhancing and consistently utilizing the well-developed communications networks between municipalities that are already in place. We have also partnered with 60 municipalities in an energy-savings plan that will revamp our urban planning, green infrastructure, land conservation, and more. When neighboring communities work together, cities can make an enormous difference.



Aimée Christensen

Executive Director, Sun Valley Institute for Resilience

After working globally on climate for decades, the local realities came home when I returned to Sun Valley, a region suffering from acute impacts of climate change. Located in the high desert mountains of Central Idaho, Blaine County is dangerously reliant on outside resources for its survival and on a highly concentrated recreation- and tourism-based economy. Fires and drought threaten tourism, over 90% of local food and energy are imported from out of state, and the seasonal nature of jobs all conspire to drive over 40% of the population to seek public assistance. By assessing our risks and assets, we realized that, with over 114,000 acres, Sun Valley was rich in natural resources, including its famous sunshine. We had the tools to become more resilient. By localizing our food and energy systems and changing our land use, we can diversify the economy and create quality jobs, turning our risks into opportunities. The Sun Valley Institute is building resilient prosperity, a powerful approach that can work for communities far beyond.



Catherine Flowers

Founder, Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise Community Development Corporation

In Alabama, I talk to people about the things that are real, and things are really changing. Discussing these changes in a “red state” doesn’t always have to involve the word climate. I simply share what I know, and I invite others to do the same. What I know is that when I was growing up in Alabama, there were four seasons. Now, there are only two. Animals native to other regions, like Texas, have made new homes for themselves, and tropical vegetation, such as palm trees, grow regularly in Alabama now. The climate has indeed changed. We have to do something for the sake of our children and our future. And, we have to help rural communities become more resilient.



PRIORITIES: COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ON CLIMATE



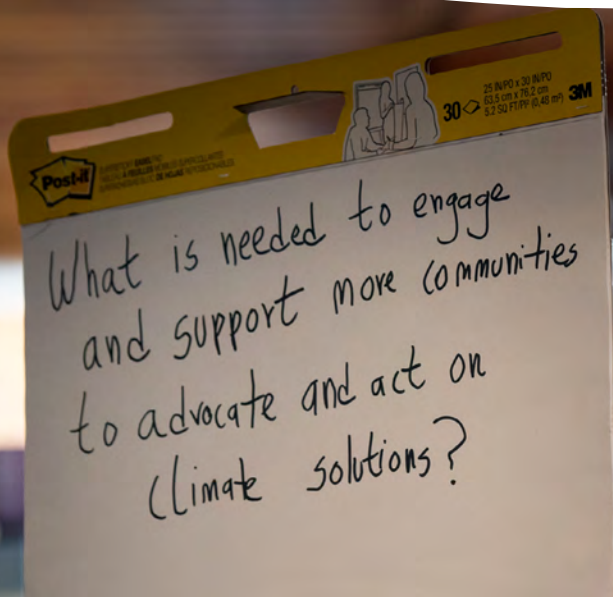
Moderated by Dan Berry
Communities Director, *ecoAmerica*

In light of the absence of climate leadership on the national level, this is an important moment for local elected and community leaders to embrace their role as change agents in the climate-solutions movement. Not because that role is entirely new — it isn't. Leadership from mayors, business leaders, educators, health care providers, and the faith community has been essential to our progress to date. But we need more.

Climate change is gaining personal relevance among an increasing share of the American public. People in communities across the country are experiencing the risks and impacts of a changing climate, and expect local leadership to continue putting solutions in place. The risks and impacts that they perceive for themselves and their loved ones will be a primary motivation for personal action, which in turn can form the basis of wider social change.

How do more leaders from all walks of American life leverage this moment? Well-considered policies and programs are important, but will not gain the foothold needed without an equal emphasis on creative and convincing public engagement. Leaders who have seized the opportunity to shape solutions must redouble their efforts to make those solutions deeply and personally relevant to their constituents, members, patients, congregants, and clients.

Through Path to Positive Communities, *ecoAmerica* will accelerate our support of climate action and advocacy in 2018. Through new partnerships with National League of Cities, Local Government Commission, Urban Sustainability Directors Network, regional initiatives, and key city and state efforts, we will work to empower and support significant increases in climate leadership, engagement and advocacy.



Key Opportunities for Expanding, Accelerating, and Increasing the Impact of Community Leadership on Climate:

What is needed to engage and support more communities to advocate and act on climate solutions?

1. Share success stories and best practices that are accessible and adaptable by other cities

Source and promote success stories of local climate leadership. Listen to needs and identify best practices that fit communities of all shapes and sizes, from every region of the country. Turn the findings into guidance that builds out resources and catalyzes planned action. Find and activate local elected and civic leaders, equipping them thoughtfully to assist them with successful climate action outcomes.

2. Create a local policy solution “playbook”

Identify successful local policies from a spectrum of communities. Feature the stories that have involved broad sectors of the community and offer solutions that fit their needs. Package these policies into a “playbook” of recommendations, and encourage communities to use it to support policy design and citizen engagement in their own communities. Ensure that the policy options are communicated in a way that motivates, are understood by citizens and community leaders, and convey the benefits, including how they support citizen interest.

3. Foster multi-sector, inclusive, community buy-in

Expand local leadership and engagement from a narrow special interest to a broader, social interest. Make a concerted effort to recruit, empower, and equip new leadership voices from a diversity of sectors and constituencies. Convene and connect these leaders and facilitate an inclusive process to co-create a shared vision for climate solutions. Ensure the vision is locally relevant, democratic, and representative of the community at large.

4. Communicate successfully, and make climate action compelling

Create a climate message platform, informed by communication professionals, that is audience-oriented, grounded in local realities, positive, solutions-focused, emotional, useful, and inclusive. Reach new and underrepresented constituencies, and make climate action compelling by expanding communications efforts to include immersive tactics such as statewide sustainability competitions, photo exhibitions in public spaces, and local livability walking tours.

“This was my first Summit and it was extremely productive and inspiring. I have already collaborated with another Summit attendee and we will be giving Climate Change presentations at public schools around NYC. I will also be reaching out to our Chancellor about making this mandatory in the curriculum. This came out of a table discussion.”

— Christine Dimmick, *The Good Home Company*

FAITH MANTLE

Faith leaders shared how they are bringing millions forward for moral climate leadership, and the prospects for continued growth in congregations, cities, and states across America.



Moderated by Shantha Ready Alonso

Executive Director, Creation Justice Ministries

Bringing together faith leaders creates an important platform for climate discussions. It is time to get louder and to have these conversations with courage. Creation Justice Ministries is all about reaching out and finding the ties that bind faith communities to each other. By creating and maintaining faith-rooted partnerships, we can seek healing and justice, and we collaborate cross-sectorally on behalf of the human and non-human communities affected by climate change. As climate change increases, faith communities are stepping up to help face refugee resettlement challenges, respond to natural disasters, protect public health, weatherize homes, connect youth to nature, influence public policy and help build support for bipartisan work on climate change.



Rev. Sotello V. Long

President, Disciples Home Missions

As someone new to the climate dialogue, I am grateful for our partnership with ecoAmerica and stand in solidarity with the work everyone in this room is undertaking together. Building climate leadership is about relationships. We are so integrally connected, and we need to bring a willing spirit to the table. A key example is the story of Midway Christian Church that is shared in the video we produced with ecoAmerica. Midway is a small church, with a small budget, in a small town; yet, they became one of the first Green Chalice congregations in the Disciples of Christ tradition. If Midway can do it, any faith community can make this commitment. With a willing spirit like this, the best is yet to come!



Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe

General Secretary, General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church

Faith communities bring important elements to the climate movement. These include a grounding in faith and hope, a response informed by relationships with impacted communities, diversity of membership, and institutional trust. We must begin the challenge of renewing Creation by looking to renew ourselves and acting out of hope and not fear. Hope resonates as an expression of our love for each other and our commitment to action. Our understanding of climate justice must be deeply connected to our understanding of the impacted communities. The Church has a history of trying to resolve problems too narrowly and without addressing our complicity and privilege. We cannot change the world until we change our hearts.

**Colin Christopher**

Director, *ISNA Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances*

The Muslim community is the most diverse and fastest growing faith group in the United States. We have some of the highest education rates, but we also experience the most poverty of any religious group. Because of systemic poverty and our community consisting overwhelmingly of people of color, we are more impacted by climate change, particularly our African-American sisters and brothers, who account for one-third of all Muslim-Americans. The Qur'an teaches us that if we save one person, it is as if we have saved all of humanity. The effects of climate change are being experienced today by our families and communities across the world, and it is our responsibility to step out of our comfort zones and challenge each other to be bold.

**Bishop Staccato Powell**

Presiding Prelate of the Western Episcopal District, *African Methodist Episcopal Zion*

People in pews may not be thinking about science, but they do think about how climate change is impacting their quality of life. Every single storm we have witnessed this year has affected the faith community. Churches are damaged, parishioners are displaced, and children can't go to school. We have to find a way to make sure that the conversation we are having is not just esoteric facts concerning carbon dioxide's properties, but also about the real manifestation of climate impacts. It is God's will that we live healthy, sustainable lives and that we do things that support the ecological system. That is God's perfect will, and God's will is manifest in our choices.



PRIORITIES: FAITH LEADERSHIP ON CLIMATE



Moderated by Ani Fête Crews

Faith Director, *ecoAmerica*

Caring for creation and acting on climate continues to grow as a defining characteristic of what it means to be a person of faith today. Blessed Tomorrow supports our faith partners to increase institutional leadership on climate, develop and refine programming and outreach, build capacity through training and research, and to support collective action on climate solutions. In 2017, our Leadership Circle grew to 36 nationally recognized faith leaders, and we launched three new partnerships with **The United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society**, **The Episcopal Church**, and **The United Church of Christ**.

This year we saw increased visible faith leadership on climate action in bold ways. In July, the **Christian Church** (Disciples of Christ) General Assembly issued a historic resolution, committing congregations and ministries to achieve climate neutrality by the year 2030 and begin pulling carbon out of the atmosphere by 2035. With our partnership, they sent climate action toolkits to their 5K+ congregations supporting this initiative. **The United Church of Christ** (UCC) launched a church-wide campaign called Three Great Loves, including love of creation, children, and neighbor. We are supporting UCC in this effort, including a leadership video focused on love of creation as one of these three pillars to address inequities of the world.

Acknowledging the progress made this year, 2018 provides an opportunity to dig deeper. Now is the time for activation, and Blessed Tomorrow will help our faith partners put the powerful infrastructure built in communities of faith to work through concrete action and advocacy.



Key Opportunities for Expanding, Accelerating, and Increasing the Impact of Faith Leadership on Climate:

What is needed to engage more places of worship in taking action on climate solutions?

1. Map existing programs and supports for places of worship, identifying synergies and gaps

There are many programs to engage the faithful on climate solutions. Map and communicate existing efforts, providing a clearer picture of where and how to connect to the tools, resources and supports that places of worship need in order to take action. Launch a coalition effort to identify opportunities to better connect national and local capacity building efforts that can scale programming for maximum reach and impact.

2. Expand training for clergy to overcome barriers to communicate and lead on climate solutions

Lack of information and training on climate change continues to be a barrier for clergy in comfortably leading on solutions. Provide clergy with training on climate impacts, actions, solutions, and engagement strategies, ensuring training addresses the intersectionality with other issue priorities and provides methodology for bridging sensitivities by rooting care for creation in scripture and practice.

3. Increase funding and support for climate solutions

In order to scale efforts, additional funding and support will be needed. Identify opportunities for new, increased, or shared funding strategies.

How do we activate the faithful to advocate for climate solutions?

1. Provide a non-partisan narrative

Climate is a non-partisan issue. Arm the faithful with a non-partisan narrative, connecting the moral imperative to care for God's creation with policy decisions at the local, state, and federal levels.

2. Identify clear and achievable advocacy goals

Identify, establish, and communicate clear and concrete advocacy goals for faith leaders and advocacy groups that will allow for measurement of progress and success.

3. Use teachable, relatable moments

Personal context and experience increase engagement on climate change. Whether it's extreme weather, pollution, or other relevant and newsworthy events, make use of these moments to build awareness and activate the faithful to advocacy.

4. Identify and support new climate leaders

Identify, develop and support new leaders within faith communities who are ready and willing to activate on advocacy. Lift up voices of those directly and disproportionately impacted by climate change. This will deepen the bench of people of faith who can engage policymakers and the media, especially those who may be seen as unexpected validators.

5. Start where people are and provide multiple pathways to engage

Not all faith traditions will be able to activate on advocacy in the same manner or at the same level as others. Provide multiple pathways to advocacy, so that all faith traditions can identify the best way to add their voice to the call for climate solutions.

HEALTH MANTLE

Health leaders discussed how they are accelerating their leadership on climate, and how health offers the opportunity for a game changing increase in climate action.



Moderated by Dr. Georges Benjamin

Executive Director, *American Public Health Association*

Thank you to Bob Perkowitz and the staff at ecoAmerica for the opportunity to come together to address the most important public health issue of our day. The American Public Health Association thinks so much of this that we have declared 2017 to be the Year of Climate Change and Health. The issue is not just about icebergs and polar bears but is also deeply personal. For example, the fires and floods we have witnessed in recent months have not only caused people to breathe in toxic fumes and taken away their possessions but have also forced people to deal with the aftermath of these events, including the trauma they suffered. Paraphrasing Martin Luther King, Jr.: more than ever, there is an urgency to our work, and procrastination is not an option. That is why the public health community feels that we need to get on top of this and that we are already late.



Anabell Castro Thompson, MSN, APRN, ANP-C, FAAN

President and CEO, *National Association of Hispanic Nurses*

The environment is part of Latinos' heritage. Our ancestors taught us to love, cherish, and protect the environment. However, climate change threatens to undo much of the progress that has been gained. For example, Latinos are more likely to be threatened by climate-related risks, such as the urban heat island effect, flooding, and toxic pollution. A large proportion, 39% of us, live within 30 miles of a power plant and 16% of us living within 10 miles of a coal plant. As Latino and minority populations continue to grow, along with our influence, we need to use our collective voice to promote the types of health measures and climate solutions being discussed at this Summit. Nurses, in particular, need to add our voice to calls for climate justice. Collaborating with ANHE and ecoAmerica is a big step forward for us.



Dr. V. Fan Tait, MD, FAAP

Chief Medical Officer, *American Academy of Pediatrics*

What about the children? I speak from the heart, and I get a little preachy, but I am not ashamed. Children are our future. This is not a partisan issue; children are bipartisan. It is about their lives and the lives of their children. When you ask people where on the list of their issues climate change falls, they say fifteenth or sixteenth nationally. However, we know from our own surveys of families with children that they frequently ask, "How is my child doing?" or "How am I doing as a parent?" Even in the most difficult situations, they want to do the right thing. Children breathe more. They respond more to heat. They are indeed the most vulnerable. The Maasai in Kenya, going from community to community, say "Kasserian Ingera," which means "How are the children?" I would say to us, how are the children? Our first concern must be the next generation.

**Jack Ende, MD, MACP**

President, *American College of Physicians*

Most of the advances in modern history have come at the hands of public health. However, these advances threaten to be wiped out by climate change. Multiple illnesses can be attributed to climate change, from heat and vector-borne disease to risks posed to mental health and food security. Cases of Lyme Disease are now even being found in Canada; the textbooks need to be rewritten. However, there is an increasing awareness within the medical community. Physicians, like clergy, are among the most trusted in their communities, and there is a real role for us as educators. The American College of Physicians (ACP) recently passed our own policy resolution, and my own home institution, the medical center at the University of Pennsylvania, is moving forward with new sustainable building projects. Academic medical institutions are notoriously slow moving, so if we can do it, anyone can do it. Check out the ACP Climate Change Toolkit at acponline.org.

**Jim Whitehead**

CEO, *American College of Sports Medicine*

The American College of Sports Medicine is a multidisciplinary organization. Sports is only part of our portfolio; we also promote public health and workplace health. We promote active transportation for trips that would otherwise be taken by car, which is good for your health and planetary health. But what is the bigger picture here? What more can we do? We can be innovative and work with industry and philanthropy to find ways to better engage people in ways that influence their behavior and thoughts. We can place a primacy on market-based solutions, including industries and products that are already moving us toward sustainability. Lastly, we can find common ground when discussing climate impacts, such as reducing asthma attacks or improving transportation and jobs. Yearning to do something larger than ourselves, we want to push humanity forward—that is what we are trying to do.

“Thank you Bob Perkowitz and the staff at ecoAmerica for the opportunity to come together to address the most important public health issue of our day. The American Public Health Association thinks so much of this that we have declared 2017 the Year of Climate Change and Health.”

— Dr. Georges Benjamin, *APHA*

PRIORITIES: HEALTH LEADERSHIP ON CLIMATE



Moderated by Leyla McCurdy
Health Director, *ecoAmerica*

This strategic forum is an opportunity to reflect on our discussions so far at this Summit, the health sector's progress over the past year, and how we can build on these successes to increase capacity for action and advocacy going forward.

Climate for Health is a national initiative led by a diverse network of health leaders from across the health sector. Climate for Health leverages the influence of America's most trusted professionals: doctors, nurses, public and environmental health professionals to raise awareness of how climate impacts health and to inspire Americans to take action.

In 2017, Climate for Health, in partnership with several leading health organizations, including the American Public Health Association, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, American Psychological Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, and other key groups, made significant progress in building capacity for climate leadership within the sector. Now we are ready to move from building wonderful networks and great programs to activation.

We can all take action as individuals, community members, at our workplaces, and in our sectors. *ecoAmerica* and Climate for Health will be accelerating our efforts to support action and advocacy more directly in 2018.



Key Opportunities for Accelerating Health Leadership on Climate:

What is needed to engage and support more health professionals in implementing climate solutions in their places of practice?

1. Create coalitions and partnerships

Improve networking and sharing of best practices, and improve access to research data with intra- and cross-sectoral partnerships.

2. Promote centrally located clinics and practices

Encourage locations that are easily accessible by public transportation.

3. Distribute Green the Workplace Kits for clinics and practices

Develop and widely distribute kits that offer guidance and resources for health professionals to help reduce the climate impact of their clinics and practices, such as energy efficiency and green purchasing.

4. Share climate leadership case studies

Develop local climate leadership case studies which highlight best practices, and serve as models for others to emulate.

5. Expand and offer financial incentives

Create and communicate financial incentives such as an awards program for places of practice which prioritize climate resilience and impact reduction.

What is needed to activate more health professionals to advocate for climate solutions?

1. Accelerate health association leadership

Encourage professional associations to prioritize climate change and health in their strategic plans. Identify and support the unique role of different health professions in advocating climate solutions.

2. Provide climate communication guidance and support

Develop guidelines and resources to support and inspire health professionals to communicate on climate in ways that are effective and tailored for multiple target audiences.

3. Expand climate and health education

Provide education on the connection between climate and health for health professionals. Make climate change a mandatory course within medical school and other health professional curriculum. Encourage and empower professional associations to educate and engage their members.

4. Empower and activate health advocacy cohorts and champions

Invite health professionals to join and collaborate in cohorts with groups engaged in climate resilience and action at the local and state level. Identify and train climate change champions to learn about and communicate on environmental health conditions, such as asthma.

5. Catalyze outreach and engagement campaign opportunities

Utilize social media to communicate with health professionals. Provide actionable asks and communication templates to health professionals to engage them directly and activate their advocacy. Include information on ways to reduce exposure and environmental impacts in patient education materials. Implement an “Ask Your Doctor About Climate Change” campaign to motivate doctors to learn about climate change as a result of having to respond to questions from the public.

6. Establish formal disease diagnosis codes for climate change related diseases

ATTENDEES

Dr. Samantha Ahdoot, Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action

Lukasz Aleksandrowicz, Wellcome Trust

Shantha Ready Alonso, Creation Justice Ministries

Teeb Al-Samarrai, U.S. Department of Energy

Margie Alt, Environment America

Matthew Anderson, National Audubon Society

Dr. Gina Angiola, Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility

Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ

Dr. Melissa Aronczyk, Rutgers University

Joel Bach, Years of Living Dangerously

Rev. Jim Ball, Minister

Kara Ball, Earth Day Network

Susan Bass, Earth Day Network

Bruce Bekkar, MD, Climate Action Campaign

John Bender, The Nature Conservancy

Dr. Georges Benjamin, American Public Health Association*

Kenneth Berlin, The Climate Reality Project

Rev. Dr. Brooks Berndt, United Church of Christ

Philip Bogdonoff, Biodiversity for a Livable Climate

Wendell Brase, University of California Irvine

Rev. Dr. Ken Brooker-Langston, Disciples Center for Public Witness

Mary Brown, ChangeHereNow

Marshall Brown, Save The Great South Bay

Trisha Calabrese, American Academy of Pediatrics

Dr. Lisa Campbell, TTUHSC School of Nursing

Galen Carey, National Association of Evangelicals

Patrick Carolan, Franciscan Action Network

David Carroll, Midwestern Religious Coalition on Creation Care

Dr. Timothy Carter, Second Nature

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Fernando Cazares, The Trust for Public Land

Lynne Cherry, Young Voices for the Planet

Sara Chieffo, League of Conservation Voters

Rosemary Choudry, Association of Public Health Nurses

Shafaq Choudry, National League of Cities

Aimée Christensen, Sun Valley Institute for Resilience

Colin Christopher, Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances, Islamic Society of North America

Alan Chung, Perka Inc.

Rebeca Cipollitti, The Climate Reality Project

Joel Clement, Climate Policy Expert, Whistleblower

Joyce Coffee, Climate Resilience Consulting

Tim Cole, Virginia Beach City Public School

Chip Comins, The American Renewable Energy Institute

Juanita Constible, Natural Resources Defense Council

Cara Cook, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Sierra Brooke Coomer, University of North Carolina-Wilmington Environmental Concerns Organization

Josh Craft, Utah Clean Energy

Ryan Crowley, American College of Physicians

Jad Daley, American Forests

Liese Dart, The Wilderness Society

Amy Davidson, The Climate Group

Jim Davidson, National Religious Coalition Creation Care

Dr. Natasha DeJarnett, American Public Health Association

Rev. Carol Devine, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Hon. John Dickert, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Christine Dimmick, The Good Home Company

Kathleen Dolan, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Richard Dolesh, National Recreation and Park Association

Claire Douglass, National Audubon Society

Stephanie Doyle, Citizens' Climate Lobby

Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, Providence Missionary Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia

Amb. William Eacho, Partnership for Responsible Growth

Jack Ende, MD, MACP, American College of Physicians

Dr. Ruth A. Etzel, Children's Health Protection
Dr. Ted Eytan, Kaiser Permanente
Prof. John E. Fernandez, Environmental Solutions Initiative, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Deeohn Ferris, National Audubon Society
Joel Finkelstein, Climate Advisers
Joan Flaherty, Citizens' Climate Lobby
Catherine Flowers, Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise Community Development Corporation
Hon. Al Franken, Unites States Senate
Ivan Frishberg, Amalgamated Bank
David Gelber, Years of Living Dangerously
Liz Georges, The Nature Conservancy
Katie Gilman, The Wilderness Society
Dr. Lynn Goldman, Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University
Dr. Mirele Goldsmith, Jewish Climate Action Network
Dr. Eric Goplerud, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Barbara Gottlieb, Physicians for Social Responsibility
Dave Grace, Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church
Sally Grans Korsh, National Association of College and University Business Officers
Richard Graves, CleanChoice Energy
Genevieve Guenther, The New School
Sophie Gutterman, Meridian Institute
Clark Halvorson, Washington State Department of Health
Julie Hantman, MPH, Independent Contractor
Paul Harrison, Cassiopeia
Gregg Hartley, Cloakroom Advisors
Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Texas Tech University
Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Board of Church and Society for the United Methodist Church
Tanya Herbick, Morton and Jane Blaustein Foundation
Dr. Stephanie Herrera, HITEC Foundation
Dr. Antonia Herzog, Naval Heritage Foundation
John Hill, The United Methodist Church - General
Jessica Hitt, EcoAdapt
Sara Hoverter, Harrison Institute for Public Law
Doria Howe, Food and Water Watch
Katie Huffling, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Chase Huntley, The Wilderness Society
Ruth Ivory-Moore, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Kate Jackson, Grist
Brad Johnson, Climate Hawks Vote
Allen Johnson, Christians For The Mountains
Gene Karpinski, League of Conservation Voters
Peter Kelly, American Wind Energy Association
Neal Kemkar, General Electric
Aneesa Khan, The Wilderness Society
Rev. Greg King, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; Creation Justice Ministries Board Member
Fred Krueger, National Religious Coalition on Creation Care
Jill Kubit, DearTomorrow
Dr. Howard Kurtzman, American Psychological Association
Steve Lamm, The Russell Group
Jerry Lawson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Lisa Locke, Delaware Interfaith Power and Light
Rev. Sotello V. Long, Disciples Home Missions
Frank Loy, ecoAmerica Board Chair*
Mindy Lubber, Ceres
Mark Magana, GreenLatinos
Edward Maibach, George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication
Meg Mall, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Diane Mancino, EdD, RN, CAE, FAAN, NSNA, National Student Nurses Association
Dr. Ezra Markowitz, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Sarene Marshall, Self
Cooper Martin, National League of Cities
Jeffrey Masters, The Weather Underground, Inc.
John Mateyko, Delaware Interfaith Power and Light
Andrea McGimsey, Environment America
Timothy J. Mealey, Meridian Institute
Sophia Mendelsohn, JetBlue Airways
Dr. Richard Miller, Creighton University
Dan Misleh, Catholic Climate Covenant

Lyndsay Moseley Alexander, American Lung Association

Katherine Neebe, Walmart

Tia Nelson, Outrider Foundation

Mark Nichols, SeaSpire Advisors

Hon. Gregory Nickels, ecoAmerica Board, Former Mayor of Seattle*

Joelle Novey MD, DC, NoVa, Interfaith Power and Light

Susan Oakes, Center for Ecological Living and Learning

Dave Oakes, Ed.D, Center for Ecological Living and Learning

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, Children's Environmental Health Network

LaVaida Owens-White, NAACP Delaware State Conference

Hon. Eduardo Paes, Former Mayor of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

Jonathan Parfrey, Climate Resolve

Surili Patel, American Public Health Association

Dr. Jerome Paulson, American Academy of Pediatrics

Bob Perkowitz, ecoAmerica

Phil Polakoff, Stanford University School of Medicine

Mary Beth Postman, Waterkeeper Alliance

Rev. Dr. Staccato Powell, African Methodist Episcopal Zion

Kristin Raab, Minnesota Department of Health

Sally Ranney, Earth Restoration Alliance

Maia Raposo, Waterkeeper Alliance

Molly Rauch, Moms Clean Air Force

Chaplain Delia Realmo, Order of St. Martin of Tours

Buffy Redsecker, SunLight Time Foundation

Lisa Renstrom, Confluence Philanthropy and Interfaith Power and Light*

Emma Rieves, Utah Clean Energy

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