

# Promote climate-smart health care policies



We are at a critical time when the U.S. health care sector can leverage its unique role to address the climate crisis and create impactful change.

Health care institutions serve on the front lines of climate change, bearing the costs of increasing illnesses, injuries, and disease and more frequent extreme weather and natural disasters.

**The Health Care Climate Council supports policies that drive the transformation to climate-smart health care and healthier, more equitable, and resilient communities by:**

## **Reducing Pollution from Fossil Fuels**

Set strong standards and incentives for reducing carbon emissions and other harmful pollution from fossil fuels, especially in frontline communities that are experiencing the worst impacts.

## **Growing the Clean Energy Economy**

Increase access to affordable, clean energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation for all.

## **Building Resilient Hospitals and Communities**

Prepare the public health and health care infrastructure for the impacts of climate change and strengthen community resilience.



The Health Care Climate Council is a leadership body of 21 U.S. health systems committed to protecting their patients and employees from the health impacts of climate change and becoming anchors for resilient communities.

# Policy Recommendations

- 1 Support funding for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE)
- 2 Enhance HHS initiatives and programs that promote health care climate action by lowering their greenhouse gas emissions and building more climate-resilient infrastructure.
- 3 Ensure health systems have access to Inflation Reduction Act incentives and programs to invest in clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies at their health systems and within their communities.
- 4 Support strong standards that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful pollutants from fossil-fuel-fired power plants, transportation, and other major industrial sources.
- 5 Oppose legislative efforts to weaken administrative authority to regulate greenhouse emissions.
- 6 Oppose policies that support and subsidize fossil fuel production and use.

**For more information, please contact:**

Antonia Herzog, Director of Climate Policy and Advocacy, Climate and Health Program  
Health Care Without Harm U.S.  
[aherzog@hcwh.org](mailto:aherzog@hcwh.org)



The Health Care Climate Council is coordinated by the global nonprofit Health Care Without Harm. Health Care Without Harm seeks to transform health care worldwide so the sector reduces its environmental footprint, becomes a community anchor for sustainability, and a leader in the global movement for environmental health and justice.