Hello, Palmetto State health and climate advocates. Thank you for reading our September SCHPCA newsletter.

Hoping this finds all of our readers well. The last month has seen an increase in COVID cases nationwide, and South Carolina has not been spared. I’m sure many of you, like me, have been impacted personally and professionally by this most recent wave of cases. As our planet continues to heat up and extreme weather events as well as climate patterns continue to change, it’s hard not to think that new illness patterns and pandemics may become more and more likely and frequent. A sobering thought, for sure, and yet another reason for us to continue our own education and action in the health care sector towards fostering a more healthy planet.
Climate change offers healthcare providers “the greatest opportunity to redefine the social and environmental determinants of health” in the 21st century. Medical schools and graduate medical education programs can empower physicians to take this on by ensuring their curricula include robust, structured and practical advocacy training. There is no time like the present.

Read Dr. Chekuri's blog
The Cambridge Health Alliance Center for Health Equity Education & Advocacy (CHEEA) invites you to apply for the Climate Health Organizing Fellows Program, a tuition free, zoom based program for health professionals focused on creating climate solutions through community organizing.

Click Here To Apply

UPCOMING WEBINAR ON OCT 22, 2021:

Climate Change and Health: Implications for Clinical Practice Symposium sponsored by the Department of Internal Medicine, the
AN ENCOURAGING ARTICLE:

Our neighbors to the north at the Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action recently wrote an article that was published in the Journal for Climate Change and Health. Check out their excellent article detailing their initiatives in Wisconsin here. Congratulations, WHPCA!

AND IN THE NEWS:

US unveils plan to address 'silent killer' extreme heat

*The Biden administration is moving to protect workers and communities from extreme heat*

FACT SHEET: Biden Administration Mobilizes to Protect Workers and Communities from Extreme Heat
The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, and Agriculture; the Environmental Protection Agency; and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are announcing a set of actions that will reduce heat-related illness, protect public health, and support the economy:

- The Department of Labor is launching a multi-prong initiative on occupational heat exposure to protect outdoor workers, including agricultural, construction, and delivery workers, as well as indoor workers, including those in warehouses, factories, and kitchens.
- Other new and recent agency actions will provide cooling assistance to households; use schools as cooling centers; launch a heat resilience innovation challenge; address social vulnerabilities and disproportionate impacts; reduce urban heat through tree cover; and improve local preparedness through data-sharing.
- The Biden Administration’s Interagency Working Group on Extreme Heat will continue to coordinate a holistic response.

JOIN SCHPCA

Email us at info@schealthclimate.org.

Membership is free!

Donations accepted:

One-time: https://app.etapetry.com/onlineforms/SustainingWay/SCHPCA_donate.html

SCHPCA MISSION STATEMENT:

Our MISSION is to educate the public and health professionals on the impact of climate change on health; to advocate for state policy focused on mitigation, adaptation, and equity; and to collaborate with state and national groups, as healthy professionals have the ability and duty to approach rapid climate change as the key public health issue of our times.