



Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action (VCCA) was founded in 2017 in order to bring the clinician voice to climate change advocacy in the state of Virginia. Through education, advocacy and community outreach, VCCA is building a network of clinician advocates for local and statewide climate change solutions that protect the health of our patients and communities in the Commonwealth. Our mission is to build a network of clinician leaders advocating for climate change solutions that protect the health of our patients and communities. As an organization, we are focused on the nexus of [climate, health, and equity](#). Currently, we have a network of over 450 clinician advocates who focus on local, statewide and federal climate solutions.

We partner with a wide range of health institutions in every corner of the state and help them develop resolutions of climate health, create online climate resources for the state chapters of national medical groups, and provide policy guidance to partners like the Virginia Chapter of the American College of Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, and Medical Society of Virginia. Beyond work with health institutions, we also launched the [Virginia Medical Climate and Health Education Collaborative](#) to incorporate climate change curriculum into schools of health training across the state and to engage the next generation of healthcare professionals in climate advocacy. With respect to communication, our members have [published work](#) in over forty articles in state, national and international news outlets. We also host monthly [“Health in Virginia’s Changing Climate”](#) webinars for medical professionals to learn more about climate issues that connect to medicine and patient wellness.

With respect to policy, financing, and metrics, VCCA is at the forefront of research and legislative action at the state and local levels. In 2022, we released a [heat illness report](#) which reviews heat trends in Virginia, health risks to vulnerable populations, economic costs, and strategies to reduce risk. On a more hands on note, we have hosted multiple [General Assembly Advocacy Days](#) in Richmond where our members meet with their elected representatives to represent the health perspective on climate change. At events like these and others, we have engaged health leaders like Virginia’s Secretary of Health and Human Resources, to provide a health-based voice in support of a statewide clean energy economy. Finally, VCCA has sponsored a [Health Impact Assessment](#) report analyzing the health dangers of transportation emissions and benefits of reform in the Commonwealth.

As an organization, we are eager to join as an affiliate of the Climate Collaborative and believe that our work thus far will align us as a key contributor to this platform.