SOCIETY OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

555 East Wells Street,
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NAM Climate Collaborative Commitment Statement

The Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) is the nation's leading scientific society dedicated to behavioral medicine, representing 2,400 researchers, clinicians, educators, and industry professionals from more than 20 disciplines. Via education, publishing, connections, and other services, SBM helps members improve individual health, population health, and clinical care using behavioral solutions. SBM members' work focuses on (1) top causes of mortality in the US (e.g., cardiovascular disease, cancer) and (2) behavioral risk factors that are relevant for a broad spectrum of disease prevention (e.g., tobacco use, sedentary lifestyle). SBM services include a scientific conference, educational webinars, leadership training programs, two academic journals, networking opportunities, and policy advocacy work.

SBM is engaged in the following work relevant to the Climate Collaborative's Health Professional Education and Communication priority area:

- Presidential Working Group on Climate Change and Health, created following [a 2019-20 initiative in which members and others in the field identified climate change as the most pressing issue that should be addressed in the next 20 years](). The working group aims to develop research questions at the intersection of climate change, behavior change, and health; identify potential strategies and solutions; and identify partners and complementary opportunities to form a network of scientists, practitioners, and lay public to develop and conduct research aimed at positively affecting individual health and mitigating climate change. The working group consists of five subgroups: Climate change, behavior, and health; Health-related behavior and climate change; Health inequity; Communication; and Policy and advocacy.
- [2022 Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions]() theme, "The Urgency of Adaptation," highlights climate change as a public health emergency. [High-profile talks]() and educational sessions are designed to motivate attendees to see their work as relevant to adapting to and mitigating the health effects of climate change.
- Webinars in partnership with the National Cancer Institute: The Fundamentals of Climate Change and Health Behavior Change (July 31, 2020); and Climate Change, Behavior Change, and Health: Tackling Global Challenges Together (October 2, 2020).
- [Climate Change and Health Twitter Chat]() (July 2020).
- Climate Change and Health special issue of *Translational Behavioral Medicine* (in press).
- Publication of the [joint editorial: "Call for Emergency Action to Limit Global Temperature Increases, Restore Biodiversity, and Protect Health."]()

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- Partner on the 2021 and 2020 Lancet Countdown's Health and Climate Change Brief.
- Member of ecoAmerica and signatory on its MomentUs Climate Statement. SBM's 2022 strategic plan calls for enhanced partnership with other organizations focused on climate change and carbon reduction.
- Educating the Biden Administration on the importance of social and behavioral sciences for developing solutions to the health problems arising from the climate crisis.
- Sign on to Congressional letter: "America's Health Organizations Call on Congress to Invest in Protecting and Promoting Health in Response to the Climate Crisis."
- Sign on to the US Call to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity.
- Sign on to Healthy Climate Prescription Letter.

Through these and emerging efforts, SBM is dedicated to empowering health workers and others to advocate for decarbonizing healthcare while emphasizing the health and equity benefits of climate actions.

Sincerely,

David E. Conroy, PhD
President

Michael A. Diefenbach, PhD
Past-President
Climate Change and Health Working Group Chair

Lindsay A. Bullock, CAE
Executive Director