



**WISCONSIN HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
FOR CLIMATE ACTION, INC**
3918 PAUNACK AVE
MADISON, WI 53711

March 9, 2022

The Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action is a team of nurses, doctors, public health leaders, and other health professionals deeply committed to communicating that the climate crisis is a health emergency. We empower health professionals to advocate for equitable solutions to that crisis. In 2021, our members met with over 32 policymakers, sent hundreds of emails and letters, and testified on Public Service Commission (PSC) and Environmental Protection Agency dockets. To advance both climate mitigation and adaptation policies, we collaborate with numerous stakeholders and over 41 social justice, environmental, and health organizations.

Recognizing that health systems create carbon emissions and are key institutions in communities, we also help health systems decrease their carbon footprints, develop climate resilience, and partner with their communities. We are currently working on organizing green teams within Wisconsin hospital systems to catalyze engagement and empower health professionals. Last year, we began this networking by hosting an event attended by 15 health system CEOs and over 100 administrators from our state and offered interprofessional CME/CE training on decarbonizing healthcare for doctors, nurses, pharmacists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, physician assistants, and psychologists.

We work with health professional schools to improve education on climate health equity. We provide our patients, the public, and policymakers with the climate health resources and education necessary to lessen health disparities experienced by frontline communities. We have done this both through a multi-pronged approach which includes resource creation, communications research, and activating our members to give talks and submit articles to their local papers. In 2021, our members appeared in over 58 different newspapers and podcasts, published 11 peer-reviewed articles in research publications, and gave 26 talks. We also hosted or co-hosted 18 events to educate both the public and the health sector.

We hope to become a Network Organization within the National Academy of Medicine's Climate Collaborative to share resources and assist in this critical work. Our motivation is simple. We are inspired by the patients we treat every day. We know a safe environment is critical to their wellness and strive to create a world with cleaner energy, air, and water, so that we can all enjoy a healthier future.

Thank you,

Abby Novinska-Lois
Executive Director
Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action