



HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM

Henry Ford Health System is pleased to submit this commitment statement as part of its application to participate in the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) “Action Collaborative on Decarbonizing the US Health Sector.”

Our mission is to improve people’s lives through excellence in the science and art of health care and healing. Headquartered in Detroit, we are one of the nation’s leading non-profit, academic, integrated health systems, comprised of acute-care hospitals, behavioral healthcare facilities, a health plan, and over 250 healthcare sites including medical centers, a cancer center, research and innovation centers, pharmacies and more.

Henry Ford is dedicated to providing excellent care to our patients and helping to improve the external factors that influence their health – including the natural and built environments. Our system sustainability goals are intended to simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions, redress environmental injustices, and improve the health of the patients, employees, and communities we serve.

Beyond reducing our direct emissions, we are also working to reduce water consumption and food waste while establishing policies and programs to guide our supply chain and infrastructure investments in and around our facilities to achieve our sustainability goals and reduce indirect emissions.

In sum, our system sustainability goals currently are:

- Reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 50% by 2030 and to achieve net-zero emissions by 2040
- Eliminate chemicals of concern from our priority products by 2030
- Reduce landfill waste by 50% by 2030
- Purchase 30% of food meeting local and sustainable criteria by 2030
- Increase annual investments in “green and healthy infrastructure”

Per the NAM’s four priority areas:

- Health Care Delivery: We are working with clinicians to reduce emissions, specifically in our ORs by reducing the use of more impactful anesthetic gases and encouraging use of more virtual care visits.
- Health Care Supply Chain and Infrastructure: We are working with our supply chain, vendors and group purchasing organization to source and track the use of products that meet sustainable criteria.
- Health Professional Education and Communication: We are developing green teams and educational messaging to raise awareness about the impacts of climate change on health and engage health professionals in our efforts to advocate for internal and external change.
- Policy, Financing, and Metrics: We are recommending policy changes at the federal level, e.g., we commented on the December AHRQ climate-related RFI and we are advocating at the state and local level, e.g., the Governor’s Council on Climate Solutions, for more investment in carbon reducing and resilience strategies.



HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM

Achievements for the system to date have included a recently signed agreement to purchase 100% renewable electricity for all facilities serviced by our largest electric utility, as well as significant investments in energy efficiency measures and a comprehensive utility database to track energy, waste, and water usage across all our facilities.

Henry Ford is excited to participate in this action collaborative with other like-minded healthcare organizations to help accelerate efforts to address the growing health crises we face from climate change and pollution.