



NAM ACTION COLLABORATIVE COMMITMENT STATEMENT: DECARBONIZING THE US HEALTH SECTOR

The Wright Center for Community Health (TWCCCH) firmly believes that it is not only our mission to improve the health and welfare of our communities, but also a moral imperative to make an intentional organizational commitment to support environmental responsibility and climate resilience in a manner commensurate with our resources and capacity. TWCCCH is a Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike and the foundational ambulatory clinical learning environment member of an Enterprise-wide Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Safety-Net Consortium (GME-SNC). Our mission is to improve the health and welfare of our communities through inclusive and responsive health services and the sustainable renewal of an inspired, competent workforce that is privileged to serve. We currently provide comprehensive, fully-integrated primary health services across the lifespan to more than 31,000 lives without regard to insurance status and ability to pay.

In order to improve population health, environmental responsibility supporting climate change must be a priority consideration in all health sector decision-making. The disproportionate impact of climate change on historically marginalized populations is a critical Social and Environmental Determinant of Health that negatively influences health, health equity and health outcomes. By promoting participatory citizenship in environmental responsibility efforts among the patients, families and larger communities we serve, our staff and health workforce learners, TWCCCH and its affiliated organizations, we are determined to contribute to volume-driven solutions to an otherwise indomitable climate change challenge.

In NAM's priority areas of healthcare delivery and health professions education, TWCCCH has intentionally invested in creating organizationally-systemic environmental initiatives by creating a position (shared pro rata with its affiliated entity, The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education) and hiring an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Specialist to lead developmental work in identifying ESG metrics and targets, build the infrastructure to track and report progress and challenges, and educate our stakeholders on the importance of active participation in responsible climate-friendly initiatives. TWCCCH created an Enterprise-appropriate Climate Pledge for staff and learners along with an internal survey to bring awareness and build momentum around individual contributions to achieve the larger goal. Importantly, educating our physician-led care teams and interprofessional health learners about the negative impacts on health due to climate-influenced events will broaden and deepen skill sets and improve health outcomes.

TWCCCH recently shared our activities and learning in two presentations with HRSA stakeholders in the PCMH Health Equity Technical Assistance Symposium. We plan to update our website to reflect our ESG work, publicly sharing education about the dangers of lead, poor air quality, and the inequitable impact of natural disasters on vulnerable and marginalized populations. TWCCCH has been in communication with HHS's Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE) to participate in Health Sector climate-related opportunities in the most

responsible way as an FQHC Look-Alike and Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Consortium. It would be an honor to join the NAM Action Collaborative on Decarbonizing the US Health Sector as we learn how to more meaningfully contribute to this crucial initiative.