

Oregon Climate and Health Program

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

9/1/2017 - 8/31/2018



Notable Achievements

Climate and Health Policy Paper

The Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division prepared a [Climate and Health Policy Paper](#) in response to inquiries from the Oregon Governor's [Carbon Policy Office](#) about communities most impacted by health risks of climate hazards and co-pollutants of greenhouse gas emissions. The paper responds to five specific questions, drawing from the most recent scientific literature on climate change impacts, related health effects and evidence-based interventions. Oregon-specific studies are cited when available. The paper is now available on our website and was shared with State lawmakers on the [Oregon Joint Legislative Committee on Carbon Reduction](#).

Social Resilience Project

The Oregon Climate and Health Program has had the opportunity of partnering with researchers to explore indicators of social resilience and strategies for building social cohesion within communities we serve. Findings from these initial studies will soon be shared on a new Social Resilience webpage.

Cross-sectoral Leadership on Climate

We continue to co-convene an inter-agency climate staff group representing 22 different State agencies. Meetings this year have focused on coordinating and aligning climate-related communications.

Public Health Division Director Lillian Shirley joined the State's first Climate Cabinet launched this year and continues to sit on the [Oregon Global Warming Commission](#).

The Oregon Health Authority attended the Global Climate and Health Forum and is in the process of signing on to the Global [Climate and Health Call to Action](#).

We continue to co-convene the [NW Climate and Health Network](#) in partnership with the State of Washington's Department of Health.

Publications

We served on the [2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment](#) (NCA4) author team for the [Northwest chapter](#) which emphasized health risks as a key message and featured a number of projects led by our Climate and Health Program. In response to the report's release, our program had the opportunity to highlight our work in local news stories including: [Oregon Public Broadcasting, KATU 2 News](#), and the [Salem Reporter](#).

[Our work with local health departments](#) was featured in an article published in the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, [Minigrants to Local Health Departments: An Opportunity to Promote Climate Change Preparedness](#)

Our program was featured in a paper published in the journal of Environmental Health Perspectives: [Integrating Health into Local Climate Response: Lessons from the U.S. CDC Climate-Ready States and Cities Initiative](#)

Our program was featured in [APHA's Adaptation in Action Part II: Updated Grantee Success Stories from CDC's Climate and Health Program](#) and we presented a summary of our work on APHA's [Adaptation in Action Webinar](#).

Our Climate Adaptation project entitled "How Tillamook Weathered the Storm" is featured as one of ASTHO's "Health in All Policies" Success Studies: [Health in All Policies: State and Local Interagency Collaboration Provides Better Health for All](#)



NCA4 Northwest Chapter Author Team

Director Shirley's blog post, [Climate Change Hits Home](#), describes the health impacts of wildfire and was featured on the Oregon Global Warming Commission's new website, receiving more than 3,000 page views in the week that followed.

Our digital story project, developed in partnership with members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, was featured on APHA's Public Health Newswire: [Tribal Perspectives on how climate changes health](#).

Program Coordinator, Emily York, wrote a guest editorial for the Trauma Informed Oregon Blog entitled: [Trauma and Our Rapidly Changing World](#).



Emily York interviewed on KATU News

Key Presentations

Presentations in the last year have included:

- Pacific NW Climate Conference
- Oregon Public Health Association Meeting
- APHA Annual Meeting: 'Climate Changes Health'
- Transformational Resilience Conference
- Oregon Preparedness Conference
- Oregon Drought Readiness Council
- NW Drought and Climate Outlook Webinar



Oregon Climate and Health Collaborative members after presenting at the APHA Meeting

Implementation Progress

In year two of the implementation of the [Oregon Climate and Health Resilience Plan](#), 72% of the statewide strategies have begun to be implemented. Below is a more detailed breakdown of implementation progress by strategy area.

Strategy 1: Standardize the use of an equity framework	75% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 2: Listen to new voices and empower new leaders	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 3: Ensure meaningful engagement	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 4: Support programmatic activities that strengthen social networks and social cohesion	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 5: Prioritize, track, analyze and share key climate and health data	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 6: Use mixed methods to assess resilience	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 7: Increase the number of policies and plans that include health and climate considerations	100% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 8: Promote and inform policies and planning that improve air quality	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 9: Promote and inform policies and planning that improve food systems	50% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 10: Integrate climate and health information into coordinate emergency preparedness plans and activities	100% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 11: Support emergency planners in involving diverse populations in culturally responsive ways	50% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 12: Work with partners who directly educate the public to deliver climate and health messages	100% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 13: Use storytelling methods, such as case studies and story maps, to engage and learn from stakeholders	50% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 14: Provide bold leadership on climate	100% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 15: Improve internal operations to lower greenhouse gas footprint	66% of recommended actions begun or completed
Strategy 16: Train the public health workforce	66% of recommended actions begun or completed

More information at: healthoregon.org/climate