



Climate and Health Equity Coalition

7/16/2025

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Welcome + Icebreaker

What is one thing (in nature or otherwise) that has given you hope or inspired resiliency lately? Or – what has brought you joy this summer?

Announcements

- **BRACE Updates:**
 - CDC reduction in force (RIF) that applied to the Climate and Health Program was rescinded in June
 - Status remains vulnerable and EH division has experienced significant turnover
 - CDC program team is eager to disburse 2025-2026 funding by the end of the budget period, August 31, 2025
 - Ability to release NOA remains uncertain ("rescission by inertia")
 - CDC is operating without a full fiscal budget right now (30 days at a time) and amidst further personnel cuts
 - DPH side – cautious since January (having to reconceptualize work)
 - Agency remains committed to climate goals

Announcements

- **Staffing Updates:**
 - **Staff:**
 - Madhumitha, who joined us in February, took another position in early May
 - Not reposting at this time
 - **Fellowship:**
 - In the final stages of development for an Adaptation and Resiliency Fellowship
 - Hiring through SCSU
 - Will accept one fellow this year for a two-year term, adding one additional fellow next year for another two years
 - Job will be posted either this week or next and will share
 - Targeting recent grads, master's degree preferred, not required

Symposium Update and Agenda Feedback

Save the Date: The 2025 Connecticut Symposium on Climate Change and Health

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 | 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. ET

Lecture Hall at Sterling Memorial Library, 120 High Street, New Haven, CT 06511 or virtual (plenary sessions only)

Details and registration coming soon.

The 2025 Connecticut Symposium on Climate Change and Health

- **Date and time:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025, from 8:30am – 2:30pm
 - Free and open to the public
 - In-person at the Sterling Memorial Library on Yale's campus
 - Virtual option available (plenary sessions only)
- **Objective:** To build awareness, engagement, and community in CT around the health impacts of climate change and solutions to protect public health.
 - Sharing the latest evidence on climate change impacts in CT and their implications for public health
 - Strengthening connections across regions, departments, and disciplines
 - Advancing actions to ensure all residents are safe, healthy, and resilient in a changing climate
- **Target audiences:** public health professionals, health care professionals, researchers, state and local leaders, community and environmental advocates, and more
 - People working in public health; health care; emergency management; social services; education; and planning and development
 - People from communities affected by climate/environmental injustice
 - Members of Climate and Health Equity Coalition; Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council (CEEJAC) and its subcommittees; and other interested groups
 - Researchers, journalists, and advocates interested in climate change and health
 - Students from Connecticut and nearby colleges, public health schools, medical schools, etc.

Symposium agenda: tentative for discussion (updated July 2025)

Time	Agenda item
8:30-9:15	Breakfast & registration
9:15-9:30	Welcome and opening remarks – YCCCH and DPH
9:30-10:40	Climate hazards, health risks, and vulnerability (<i>Format: 10-min presentations + panel discussion/Q&A</i>) a) Latest climate projections for CT (incl. heat, sea level rise, possibly precipitation) and related health implications – speaker from CIRCA b) Climate justice: disproportionate impacts, opportunities for action – TBC c) Climate change, energy, and housing -- TBC d) Special populations at risk (e.g., people who rely on home medical devices, elderly, outdoor workers) – TBC
10:40-11:00	Break
11:00-12:15	Partnerships for a healthy, resilient Connecticut (<i>Format: 5-min presentations + interactive session at tables</i>) a) Air Monitoring & Sensor Loan Program – DEEP Air Bureau (TBC) b) Air monitoring project -- Naugatuck Valley Health District (TBC) c) Neighborhood-level heat sensor project – CIRCA (TBC) d) Community preparedness – a local health department/district; Connecticut Assoc. of Directors of Health (TBC) e) Health professional organizing -- Connecticut Health Professionals for Climate Action f) Policy advocacy -- Connecticut Coalition for Climate Action (TBC)
12:15-12:30	Closing remarks
12:30-2:30	Lunch & networking; <i>1:30pm: informal coalition gathering to reflect on Symposium and next steps, open to all</i>

Open Discussion

- Climate and health work to feature
- Upcoming events
- Updates from members

Next Steps

- Register for Climate and Health Symposium!
- *Tentative* October 15th meeting
- Will be in touch as we learn more