



**HEALTHY CLIMATE  
NEW MEXICO**  
Health Professionals for Climate Action

#2 | MAY 2024

# **MEMBER UPDATES NEWSLETTER MAY 31, 2024**

**[WWW.HEALTHYCLIMATENM.ORG](http://WWW.HEALTHYCLIMATENM.ORG)**

**[info@healthyclimatenm.org](mailto:info@healthyclimatenm.org)**

## **Please Consider a Donation!**

**OUR WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY  
OUR GENEROUS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS**

**[DONATE HERE](#)**

No matter the size, please consider  
making a donation to HCNM today



**EVENTS**

**YOU'RE  
INVITED**

Healthy Climate New Mexico Presents  
**Extreme Heat, Health  
and Resiliency  
Summit**

**...AND WE DON'T MEAN CHILE!**

**Thursday,  
July 11, 2024**

**8:30am - 12:30pm MST  
on Zoom**

**SCAN OR  
CLICK TO  
REGISTER**

**FREE**

**Breakout Workshops:**

- Outpatient settings
- Hospitals and EMS
- Behavioral health and social services
- Community organizations
- Workplace settings



**SPANISH INTERPRETATION AVAILABLE**

To learn more about the event, visit our website at  
[www.healthyclimatenm.org](http://www.healthyclimatenm.org)



# RESOURCES



## 1

A recent article from the New York Times highlights the health hazards Americans face at work due to extreme heat.

*"...[a team of] 30 people at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is expected to propose a new rule that would require employers to protect an estimated 50 million people exposed to high temperatures while they work."*

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## 2

Source New Mexico reports wildfire risks for the state are higher than average in a recent brief.

*"Forecasters with the National Interagency Fire Center are expecting wildfire risk to be above normal for much of the state this summer, citing ongoing drought and a potential transition this summer from El Niño to La Niña conditions."*

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**68,701,066 people in the United States currently face extreme weather alerts!**

The **Danger Season Visualization Tool** shows how many people face climate-related risks *right now*.

Explore the tool and share it with your networks!

## Policy Advisory - 2024 Heat Season

### Healthy Climate New Mexico

*Health Professionals for Climate Action*

# EVENTS & EDUCATION

## Advocacy & Policy Workgroup

CO-LEADS: DRS. PAUL CHARLTON & KRISTIN GRAZIANO

Are you Interested In learning more about the  
role policy and advocacy plays in shaping climate  
health?

Are you looking to connect with other  
professionals?

JOIN US every 4th Tuesday of the month

*Next Meeting: June 25th from 4 - 5 pm MST*

**ZOOM LINK**



The Medical Society Consortium on  
**CLIMATE & HEALTH**

**REGISTER  
HERE!**

**CLIMATE & HEALTH EQUITY ADVOCATE ACTION  
SKILLS TRAINING**

**Tuesdays, June 4 - August 20, 2024**

**VIRTUAL**

# EVENTS & EDUCATION



## NEW MEXICO REGIONAL CLIMATE RESILIENCE WORKSHOPS

[REGISTER FOR A WORKSHOP HERE](#)

The New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)'s Climate Policy Bureau (CPB) is hosting community events across the state to debut and collect feedback on New Mexico's first-ever **State Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan (CARP)**.

**FARMINGTON**  
June 3rd At 6pm  
Riverside Nature Center:  
N Browning Pkwy, Farmington, NM 87402

**LAS VEGAS**  
June 5th At 6pm  
Stella's Cafe/Kickstart Kafe:  
148 Bridge St., Las Vegas, NM 87701

**TRIBAL WORKSHOP**  
June 6th At 12pm  
Mabry Hall, Jerry Apodaca Education Building  
300 Don Gaspar Avenue Santa Fe, NM 87501

**TAOS**  
June 4th At 6pm  
Bataan Hall:  
121 Civic Plaza Dr, Taos, NM 87571

**VIRTUAL WORKSHOP**  
June 11th At 6pm  
[Link To The Event](#)  
**Please Make Sure To Sign Up At The Top!**

**Healthy Climate NM has prepared talking points for these events. Please consider attending a community conversation near you!**

**Email [Info@healthyclimatenm.org](mailto:Info@healthyclimatenm.org) for more information**

### Is Climate Change to Blame?

Understanding and Communicating the Link Between  
Climate Change and Extreme Weather

Noon - 1pm ET, Wednesday, June 12th

**RSVP HERE**



**COMING  
SOON**



# HEALTHY CLIMATE CORNER



**CARRIE SHAVER, DHA, IHC, FACHE**  
BOARD TREASURER



**Climate change is an unprecedented challenge to health and equity.** Across New Mexico, residents are experiencing the impacts of climate change on physical and mental health. Extreme climate events lead to excess deaths, respiratory and cardiovascular illness, heat stroke and exhaustion, and elevated levels of anxiety, depression, and PTSD. Healthcare systems in our state have an important role in addressing climate change as it also deeply affects them. Not only do hospitals, health centers, and other providers care for people experiencing health impacts, but climate change affects every aspect of the healthcare system.

**ACCESS.** Extreme climate events lead to health system disruption. Patients may need to be evacuated from hospitals; facilities may be damaged or closed; power failure could interrupt care provision; and impacted roads and EMS may hinder people's access to medical services.

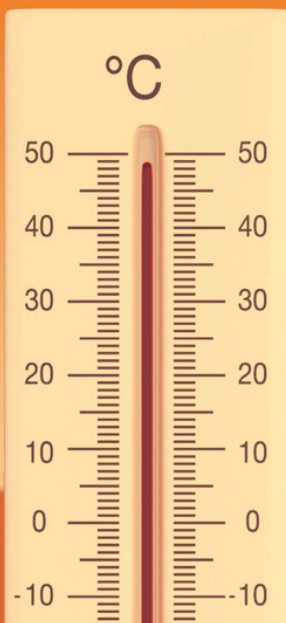
**COSTS.** Air, water, and soil pollution worsen the health of individuals and communities. The responsibility for the care of people affected by immediate impacts, as well as those with new or worsening chronic diseases such as cardiovascular and respiratory disease, lies with healthcare systems. Increased utilization of under-resourced healthcare organizations increases health-related costs in emergency department visits, hospital admissions, primary care, specialty appointments, other medical costs, and lost wages.

# HEALTHY CLIMATE CORNER CON'T

**QUALITY.** When healthcare organizations are forced to close, others can stretch beyond their capacity. Overcrowding and the boarding of patients in emergency departments are associated with decreased quality of care. In addition, disruptions to the supply chain may reduce the availability of critical medicines or medical devices.

**WORKFORCE.** Healthcare professionals experience higher rates of physical and mental health impacts than the general population. Healthcare workforce emergency response increases exposure to dangerous environments, including viruses and antimicrobial-resistant bacteria. The workplace is also becoming increasingly stressful with rising workplace incivility and violence. Staff also are experiencing moral injury more regularly, accompanying the likelihood of developing PTSD/Secondary PTSD. More frequent and intense climate impacts necessitate workforce training in identifying and addressing these risks.

The cascading effects of extreme climate events lead to significant disruptions in healthcare access, increased costs, compromised quality of care, and heightened strain on the healthcare workforce. To address these issues, **it is imperative for healthcare systems to not only provide care for those affected but also to implement strategies for resilience and adaptation.** By doing so, healthcare providers can mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, safeguard the health of New Mexico residents, and ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of healthcare services in the face of ongoing environmental changes.





# Healthy Climate NM

Healthy Climate NM's vision is a healthy, equitable, sustainable future for all New Mexicans

Healthy Climate NM's mission is to mobilize New Mexico healthcare and public health professionals to advocate for climate solutions that protect health and promote equity.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Please invite HCNM to lead a presentation or workshop for your group.

Email

[info@healthyclimatenm.org](mailto:info@healthyclimatenm.org)

and we will tailor an educational session to meet your organization's needs.

## **SPEAKERS BUREAU**

Please consider contributing your time and expertise to climate action by becoming a part of our Speakers Bureau.

Email

[Info@healthyclimatenm.org](mailto:Info@healthyclimatenm.org) to learn more.