

# We REACH

RESILIENCY

EQUITY

ADAPTATION

CLIMATE

HEALTH

## Climate Resilience Plan





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# Call to Action

*Providence was an early signatory to the Health and Human Services Health Sector Climate Pledge, in which Providence committed to the following:*

- At minimum, reduce organizational emissions by 50% by 2030 (from a baseline no earlier than 2008) and achieve net-zero by 2050, publicly accounting for progress on this goal every year.
- Designate an executive-level lead for their work on reducing emissions by 2023 and conduct an inventory of Scope 3 (supply chain) emissions by the end of 2024.
- Develop and release a climate resilience plan for continuous operations by the end of 2023, anticipating the needs of groups in their community that experience disproportionate risk of climate-related harm.

**Resilience:  
Part of Our  
Commitment  
to Climate  
Action**





# Climate Resilience Planning Principles at Providence

- We center this work in our core value of justice which calls us to care wisely for our people, our resources and our earth.
- We will build climate resilience through an iterative process over time, as impacts from climate change are seen and felt and our learning evolves.
- We will build resilience through efficiency by integrating resilience planning and ongoing mitigation efforts when possible.
- We will continue to learn from experts in the field. Our efforts and plans will adapt and pivot based on new or evolving information.
- We REACH: In our **R**esilience plan we will center **E**quity, **A**daptation, **C**limate and **H**ealth.

## Justice

*Act with justice, love with kindness and walk humbly with your God.*

*–Micah 6:8*

**We foster a culture that promotes unity and reconciliation. We strive to care wisely for our people, our resources and our earth. We stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable, working to remove the causes of oppression and promoting justice for all.**



# Climate Action at Providence

## Three Pillars to Drive Change



### Mitigation

- Waste optimization
- Energy & water efficiency
- Sustainable agriculture and food practices
- Reducing harmful chemicals
- Reducing carbon footprint of transportation, travel and fleet



### Adaptation and Resilience

- Strengthening existing and future infrastructure, buildings and critical infrastructure connections
- Shifting clinical practices to respond to climate emergencies and changing environment
- Supporting populations disproportionately impacted by climate change



### Advocacy

- Advocacy for healthy climate
- National leadership groups (NAM, HCWH, IHI, AHRQ, TJC, etc.)
- Share our knowledge with other health systems to model sound practices in Environmental Stewardship

# Developing our Climate Resilience Plan



Alignment between HHS Pledge and Providence's Commitment to ES



Identify external resources, workgroups and publications



Develop resilience framework. Prioritize core pillars (1) community, (2) infrastructure and (3) clinical care and operations



Internal subject matter expert interviews and visioning



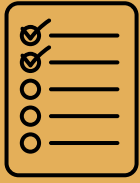
Identify priority focus areas and 3-5 year goals for each pillars of the framework



Socialize plan with internal stakeholders, leadership and external partners







# System Alignment and Accountability

## Priorities

# 01

Establish a deeper understanding of the current and future climate change related hazards for Providence

# 02

Integrate climate action commitment and priorities into the integrated strategic and financial plan of Providence

# 03

Integrate key metrics into existing environmental stewardship data infrastructure for systemwide transparency, accountability and awareness

### 01 Establish a deeper understanding of risk

- Develop system resource that highlights current and future climate risk at the regional level.
- Using system resource, identify top 1-3 climate risk(s) for each acute care site in the ministry HVA.
- Complete outreach to educate key collaborators on use and applicability of the system resource.

### 02 Integrate climate action

- Partner with system strategy team to ensure climate commitment is highly visible on system ISFP summary page.
- Collaborate with regional strategy teams to prioritize and integrate environmental stewardship into key strategic initiatives.

### 03 Integrate key metrics

- Finalize key performance indicators for the climate resilience plan in 2024.
- Build out data infrastructure to track progress in alignment with WE ACT scorecard.
- Ensure data tracked includes financial risk for required reporting to the state of California in 2026.





# Clinical Care and Operations

## Priorities

### 01

Provide caregivers with resources or tools necessary to meet evolving patients' needs amidst a changing climate

### 02

Support caregivers' preparedness knowledge and abilities so they feel safe and able to respond in a climate crisis

### 01 Provide caregivers with resources

- Based on climate risk assessment, identify highest risk patients and populations with specific medical vulnerabilities to climate related hazards.
- Based on highest risk patients, partner with specialty providers to identify readiness gaps in resources, expertise, or other tools to deliver climate informed health care.
- Embed climate resilience training/education into existing clinical education pathways and tools.

### 02 Support caregivers' preparedness

- Partner with system strategy team to ensure climate commitment is highly visible on system ISFP summary page.
- Enhance caregiver's emergency preparedness knowledge and skillset (for both personal and professional settings) through existing caregiver communication, HR and other caregiver resource channels.
- Prior to predictable climate emergencies, widely distribute the natural disaster playbook for core leaders. Integrate new resources (temporary housing, mental health support, financial resources) when they are available or expanded into the playbook.



# Critical Infrastructure

## Priorities

### 01

Assess vulnerability points and opportunities for mitigation efforts and investment through capital planning process

### 02

Reduce impacts of climate change driven risks through investment, partnership, and other mitigation efforts

### 03

Develop and activate supply chain resilience plan to manage global supply chain disruptions

### 01 Assess vulnerability points

- Identify exposure and sensitivity of each acute care facility based on top 1-3 climate concerns and stress testing/emergency drills.
- Complete critical infrastructure assessment and capital plan in coordination with local, regional operational and finance leadership.
- Prioritize investment and mitigation efforts in capital budgeting process in RESO.

### 02 Invest and partner to mitigate

- Once key priorities are established, develop multi-year roadmap for investment.
- Track progress on upgrades/retrofits/mitigation investments.
- On an ongoing basis, identify grant and government funding opportunities to reduce the financial burden on the system for planning and infrastructure modernization.

### 03 Integrate key metrics

- Develop playbook that will include core emergency team, strategic supplier notification process, contingency plans and logistical plans.
- Strengthen domestic and local manufacturing and sourcing.
- Identify and manage vulnerabilities in Tier 1 suppliers.





# Community Connections

## Priorities

# 01

Build pathways for community facing caregivers to expand their knowledge of climate resilience and Providence's commitment to climate action to inspire action and integration into their work.

# 02

By 2030, in a majority of the regions we serve, build or strengthen partnerships with community-based organizations focused on climate resilience by amplifying and empowering their voice, capacity and reach.

### 01 Provide caregivers with resources

- Share findings of climate risk assessment and anticipated impacts on vulnerable populations with community facing caregivers (CHI, health equity, CPF, pop health, etc.) and other key collaborators.
- Identify champions and existing team communication channels (newsletters, forums, team calls) to disseminate updates and information on Providence's climate action plan.
- Develop caregiver knowledge, skills, self-efficacy and capacity to integrate climate resilience and climate justice into processes (e.g. CHNA community engagement), community programs and partnerships already serving those impacted first and worst by climate change in our communities.
- Share resources, strategies and best practices for integrating a climate justice framework into addressing common community needs (e.g. homelessness and behavioral health).

### 02 Support caregivers' preparedness

- Using climate risk assessment, identify community partners focused on addressing disproportionate impacts of climate change and/or community climate resilience.
- Develop roadmap for strengthening or building partnership through advocacy, investment, partnership, volunteerism, or grant making.
- Share frameworks/guidance/tools/examples for identifying and partnering with climate resilience/justice CBOs with internal audiences and collaborators.

# Planning Process Summary and Next Steps

## SHORT TERM\* Next 3-9 Months

Strengthen understanding of acute and chronic climate stress for each acute care site (risk assessment for all three pillars)

Convene internal and external partners to continue to build out the strategy toward 2030

Socialize plan and continue to refine as needed

## MEDIUM TERM 9-18 Months

Stand up ongoing governance and oversight infrastructure

Define success metrics for short, medium and long term

Integrate tracking and metrics into WE ACT/We REACH scorecard



## LONG TERM 18 Months - 2030

Plan implementation

Scale capabilities to build and reinforce resilient programs, partnerships and infrastructure to better respond to and recover from climate stress

Ensure resiliency of our operations and communities

# Providence Environmental Stewardship Goals

## Working Toward Carbon Negative by 2030

### WE ACT: Mitigation

WASTE	ENERGY/WATER	AGRICULTURE/FOOD	CHEMICALS	TRANSPORTATION
Divert >50% of waste from landfill and hazardous streams by 2030	By 2030, at all sites: • Electricity EUI < 95 • Thermal EUI < 120 • Water use <40 gal/sf	• Decrease carbon intensity of meals • Decrease waste • Healthy, sustainable foods	• Reduce GHGs from Nitrous oxide by 90% • Reduce GHGs from volatile anesthetics by 70%	• GHG emissions from business travel 50% less than 2019
Data	Caregiver Engagement		Procurement	
• Expand industry leading WE ACT Scorecard for effective data tracking and action planning	• Communications reach 50% of caregivers • Active green teams and affinity groups at all sites/regions • ES Anchored in our core value of justice		• Reduce GHGs from purchases by 30% • Reduce single-use disposable device purchases by 30%	

### We REACH: Adaptation/Resilience

Develop climate resilient care delivery, helping our communities adapt to changes in our environment through: • Operations • Clinical • Community

### We SHARE: Advocacy/Leadership

- Advocacy for healthy climate
- National leadership groups (NAM, HCWH, IHI, AHRQ, TJC, etc.)
- Share our knowledge with other health systems to model sound practices in Environmental Stewardship



#### OUR MISSION

As expressions of God's healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

#### OUR VALUES

Compassion, Dignity, Justice, Excellence, Integrity