We REACH

Climate Resilience Plan

Providence
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Action</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Our Commitment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Resilience Planning Principles at Providence</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Pillars to Drive Change</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• WE ACT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• We REACH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• We SHARE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing our Climate Resilience Plan</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview &amp; Priorities</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Alignment and Accountability</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Care and Operations</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Infrastructure</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Connections</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary and Next Steps</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addendum: Providence Environmental Stewardship Goals</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
• 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 Resilience plan we will center Equity, Adaptation, Climate and Health.

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
We REACH

Climate Resilience Plan Overview & Priorities

System Alignment and Accountability
Our first step is to more fully integrate our commitment to climate action and resilience into our integrated strategic and financial plan. We will then take steps to better understand our climate related risks across the seven states in which we serve.

Clinical Care & Operations
With over 90K clinically focused caregivers across our system, we want to ensure our caregivers feel prepared to respond to needs of patients impacted by acute climate shocks or chronic climate stressors.

Critical Infrastructure
We are an essential healing presence in the communities we serve. The impacts of climate change should not impede our abilities to continue our service. We will identify climate related risks to operational disruptions and develop mitigation plans.

Community Connections
Climate change has disproportionate impacts based on race, income, zip code, ability and other social factors. We are strengthening community partnerships to reduce these inequities and advance climate justice.
# System Alignment and Accountability

## Priorities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>01</th>
<th>Establish a deeper understanding of risk</th>
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<tr>
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<td>- Develop system resource that highlights current and future climate risk at the regional level.</td>
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<td>- Using system resource, identify top 1-3 climate risk(s) for each acute care site in the ministry HVA.</td>
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<td>- Complete outreach to educate key collaborators on use and applicability of the system resource.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>02</th>
<th>Integrate climate action</th>
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<td></td>
<td>- Partner with system strategy team to ensure climate commitment is highly visible on system ISFP summary page.</td>
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<td>- Collaborate with regional strategy teams to prioritize and integrate environmental stewardship into key strategic initiatives.</td>
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<th>03</th>
<th>Integrate key metrics</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Finalize key performance indicators for the climate resilience plan in 2024.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>- Build out data infrastructure to track progress in alignment with WE ACT scorecard.</td>
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<td>- Ensure data tracked includes financial risk for required reporting to the state of California in 2026.</td>
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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

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**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
- 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.
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.

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**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

*As of 12/15/2023*
Providence Environmental Stewardship Goals

Working Toward Carbon Negative by 2030

**WE ACT: Mitigation**

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<tr>
<th>WASTE</th>
<th>ENERGY/WATER</th>
<th>AGRICULTURE/FOOD</th>
<th>CHEMICALS</th>
<th>TRANSPORTATION</th>
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| 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**
- Expand industry leading WE ACT Scorecard for effective data tracking and action planning

**Caregiver Engagement**
- Communications reach 50% of caregivers  
- Active green teams and affinity groups at all sites/regions  
- ES Anchored in our core value of justice

**Procurement**
- 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