
Bridging Climate Change and Public Health
Energy Insecurity Workgroup Meeting
Meeting Agenda – | May 26th | 2:30PM -3:30PM

Purpose of Meeting:

1. Discuss the connection between energy insecurity and public health, climate change, and vulnerable populations through the lens of health equity.
 2. Discuss the need for community and stakeholder engagement: establish the energy insecurity workgroup
 3. Facilitate communication and collaboration across different community sectors
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- Welcome and agenda overview (5 mins) – Lauren
- Vision Statement and Updates (10 – 15 mins) – Allie, Lauren, Vjollca
 - Greenlink Equity Mapping tool (<https://www.equitymap.org/>) – coming soon to the working group
 - Vision statement for our working group
 - \$12k IRL Mini-Grants Available for Community Partners/Community Orgs
 - Bridging Climate Change and Public Health (BCCPH) Newsletter:
<https://conta.cc/34cSA43>
 - Project Priorities:
 - Raise understanding about energy insecurity and health implications, encourage engagement of stakeholders and community members, develop data-driven platform to address energy insecurity
 - Overarching goal: improve culture of health among vulnerable populations in Maricopa County

- Greenlink Equity Mapping tool: <https://www.equitymap.org/>
 - Designed to help decide and strategize where to help and who is burdened
 - Overlay various issues and demographics
 - Will allow us to tailor to our own policy and data needs
 - Will have access to Equity Mapping tool for one year
 - Vision: Residents of Maricopa County have access to clean, affordable energy and healthy housing that promotes the health, safety, and well-being of everyone
 - Mission: Empowering stakeholders and communities to develop cross-sectoral solutions that address inequities and poverty resulting from climate change, extreme heat, energy and housing costs
 - Plans will be discussed once the vision and mission statements are finalized, so we can start strategizing and implementing solutions
 - Grants for Energy Insecurity have been applied to for a mini project in collaboration with Unlimited Potential
 - Waiting to hear back on this
- What are we hearing from MC residents about their energy needs? (20 mins) – Vjollca
 - Healthy Urban Environments Initiative (HUE) – recent survey results on proposed solutions of how to cope with heat by residents living in mobile home community
 - Three stages of the Healthy Urban Environments Initiative (HUE) Project:
 - Pre-heat season:
 - Objective: gain a better understanding of residents' heat perception, coping mechanisms, and knowledge of resources and provide the Heat Toolkit
 - Post-heat season:
 - Objective: capture behavior changes from pre-heat to post-heat season and learn about potential solutions from residents
 - Evaluation:
 - Objective: compare, analyze and evaluate information obtained from both surveys
 - Proposed solutions provided by the mobile community include:
 - Information with Spanish resources
 - Heat alerts and information on heat and heat illness
 - Medical information and where to get affordable care/who to call
 - Home cooling system- where to find affordable cooling systems

- Repair and maintenance- for both cooling systems and housing
 - Utility bills- assistance in paying bills, discounts, and advocating for bills based on income
 - Process
 - Help with applications and process
 - Updated contact information
 - Reduced eligibility requirements
 - Make it a more simplified process (preferably that does not involve computers)
 - Workshops
 - Medical
 - First-aid trainings
 - Workshops on heat symptoms and when to go to the E.R.
 - Repair and maintenance:
 - Trainings on home cooling systems maintenance and repairs
 - Trainings on mobile home housing and weatherization/insulation maintenance
 - Cooling Centers
 - Open nearby cooling centers
 - No cost
 - No IDs required
 - Provide family-friendly activities
 - Provide transportation to cooling centers
 - Bus passes or Lyft assistance
- Q and A and Wrap-up (20 mins)
 - Question: Are you worried about social media affecting the spread of false information?
 - Reply: There are plenty of accurate sources of information being posted about extreme heat, tips to avoid it, and what symptoms to look for (i.e. AZDHS, MCDPH, CDC, World Health Organization)
 - We would like to spread our accurate information and resources through more social media sources and use community outreach to share which sources are accurate and which sources spread false information
- Discussion
 - Provide in-home services for residents who need it
 - Lauren will organize and plan for a speaker to help with that for the next meeting (July, 2021)
 - <https://onetouchhousing.com/>

- Stardust is a discount cooling system place that we would like to reach out to to participate in the meetings
- Community tool bank is a potential resource for renting and returning tools and systems
- Connecting and learning about partners is helpful for people
- There is a bike place where you can take your bike to get repairs and get parts and they also teach you how to repair your bike—can see if something like that exists for cooling systems
- Open new centers and direct people to cooling centers

Chat Log:

- <https://www.equitymap.org/>
- From Ronda Seifert
 - Who will have the year-long access? And what provides the access (email or some other way)? I believe some of my fellow CCL volunteers will want to use this tool, but will they be additional costs?
- From Matthew Potzler
 - The city of Phoenix was actually looking into the using the GEM tool just this past week. Good timing! It will be helpful to receive training. Much appreciated!
- From Gail.LaGrand
 - Instead of "empowering," use "Build the power of"
- From Allie McGranaghan ASU
 - For feedback; allie.mcgranaghan@asu.edu
 - Thank you Gail, I will make a note of that
- From Ronda Seifert - AHCCCS
 - Perhaps you already are including this by mentioning 211, but especially for some of the heat/repair/help with cooling, etc., I would look at how you might partner with the new NowPow/AHCCCS/211 Arizona's Statewide Social Determinants of Health Closed Loop Referral System (addressing Whole Person Care):
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/Initiatives/AHCCCSWPCI/>
- From Lauren Ross, ACEEE
 - <https://onetouchhousing.com/>