

Call to Action

Dear [leader's name],

We are reaching out to your institution on the behalf of the 2021 Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE) Student Nurse Committee. We are a group of nursing students, ANHE from across the country and globe that have a passion for environmental health and nursing. Our goal for this year as a committee was to create an emphasis on environmental health education within nursing programs as the issue of environmental justice becomes more pertinent to our individual and community health and therefore nursing practice every year.

Climate change is gaining attention as a health threat, making it an important aspect of nursing care – yet the inclusion of curricular content addressing climate and health is not yet in the [University Name]'s nursing program. The Nurses Climate Challenge (<https://us.nursesclimatechallenge.org/>) is a tool for providing education on this critically important topic to nursing students. That's why we, the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments Student Nurse Committee, along with the Nurses Climate Challenge team are excited to invite you to participate in a new partnership model between our initiative and nursing schools across the country.

As you may already know, the [Nurses Climate Challenge](#) is a national campaign led by [Health Care Without Harm](#) and the [Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments](#). The initiative's goal is to engage nursing students, nurses, and nursing educators in educating 50,000 health professionals and students about the health impacts of climate change.

To further promote the integration of climate and health education into nursing curricula, the Nurses Climate Challenge has developed the School of Nursing Commitment. The [Nurses Climate Challenge: School of Nursing Commitment](#) guides nursing faculty in implementing Challenge content. The Commitment [agreement](#) outlines the benefits of the partnership and the expectations of both parties. The Nurses Climate Challenge has partnered with over [40 schools of nursing in this Commitment](#).

Some members of the ANHE Student Nurse Committee were fortunate enough to have an element of environmental health within their nursing curriculum. **Jessica LeClair (Professor from University of Wisconsin School of Nursing) was interviewed by a committee member to showcase the impact of implementing environmental health in the curriculum had on their students:** Professor LeClair noted she has received wonderful feedback from students over the years, including some who are now receiving their MPH and feel inspired to embed climate justice work into their hospital and healthcare systems. They credit what they learned in Professor LeClair's class for validating the reality of these concepts in the nursing field. The committee has collected progress interviews from faculty that have successfully implemented environmental health into the coursework and compiled resources to aid institutions in doing the same.

We ask that you consider joining faculty and schools of nursing across the country in joining the School of Nursing Committee. Thank you for your commitment to the future of nursing and for considering our school as a partner in this important work. For further information and to join the partnership, email nursesclimatechallenge@hcwh.org.

Sincerely,

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments' 2021 Student Nurse Committee
Kateri Dir-Munoz, Class of 2021, Regis University
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