



2020 Conference on Health, Environment, and Energy

New Orleans, Louisiana • Hyatt Centric French Quarter • January 21-23, 2020

Program

Tuesday, January 21

1:00–5:00 pm	BPI TRAINING <i>(special registration required)</i>	<i>Orleans Room</i>
4:00–6:00 pm	REGISTRATION	<i>Ballroom Foyer</i>
6:30–8:00 pm	PYTHIAN MARKET EXPERIENCE <i>(special registration required)</i>	

Wednesday, January 22

7:30 am–5:00 pm	REGISTRATION	<i>Ballroom Foyer</i>
7:30–8:30 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	<i>DH Holmes Room</i>
8:30–10:00 am	WELCOME AND PLENARY PANEL	<i>Lafitte Ballroom</i>

Welcome: **Steve Nadel**, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Introductions and Moderator: **Sara Hayes**, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

From Patient to Provider to In-home Prevention

Panelists: **Ankoor Shah**, DC Department of Health, Community Health Administration
Monica Nakielski, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Elizabeth Parsons, TVA
Mishel Filisha, NYSERDA

10:00–10:30 am	NETWORKING BREAK	<i>Ballroom Foyer</i>
10:30 am–12:00 pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	

Lafitte A Room

[1A. Developing a Common Language: Key Terms and Concepts at the Intersect of Health and Energy](#)

(Session Co-host: Bridging Health and Energy Efficiency Working Group)

While the links between health and energy in the built environment are becoming increasingly well known, there is still a language divide that inhibits partnerships bridging the health and energy

sectors. To facilitate communication and collaboration among professionals and advocates from both sectors, a working group of over 100 health and energy professionals have developed a glossary of important terms and concepts explained in mutually accessible language. This session will introduce many of those key concepts and invite audience participation as well as facilitated learning.

Panelists: Members of ACEEE's Bridging Health and Energy Efficiency Working Group

Lafitte B Room

1B. Health Effects of Energy Efficiency: What Research Findings Can We Agree On?

(Session Co-host: NCHH)

When attending sessions about the latest research, we know participants frequently leave uncertain about what to do with the findings. Researchers are by nature skeptics and too often, our sessions end with the cliché – more research is needed. At this session, we'll press our panelists to leave their comfort zone and answer the question: When it comes to energy efficiency and health benefits, where is the evidence strong and where is it suggestive? You'll leave this session with some evidence-based knowledge to act on.

Moderator: **Ellen Tohn**, Tohn Environmental Strategies

Panelists: **Jonathan Wilson**, National Center for Healthy Housing
Brett Singer, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
Nora Wang, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Shelly Miller, University of Colorado, Boulder

1C. A Healthy Dose of Weatherization: Stories from the Southeast

Orleans Room

(Session Co-host: TVA)

The Tennessee Valley Authority developed the Home Uplift program to serve low-income families affected by high energy burdens. With the help of research partner Three³, TVA is collecting data from Home Uplift to quantify the non-energy impacts of weatherization including asthma, COPD, thermal stress, trade-offs to paying energy bills, and quality of life. This panel will show that by monetizing wellness, TVA will be able to build an even stronger business case for health and expand its outreach throughout the Southeast.

Moderator: **Elizabeth Parsons**, TVA

Panelists: **Frank Rapley**, TVA
Bruce Tonn, Three³
[Dale Grubbs](#), Knoxville, Tennessee Utilities Board

12:00–1:00 pm

NETWORKING LUNCH

DH Holmes Room

2A. Cultivating a Shared Understanding of the Root Causes of Health Inequities to Drive Change
(Session Co-host: NACCHO)

Working with partners across sectors and community members to improve health requires developing a shared language and understanding of the root causes of health inequities. The National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) *Roots of Health Inequity* free, interactive web-based course provides a platform for participants and groups engaged in population health to establish a shared grounding in health equity and social justice concepts and strategies for taking effective action to address health inequities. This session will highlight course features, including interactive maps, video case studies, resources, and techniques for creating and facilitating learning groups to use the course and help cultivate a culture of health equity and social justice within your organization and with your partnerships. Participants will also work in groups to discuss their work, needs, and resources addressing health equity, both as organizations and in collaboration with partners.

Session Leader: **Peter Holtgrave**, NACCHO

2B. Collaborating for Equity: How Cross-Cutting Programs Can Support Vulnerable Populations
(Session Co-host: Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance)

Vulnerable populations face numerous intertwined issues that affect their health: poverty, discrimination, a lack of affordable and healthy housing, and energy and transportation policies that place them at a greater risk of chronic illness, among others. These issues can be effectively addressed only through collaborative approaches that leverage the resources and expertise available in different sectors. This panel brings together experts from a range of fields – community organizing, affordable housing, medical, energy efficiency, and public health – to discuss the overlapping risks faced by vulnerable populations. Panelists will consider how cross-cutting health programs can address these risks and will discuss the lessons learned from successful programs that have leveraged expertise from these different sectors in order to effectively support the holistic health needs of vulnerable populations.

Moderator: **William Bryan**, Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance

Panelists: **Chandra Farley**, Partnership for Southern Equity
Erin Rose, Three³
Mary Ayala, Enterprise Community Partners

2C. Grassroots Green Homes: Achieving Healthy, High-Performance Housing through Collaboration and Community Engagement

(Session Co-host: CCI)

Engaging residents of disadvantaged communities to improve home performance and health outcomes is a lofty goal and a difficult reality. This roundtable workshop will focus on effective techniques for aligning efforts with community-based organizations and achieving buy-in among their neighborhood stakeholders. A brief overview of the successes and challenges to the Grassroots Green Homes program will set the stage for a brainstorming session on best practices for building relationships with both organizations and residents. Attendees are encouraged to bring questions, success stories, and challenges related to their own experiences.

Session Leader: [Alison L. Steele](#), Conservation Consultants, Inc.

2:30–3:00 pm **NETWORKING BREAK** *Ballroom Foyer*

3:00–4:00 pm **KEYNOTE ADDRESS** *DH Holmes Room*

Climate Change: A Public Health Approach

Introduction: **Sara Hayes**, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Speaker: [Georges Benjamin](#), Executive Director, American Public Health Association

4:10–5:30 pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Lafitte A Room

3A. Understanding the Health Impacts of Climate Change

(Session Co-host: [The Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health](#))

Ambient temperatures and air quality can have a significant impact on health and well-being. Short term exacerbations of conditions such as asthma and other lung diseases, cardiovascular conditions, and allergies commonly produce adverse outcomes when ambient conditions are unfavorable. Temperature and air quality are impacted by features of heating and air conditioning systems, including energy efficiency, filtering, and unfavorable changes in the weather. This session will explore the ways that ambient temperature and air quality can affect health. The session will feature medical professionals describing successful interventions that have addressed these factors to produce a health benefit.

Moderator: [Mona Sarfaty](#), The Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health

Panelists: [Robert Byron](#), Citizens Climate Lobby

[Cheryl Holder](#), Florida Clinicians for Climate Action

[Ronda McCarthy](#), Concentra and University of Pennsylvania Health System

3B. Facing Climate Change and the Silver Tsunami: Strategies for Creating Healthy Homes for Aging Populations

(Session Co-host: University of Florida, College of Design, Construction, and Planning)

By 2032, there will be more people over the age of 65 in this country than under the age of 18. Concurrently, global warming is significantly impacting our climate, our communities, and health. In large part, the built landscape of our homes, buildings, and communities has never been designed or constructed with such an age tilt and climate shift in mind. Panelists will present strategies and efforts being made to alter the conventional design and construction of homes and communities to ameliorate intended impacts.

Moderator: **Sherry Ahrentzen**, Shimberg Center for Housing Studies, University of Florida

Panelists: **Carolina Campanella**, Delos Living LLC
Vjollca Berish, Maricopa County Public Health, Phoenix, Arizona
Sara Hayes, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Orleans Room

3C. Leveraging Anchor Institutions for Community Resilience

(Session Co-host: Ross Strategic)

This panel will focus on the role of anchor institutions (hospitals, universities, other major local employers) in furthering access to clean energy, making communities healthier and more resilient. Panelists will discuss a shared understanding of community resilience that embraces community leadership at the intersection of health, climate, and equity. While innovative approaches have begun to emerge, this forward-looking conversation will identify opportunities for more community engagement in this space.

Moderator: **Petra Vallila-Buchman**, Ross Strategic

Panelists: **Denise Fairchild**, Emerald Cities Collaborative
Peter K. Dahl, HGA
Lauren King, Greater New Orleans Foundation
Brian Roberson, America's Essential Hospitals

6:00–7:30 pm

NETWORKING RECEPTION

Garden Courtyard

Thursday, January 23

7:00 am–4:00 pm

REGISTRATION

Ballroom Foyer

7:30–8:30 am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

DH Holmes Room

8:30–10:00 am

PLENARY PANEL

DH Holmes Room

Addressing Health, Equity and Climate Change through Community Partnerships

Moderator: **Logan Burke**, Alliance for Affordable Energy

Panelists: **Chandra Farley**, Partnership for Southern Equity
Jalonne L. White-Newsome, The Kresge Foundation
Mayra Cruz, Catalyst Miami

10:00–10:30 am

NETWORKING BREAK

Ballroom Foyer

10:30–12:00 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Lafitte A Room

[4A. Health Professionals Advocating for Energy Policy: Success Stories](#) *(Session Co-host: [Healthcare Without Harm](#))*

Doctors, nurses, and health care providers recognize that social determinants of health such as housing conditions, environmental pollution, and income have significant effects on the health and welfare of their patients. Health care providers have begun to advocate for clean energy policies across the nation. This session highlights efforts by these pioneering professionals.

Moderator: **Sarah Spengeman**, Healthcare Without Harm

Panelists: **Lori Byron**, St. Vincent’s Hospital, Montana
Rebecca Rehr, EcoAmerica
Todd L. Sack, My Green Doctor

Lafitte B Room

4B. Health and Adaptation: The Impact of Home Performance Measures on Resiliency
(Session Co-host: US Department of Energy)

This panel looks at the health impacts from buildings in the context of resiliency, and the role whole home performance—defined as the systematic approach to improving the comfort, health, safety, energy efficiency, and durability of a home—plays as a preventative or adaptive strategy. Hear about approaches to plan for the expected disasters in our future, including developing plans through stakeholder engagement, which is essential to ensuring equitable inclusion. Learn about the ripple effect disasters have on homes and their impact on health and resiliency from grid to garage.

Moderator: **[Jonathan Cohen](#)**, US Department of Energy

Panelists: **Jonathan Wilson**, National Center for Healthy Housing
Kevin Kennedy, Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri
Larry Zarker, Building Performance Institute

4C. Energy Programs to Help Keep Rural Hospitals Running

(Session Co-host: The American Society for Health Care Engineering of the American Hospital Association)

Since the recession of 2008-2009, the rate of hospital closures has been ticking up. Currently 8% of rural hospitals are considered high risk of financial distress. Considering that hospitals are one of the largest consumers of energy, reducing energy use can have a strong impact on the bottom line and provide a clear benefit to financial health. While understanding energy data is key, financing energy efficiency investments can be challenging for facilities with limited resources. Utilities, municipalities, and coops provide incentives to their customers for reduction in energy use. However, navigating the process can be challenging at times. ACEEE and ASHE are embarking on a project designed to connect rural hospitals with resources and programs that will help them navigate the process. This session will establish the groundwork for the project and solicit interest from attendees.

Moderator: **Kara Brooks**, American Hospital Association

Panelists: **Josh Brackett**, Baptist Health
Peter K. Dahl, HGA
Julie J. Brown, Johnson Controls

12:00–1:00 pm **NETWORKING LUNCH** *Ballroom Foyer*

1:00–2:30 pm **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Lafitte A Room

5A. Translating Health and Clean Energy Targets into Action: Working with States and Cities

(Session Co-host: United States Environmental Protection Agency)

This session will focus on how states and cities are working cooperatively across their energy, environment, and health departments to achieve health and clean energy targets. The session will examine what's driving the coordination (top-down leadership v. bottom-up initiative), challenges encountered, strategies for success, progress being made, and lessons learned.

Moderator: [Emma Zinsmeister](#), US Environmental Protection Agency

Panelists: [Nancy Seidman](#), Regulatory Assistance Project
[Camille Pollan](#), City of New Orleans
[Tyler Poulson](#), Innovation Network for Communities
[Solange Gould](#), Human Impact Partners
[Jason Symonds](#), California Public Utilities Commission

5B. Communicating the Effectiveness of Programs: Measuring and Quantifying Health Impacts

(Session Co-host: Tohn Environmental Strategies)

As we create new innovative health and energy collaborations it will be critical that programs track health impacts in ways that resonate with decision makers. In this interactive workshop, we will offer participants an opportunity to work in small groups with coaches to explore and define potential health metrics along with measurement strategies for communicating impacts to varied stakeholders including healthcare providers, payers, utilities, public health organizations, and communities. We offer a who, why, what approach. Who are we trying to convince to do something different, why would they make a different choice — which factors drive their decisions, and what information should we collect and track?

Moderating: **Ellen Tohn**, Tohn Environmental Strategies

Small Group Coaches: **Monica Nakielski**, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Kevin Kennedy, Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri
Bruce Tonn, Three³
Jonathan Wilson, National Center for Healthy Housing
Mark Kravatz, Optimal Energy
[Mishel Filisha](#), NYSERDA

5C. Electrifying Buildings and Transportation: Learning from State and City Examples

(Session Co-host: Southeast Sustainability Directors Network)

This session will highlight the work that states and cities are doing to improve the health of residents by electrifying buildings and transportation. Presenters will share examples of how they have partnered at the state and city government levels to adopt electrification policies and support strategies that deliver electrification for all.

Moderating: [Cassandra Kubes](#), US Environmental Protection Agency

Panelists: [Cristina Garcia](#), Building Electrification Initiative
[Sue Gander](#), National Governors Association
[Robbi McKinney](#), AECOM

2:30–3:00 pm **NETWORKING BREAK** *Ballroom Foyer*

3:00–4:30 pm **BREAKOUT PRESENTATIONS**

6A. The Next Big Thing: Cutting Edge Approaches that You Probably Haven’t Heard of Yet

This forward-looking session will feature new directions at the intersect of health and energy including the equity and environmental implications of electrification and the proliferation of clean energy sources.

Moderator: [Christine Gerbode](#), American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Panelists: [Barbara Gottlieb](#), Physicians for Social Responsibility
[Alice Napoleon](#), Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. **Ella Delio**, Greater New Orleans Foundation

6B. Funding Programs

As the Affordable Care Act shifts the health sector into a preventive approach to care, the existing network of energy efficiency programs can be leveraged to achieve public health gains. Home-based energy saving programs will increasingly be viewed as a single solution to achieve the dual goals of saving energy and protecting public health. As programs move in this direction, resources from these two sectors can be braided together to achieve the complimentary goals of these two sectors. This session will dive into strategies for leveraging funding sources from across multiple sectors.

Moderator: **Sara Hayes**, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Panelists: [Ann Collier](#), Opinion Dynamics
Ruth Ann Norton, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative
[Chris Burgess](#), Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
Nicole Westfall, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

[6C. A New Energy-Plus-Health Playbook for Program Administrators \(Session Co-hosts: VEIC and E4TheFuture\)](#)

The Energy-Plus-Health Playbook features program designs for health-related engagement based on Program Administrators' (PA) unique market opportunities and constraints. Panelists will discuss how program design can influence opportunities to leverage resources, evaluate investments in health and safety improvements, coordinate partners, conduct workforce training, improve service delivery, and conduct program evaluation.

Moderators: **Alison Donovan**, VEIC
Julie Michals, E4TheFuture

Presenters: **Ellen Tohn**, Tohn Environmental Strategies
Marcus Smith, Connecticut Children's Office for Community Child Health
Selina Lujan de Albers, City of Fort Collins, Colorado
Kim DeVoe, City of Fort Collins, Colorado
Phoebe Howe, Efficiency Vermont
Mishel Filisha, NYSERDA