Planetary Health & the Role of Nursing

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ANAC 30th Conference, Dallas, TX
November 2, 2017
We’ll Cover:

- Health improvements & consequences (planetary health)
- Health system resilience
- A call to action
- Discussion
ASK

Why are we talking about this at an ANAC conference....
Global Health: Improvements & Consequences (Planetary Health)
Global to Planetary Health: Nursing Engaged

- 20th century - global health work in disease “silos”; public health nursing, wartime roles

- 21st century - resources, health progress, nurses in pandemics

- Focus on equity, economies & ecology
  - Sustainable Development Goals….

Planetary Health
What is Planetary Health?

Planetary Health is the systematic application to human health, from global to local scales, of the Four Laws of Ecology:

1. Everything is connected to everything else.
2. Everything must go somewhere.
4. There is no such thing as a free lunch.

Planetary Health from ‘One Health’ (Rabinowitz, ‘16)
Health Trends Globally

- Rising non-communicable diseases
- Aging populations
- Global urbanization
- Inequity
- Climate change, ecosystem strain
Global Escape from Extreme Poverty

1990

- High income: 0.8 billion (15.6%)
- Low income: 3.1 billion (57.8%)
- Upper-middle income: 0.7 billion (14.0%)
- Lower-middle income: 0.7 billion (12.7%)

2011

- High income: 1.1 billion (16.3%)
- Low income: 0.8 billion (36.3%)
- Upper-middle income: 2.5 billion (35.7%)
- Lower-middle income: 11.7%

Horton 2014
Global Burden of Disease

Health Disparity

IHME 2012
Hans Rosling,
http://www.gapminder.org/
Unchecked Economic Growth - Unsustainable?
Health Trends Globally

- Rising non-communicable diseases
- Aging populations
- Global urbanization
- Inequity
- Anthropocene era - Climate change, ecosystem strain
The Great Acceleration (Steffan et al. ‘15)
Scientific Consensus

Ninety-seven percent of climate scientists agree that climate-warming trends over the past century are very likely due to human activities, and most of the leading scientific organizations worldwide have issued public statements endorsing this position.

https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/
Rise in Global Ocean Temperatures Is Not Slowing
IPCC: 5 Assessment Reports

Q: How have the IPCC reports changed through time? (1990-2013)

- Amount of Human-caused Warming

1990: The report did not quantify the human contribution to global warming.


2001: Human-emitted greenhouse gases are likely (67-90% chance) responsible for more than half of Earth’s temperature increase since 1951.

2007: Human-emitted greenhouse gases are very likely (at least 90% chance) responsible for more than half of Earth’s temperature increase since 1951.

2013: Human-emitted greenhouse gases are extremely likely (at least 95% chance) responsible for more than half of Earth’s temperature increase since 1951.

25 years of increasing certitude
Evidence for Global Climate Change
Irrefutable and overwhelming

- Analogous to HIV→AIDS, smoking → lung cancer, HPV → cervical cancer, asbestos → mesothelioma
- Scientists who disagree nearly all on payrolls of fossil fuel industry
- Major climate change denial "experts" are mostly paid lobbyists without any scientific background (Vermund '17)
Climate Change, Rising Waters

- At present rate of climate change, IPCC projects by 2100:
  - Temperature increases of 2-11°F
  - Sea level rises of 7 to 23 inches
    - ~20 inches will displace 100 million people

- Implications of rising sea levels
  - Population displacement
  - Agriculture, water, tourism disruption
  - Disappearance of small island nations
Human History

- Progress, innovation
- Strife, forced migration
- Accelerated stress on resource carrying capacity in Anthropocene era
Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch: report of The Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission on planetary health

“we have been mortgaging the health of future generations to realize economic and development gains in the present. By unsustainably exploiting nature’s resources, human civilization has flourished but now risks substantial health effects from the degradation of nature’s life support systems...”

(Whitmee et al., 2015)
Things Are Getting Better…

**LIFE EXPECTANCY**
Mean global life expectancy at birth (years)

**POVERTY**
Population of world in poverty (%)

**CHILD MORTALITY**
Recorded deaths of under-fives
But Ecologic Cost/Damage

**CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS**
Atmospheric concentration of CO\(_2\) (ppm)

**OCEAN ACIDIFICATION**
Global ocean acidification (mean hydrogen ion concentration, nmol/kg)

**ENERGY USE**
World primary energy use (EJ)
Ecologic Cost

TROPICAL FOREST LOSS
Global tropical forest loss compared with 1700 baseline (%)

WATER USE
Water use (thousand km³)

FERTILISER USE
Global fertiliser use (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium; thousand tonnes)
Ecologic Cost

SOIL DEGRADATION

This leads to a loss of 1–2 million hectares of agricultural land per annum.

CLIMATE CHANGE

If unchecked climate change related impacts could cause an extra 250,000 deaths per year between 2030 and 2050.

BIODIVERSITY LOSS

Overfishing together with increasing acidity and other environmental changes threaten fish supplies.
Ecologic Cost

May see reversal of progress, government destabilization due to unsustainable resource consumption, inequities

WATER USE
By 2050 over 40% of the world’s population could be living in areas under severe water stress

UNDER NUTRITION
Millions of people are at risk of under nutrition due to the combined effects of climate change and other environmental changes

(http://www.thelancet.com/commissions/planetary-health)
Planetary Health Effects

Environmental changes and ecosystem impairment

- Climate change
- Ozone depletion
- Deforest, land changes
- Desertification
- Wetlands loss
- Biodiversity loss
- Freshwater depletion
- Urbanization
- Coastal reefs

Examples of health impacts

1. Direct health impacts
   Floods, heatwaves, pollutants, etc.

2. Ecosystem-mediated health impacts
   Infectious disease, undernutrition, etc.

3. Indirect, deferred, & displaced health impacts
   Populations displaced, conflict, etc.

Escalating human pressure on global environment

(WHO, in Corvalan 2005)
Planetary Health - Direct Health Impacts

- Floods – up to 250 million affected

- Drought – climate refugees in and between countries

- Heatwaves - affecting elderly, vulnerable

- Pollutants
  - 5.5 million excess deaths globally 2016
  - Coal emissions → major cause of deaths (heart disease, cancer, stroke, respiratory)

More deaths than due to HIV + malaria
Ecosystem-Mediated Health Impacts

- Changes in disease – dengue, Lyme endemic mid-latitudes, 100s millions more malaria exposure

- Mental health – loss of social networks, trauma/PTSD, anxiety, depression

- Changes in food availability, cost – malnutrition
PH Effects - Indirect Health Impacts

- Displaced populations – shifts to cities straining health services
- Conflict
Conflicts

For each standard deviation in temperature and rainfall…

14% increase in violence between groups

4% increase in violence between individuals

Van Susteren 2017
Mental Health Impact

- Displaced populations
  - Loss of social networks

- Strife, competition
  - Trauma, IPV
  - Political & armed conflict

- PTSD, anxiety, depression
Planetary Health Ethics

- Disproportionate impact on poorest – health inequities
All Major Faiths Have Addressed Climate Change

Impact of Climate Change

Immigration
- Rising sea levels are forcing communities in some coastal areas and on some small island nations to plan for mass relocation.
- Those dependent on dwindling tourism and fishing economies are beginning to seek work elsewhere.
- Desertification is pushing families into urban areas and, in some instances, into refugee camps.

Earth
- Key systems, such as the ocean (acidification, temperature), the North and South poles and the jet stream are being modified by CO2 and warming.
- Seasons shift, temperatures climb and sea levels rise leaving people, wildlife, agriculture, water supplies, forests and ecosystems vulnerable.

Racism
- Low-income communities of color in urban areas often have less access to relief from excessive heat and freezing temperatures.
- Marginalized racial and ethnic groups already are disproportionately impacted by toxic dumping and the siting of landfills and polluting industries.

Women
- In rural and developing countries women are primary caregivers and small-scale farmers. Climate change challenges access to water and affects crop yield, increasing pressure to feed their families.
- Limited access to resources hinders women’s ability to clothe and care for their families, sometimes increasing hunger and inability to continue schooling.

Nonviolence
- Migration contributes to ethnic conflicts and wars.
- Drought and high temperatures have been linked to increases in domestic violence and assault.
- Reduced food production contributes to land disputes and struggles over diminishing resources.

Adapted from Impact of Climate Change Reflection Guide from the Sisters of Mercy Mid-Atlantic Community Critical Concerns Committee, April 2015
“Environmental impact assessment should...be linked to a study of working conditions and possible effects on people’s physical and mental health, on the local economy and on public safety.”
How Does This Relate to Where I Live?

Climate impacts in the Great Plains

- Warmer winters = crop changes, drought/stress on aquifer
- Declining livestock productivity
- Vulnerable population stress
- Along coasts, warming oceans = more extreme weather events

This page is being updated.

Thank you for your interest in this topic. We are currently updating our website to reflect EPA's priorities under the leadership of President Trump and Administrator Pruitt. If you're looking for an archived version of this page, you can find it on the January 19 snapshot.
Awareness of Climate Harm

![Bar chart showing the proportion of respondents (%) for different countries. The chart compares the current (blue) and 10 years (red) awareness of climate harm.](chart.png)
Talking about Planetary Health

1. Keep emotions even-keeled

2. Avoid apocalyptic focus
   - Addressing it now improves economies, jobs, social justice, & population health – GAIN FRAME!

3. Seek common ground
   - Leverage beliefs (religious leaders; business green economy; military security)

4. Tell personal stories

5. Emphasize facts
   - 97% scientists agree climate change is happening & due to humans Parry 2016
# Talking about Planetary Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Psychological Lesson</th>
<th>Policy Guideline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brain prefers experience over analysis</td>
<td>Tell stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social beings</td>
<td>Activate group norms for collective action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of sight out of mind</td>
<td>Emphasize present impacts &amp; local solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobody likes losing</td>
<td>Frame policy around what’s gained (not lost)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tap potential</td>
<td>Leverage intrinsic motivation for environment goals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communicating with a Continuum

Global Warming’s Six Americas

- Alarmed: 13%
- Concerned: 28%
- Cautious: 24%
- Disengaged: 10%
- Doubtful: 12%
- Dismissive: 12%

June 2010, n=1,024

Highest Belief in Global Warming
Most Concerned
Most Motivated

Lowest Belief in Global Warming
Least Concerned
Least Motivated

Proportion represented by area
Source: Yale & George Mason, June 2010
Communicating with a Continuum

Global Warming’s Six Americas: Communicating the Health Implications of Climate Change

“If you could ask an expert on global warming one question, which question would you ask?”

What can the US do to reduce global warming?

What harm will global warming cause?

How do you know that global warming is occurring?

Source: Yale & George Mason, June 2010
Survey Data

Six in Ten Americans Are Worried About Global Warming; About One in Five Are “Very” Worried
- Highest level of worry since November 2008 -

How worried are you about global warming?

- Very worried
- Somewhat worried

11/08: 16% (n=2,184), 11% (n=1,001)
11/10: 12% (n=1,006), 11% (n=1,008)
11/11: 12% (n=1,010), 9% (n=1,010)
6/10: 52% (n=1,010), 12% (n=1,010)
5/11: 51% (n=1,010), 12% (n=1,010)
9/12: 42% (n=1,010), 11% (n=1,010)
3/12: 49% (n=1,010), 12% (n=1,010)
5/13: 51% (n=1,010), 12% (n=1,010)
9/13: 53% (n=1,010), 12% (n=1,010)
4/14: 42% (n=1,010), 11% (n=1,010)
11/13: 53% (n=1,010), 12% (n=1,010)
10/14: 51% (n=1,010), 14% (n=1,010)
4/15: 42% (n=1,010), 11% (n=1,010)
10/15: 52% (n=1,010), 14% (n=1,010)
3/16: 57% (n=1,010), 11% (n=1,010)
11/16: 62% (n=1,001), 11% (n=1,001)
Post-Election Survey Data

Percentage Distribution:
- Alarmed: 18%
- Concerned: 34%
- Cautious: 23%
- Disengaged: 5%
- Doubtful: 11%
- Dismissive: 9%

November 2016
n = 1,226

Highest Belief in Global Warming
- Most Concerned
- Most Motivated

Lowest Belief in Global Warming
- Least Concerned
- Least Motivated

Proportion represented by area
Source: Yale / George Mason University
Most people think that climate change will harm Americans, but they don’t think it will happen to them.

Percentage of adults per county who think …

Global warming will harm people in the United States

Global warming will harm me, personally
A Path Forward

CLIMATE SUMMIT

WHAT IF IT'S A BIG HOAX AND WE CREATE A BETTER WORLD FOR NOTHING?

- ENERGY INDEPENDENCE
- PRESERVE RAINFORESTS
- SUSTAINABILITY
- GREEN JOBS
- LIVABLE CITIES
- RENEWABLES
- CLEAN WATER, AIR
- HEALTHY CHILDREN
  
e etc. etc.
Emphasize SOLUTIONS

“Climate change solutions benefit mental health.”
– APA 2017

Mad Max: Fury Road, 2015
Remember the opportunity in crisis...

Mitigation & adaptation efforts now will have benefits

A green economy (and health system) is strong
1845 Gt is what we would like to take back, if we could.
Best ideas, in various categories (Kahr, ‘16)

- Energy
- Food
- Women and Girls
- Cities and Buildings
- Land Use
- Transportation
- Materials
Green Investments

- x2 the investment in renewables versus fossil fuel capacity… fifth year in a row
- World now adds more renewable capacity annually than from all fossil fuels combined
Decoupling economic progress and CO₂

Global energy-related CO₂ emissions remained stable last 3 years – even during 3% growth in economy and increased demand for energy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Country 1</th>
<th>Country 2</th>
<th>Country 3</th>
<th>Country 4</th>
<th>Country 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment in renewable power and fuels (not including hydro &gt; 50 MW)</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in renewable power and fuels per unit GDP</td>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geothermal power capacity</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydropower capacity</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar PV capacity</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentrating solar thermal power (CSP) capacity²</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind power capacity</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar water heating capacity</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiesel production</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Argentina/Germany/Indonesia</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel ethanol production</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Green Jobs

- Wind turbine technician is fastest growing job in US: 108% growth through 2024… (in same period, nurse practitioners 35% growth rate)

“We have 1,200 people in Grand Forks North Dakota that make wind turbine blades. They’re making close to $30 an hour. Their parents worked in mines. They worked on farms.”

Jeff Immelt, Chair of General Electric
Yale Climate Conference, September 2017
Green Jobs

JOBS 2016

Jobs in Renewable Energy

- Bioenergy: biomass, biofuels, biogas
- Geothermal
- Solar energy: solar PV, CSP, solar heating/cooling
- Wind power
- Hydropower (small-scale)
- Hydropower (large-scale)

World total 9.8 million jobs
Green Regulation: Energy Efficiency

Countries with Renewable Energy Power Policies, by Type, 2016

Note: Figure shows countries with Renewable Portfolio Standards, feed-in tariffs/premium payments and net metering policies. Countries are considered to have policies when at least one national-level policy is in place; these countries may have state/provincial-level policies in place as well. Diagonal lines indicate that countries have no policies in place at the national level but have at least one policy at the state/provincial level.

Source: REN21 Policy Database
India will not sell internal combustion engines by 2030

China has similar plan in the works

France and Britain will end internal combustion engine sales by 2040

VW will release pure electric vehicles for all of its car models
To safeguard human health we need to maintain the health of the planet on which we depend.
How to Act on Planetary Health

Use More Water Efficiently

End Deforestation

Family Planning

City Planning

http://www.thelancet.com/commissions/planetary-health
Population - Gender Equity Issue

Education (girls/women) ➔

family planning (improved maternal/child survival) ➔

Sustainable economic empowerment
How to Act on Planetary Health

- Learn about Planetary Health
- Healthy Diets With Low Environmental Impact
- Reduce Food Waste
- Better Governance

http://www.thelancet.com/commissions/planetary-health
Policy/Action to Stabilize CO₂ Atmospheric Levels

- Efficient transportation
- Energy conservation
- Sustainable energy sources
- Sustainable land use
- Population stabilization
- Economic incentives (cap and trade; carbon credits)
- Political change and commitment
  - Moratorium on fossil fuel exploration
  - Massive shift to alternative energy sources
  - Commitment to conservation, e.g., mass transit, LEED buildings, policy shifts (68°F. in winter, 72°F. in summer) (Vermund ‘16)
Economics of Planetary Health

“...when we compromise the environment, we compromise human health...We need to turn this around, and we can...prosperity and good health should go hand-in-hand...mindful that we have only one earth.”

- Ernesto Zedillo, chair of Rockefeller Foundation
  Economic Council on Planetary Health
Resilient Health Systems
Health Trends Globally

- Climate change, ecosystem strain
Health System Resilience

capacity to respond, adapt, and strengthen when exposed to a shock...
Health System Resilience

capacity to respond, adapt, and strengthen when exposed to a shock…
Is Your Health System Resilient?

Planetary Health & Health Systems

- AWARE?
  - Detects threats

- ADAPTIVE?
  - Rebounds

- INTEGRATED?
  - Deploys resources beyond health

- DIVERSE?
  - Range of services

- SELF-REGULATING?
  - Stops disruptions into disasters
6 key components of strong health systems:
Health Workforce – Nurses & Midwives

Crisp & Chen 2015
Health System & Worker Resilience

- **Resilient health systems**
  - Organizational structure, leadership, stakeholders, networks
  - Positive practice environment
  - Risk management, communications

- **Resilient nurses** (ICN 2016)
  - Adaptability, confidence, purposefulness, social support
    (Cooper model)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How Will My Health System Respond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connection with VNS, health dept. assess geri pts needs for group cooling shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning and communication systems, expect asthma visits ED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary or permanent population movements. Coordinate intersectorally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulatory, community-based, and in-pt impact as disease burden shifts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Will My Health System Respond</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health dept. surveillance &amp; health service impact planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acute visits as well as outpatient needs; consider group and telemental health delivery</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Resilience for the Health Industry

- Some global warming will continue
  (2.5 – 7.7°F rise inevitable, this century)

- Nurses can lead local, regional adaptation efforts
  - Partner with local decision makers
    - Identify at-risk populations, emergency plans, monitoring
  - Provide guidance to patients & families
    - Posters, brochures
  - Health facility preparation
    - Anticipate demand surges (ED, out-pt), generators, emergency transport
Resilience for the Health Industry

- Health is 1/7th of US economy
  - Medical centers spend $5.3 billion on energy alone (Sayre 2010)
  - Cost savings as driver (KPMG 2011)
  - Business & Sustainable Development 2017 report
    - Achieving SDGs good: gender equity alone add $28 trillion to global GDP, 2025

- WHO hospitals guide (2015)
# Sustainability in the Health Industry

- **Healthier Hospitals Initiative**
  - >1000 US hospitals

- **Global Green & Healthy Hospitals**
  - >750 members on 6 continents, >20,000 hospitals

- **Green teams on units**

## Seven elements of a climate-friendly hospital

1. **Energy efficiency**
   - Reduce hospital energy consumption and costs through efficiency and conservation measures.

2. **Green building design**
   - Build hospitals that are responsive to local climate conditions and optimized for reduced energy and resource demands.

3. **Alternative energy generation**
   - Produce and/or consume clean, renewable energy onsite to ensure reliable and resilient operation.

4. **Transportation**
   - Use alternative fuels for hospital vehicle fleets; encourage walking and cycling to the facility; promote staff, patient and community use of public transport; site health-care buildings to minimize the need for staff and patient transportation.

5. **Food**
   - Provide sustainably grown local food for staff and patients.

6. **Waste**
   - Reduce, re-use, recycle, compost; employ alternatives to waste incineration.

7. **Water**
   - Conserve water; avoid bottled water when safe alternatives exist.
Sustainability in the Health Industry

- Combat barriers to ‘greening’ your clinical site:
  - Competing investment/spending priorities
  - Inadequate staffing
  - Underfunded operations budget
  - Perceived higher costs
  - Time limitations (AHE, ’13)

**BENEFITS ACHIEVED BY GREEN HOSPITALS**

- Better indoor air quality.
- 20-40% energy savings.
- 35-40% water savings.
- Good day lighting.
- No sick building syndrome.
- Faster patient recovery.
Sustainability in the Health Industry

- **Transportation** – avoid unnecessary trips, public transport, local suppliers
- **Energy** – EPA says 30% reduction just though efficiency/renewables
- **Alternative energy** – solar, biomass, on-site heat/power plant
- **Green buildings** – carbon-neutral hospital design but also ORs, supply chain
- **Waste management** – reduce/reuse/recycle, incineration alternatives
- **Food service** – less meat, local
- **Water conservation** – low-flow, drought-resistant plants, fix leaks

(Sayre 2010)
Sustainability in the Health Industry

- NHS (UK) 5 steps for low-carbon healthcare system
  1. Support people in taking responsibility for their own health
  2. Build greater acceptance of ICT in health provision
  3. Find low-carbon, high QOL sweetspot
  4. Allocate resources to promote health not tx illness
  5. Ensure health system takes leadership in radical change needed to face climate change
Nursing Has Taken a Stand

Policy statements on environment, resilience

- **Int’l Council of Nurses**
  - 2016 position nat’l nurse associations, nurses
  - 2008 statement nurses/climate change/health:
    - “[nat’l nurse associations and nurses must be involved in developing national action plans and policies and be part of disaster preparedness teams to mitigate the impact of climate change on health”
  - 1999, ‘07, ‘11 statements environmental hazards

Nursing Has Taken a Stand

Policy statements on environment, resilience

- **Canadian Nurses Association** (2008)
- **AACN** environmental sustainability task force
- **Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments** (2009)
  - ‘Human health connected with every aspect of natural, built environment’
- **ANA** (2008)
  - Global climate change as a threat to human health, mandates and obligates action, advocacy and a “united” nursing voice
- Nurses as force for resilient health systems

"The registered nurse practices in an environmentally safe and healthy manner."

Standard 17 of the Standards of Professional Nursing Practice found in Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice, 3rd Edition
Planetary Health Summary

- Health progress has been made but an ecological price has been paid

- Need action now, including strengthening health systems
  - Nursing is key – frontline responder, trusted voices
  - Nursing role in mitigation, adaptation, policy, leadership
  - As HIV nurses, we KNOW HOW TO ADVOCATE & DELIVER
CALL TO ACTION

Nurses for Planetary Health
CALL TO ACTION – Nurses for Planetary Health

- Educate ourselves
- Communicate with our patients
- Take action at local level – university, hospital, health system sustainability & readiness
- Engage in political/policy process
Nursing Education - Curriculum Thread

5: Political and broader engagement (Lancet PH, 2015)

5.1 Public engagement with health and climate change
5.2 Academic publications on health and climate change
5.3 Inclusion of health and climate change within...health curricula

Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education

Tell the Right Story

“If we don’t transition quickly to a sustainable way of life humanity is doomed?”

OR

“We are transitioning to a more sustainable and resilient way of life that will offer tremendous benefits to humanity.”
Why are we talking about this at an ANAC conference?

HIV nurses have unique skills needed to address this crisis

- Optimism in the face of despair
- Righteous anger – and advocacy skills – to address injustice, inequity
- Leadership to organize, for research and for health care delivery
- Innate proclivity to work with and for people
- Alliance with communities, building on strengths
- Belief that life of each is worth fighting for, and that we are stronger when working together
This is the Challenge of Our Time
“If you look at the science about what is happening and aren’t pessimistic, you don’t understand data.

But if you meet the people who are working to restore this earth and the lives of the poor, and you aren’t optimistic, you haven’t got a pulse.”

- Paul Hawken, environmentalist
We Have Only One Home...
Resources


- Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments http://envirn.org/pg/groups/7007/climate-change-and-health/

- Climate Change Nursing Toolkit https://noharm-uscanada.org/content/us-canada/nurses-climate-change-toolkit

  http://www.climatechangeandnursing.org/

- Healthcare Without Harm https://noharm.org/

- Green Hospitals https://practicegreenhealth.org/initiatives/healthier-hospitals-initiative
  https://noharm-global.org/issues/global/global-green-and-healthy-hospitals
  http://www.who.int/globalchange/publications/healthcare_settings/en/
  http://www.who.int/globalchange/publications/climatefootprint_report.pdf?ua=1

http://planetaryhealthalliance.org/
PLANETARY HEALTH NOW!

...advocacy & action to build resilient health systems
Discussion – How are/can you be a leader …

Engaged to ‘green’ your org, SoN, clinical sites?
1. 
2. 

Develop curricular concepts?
1. 
2. 

Develop interdisciplinary collaborations?
1. 
2. 

Top opportunities & strategies, lessons learned?
1. 
2. 