SEVENTH EDITION: MAY-JUNE 2026

WEATHERING CHANGE: A C4H NEWSLETTER

The Center for Collaboration on Climate & Community for Health

University of CINCINNATI

A MESSAGE FROM THE C4H CO-DIRECTOR, DR. ARDYTHE L. MORROW



Welcome to the seventh edition of *Weathering Change*, the newsletter of the Center for Collaboration on Climate and Community for Health (C4H) at the University of Cincinnati.

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These past two months have reminded me why this work matters so deeply. In May and June, our team brought **climate and health conversations** directly into the community through 513Relief Bus stops, Findlay Market's Rooted in Community Night, and the W.E. Care to Be Healthy event in the West End. What stood out most was how often residents shared their own experiences with extreme heat, and those voices continue to shape our priorities.

I am also delighted to share that applications are now open for the **2026 C4H Pilot Projects** Program, which supports both Urban Resilience and Grassroots Collaboration awards. I encourage you to **review the Request for Applications** and consider how your work might grow with this support.

We have also launched our **2026 SURF-CLIMATE Undergraduate Research Fellowship**, welcoming three students into a summer of hands-on, mentored research. Our Weathering Change webinar series continues to bring outstanding voices to our network, and I warmly invite you to join us for our **Annual Symposium on August 6**.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and dedication to this critical work in advancing healthier and more climate-resilient communities.

Warm regards, Ardythe L. Morrow, PhD, Co-Director, C4H, University of Cincinnati

C4H UPDATES

Apply Now for 2026 C4H Pilot Project Awards

Funding is now available through the C4H Pilot Projects Program for the **Urban Resilience Award.** The Urban Resilience Pilot Award is open to faculty, senior research staff with doctoral-level training, and postdoctoral fellows.

To get started, please **download the Request for Applications (RFA)** for full application instructions and details.



The **deadline** to submit an application is **5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2026**, and should be sent to **bloomejl@ucmail.uc.edu**.

Have questions? Reach out to Kelly Brunst (kelly.brunst@uc.edu) for scientific questions, Michelle Burbage (michelle.burbage@uc.edu) for community partnerships, and Jessica Bloomer (bloomejl@ucmail.uc.edu) for administrative matters.

C4H Weathering Change Annual Symposium – August 6, 2026

C4H will host its annual Weathering Change Symposium on Thursday, August 6, bringing together top researchers, community engagement professionals, and partners committed to advancing climate and health.



The morning program will highlight research and community-engaged projects, featuring a series of 3-minute presentations followed by a poster session to encourage deeper discussion and connection.

Attendees are invited to share their work by submitting a brief proposal (3–4 sentences), along with a project title and short bio, to Kermit.davis@uc.edu.

Lunch will be provided, offering additional time for networking among participants. In the afternoon, attendees will gather at Cardinal Land Conservancy's Bahr Farm for a tour and to continue conversations and explore opportunities for collaboration in climate and health. **Register here!**

C4H Kicks Off 2026 SURF-CLIMATE Undergraduate Fellowship



C4H Development Core launched its 2026 SURF-CLIMATE Undergraduate Research Fellowship this May, welcoming **three undergraduate students** to this year's summer cohort. Each fellow has been paired with a dedicated faculty mentor to support their research and professional development, and overall learning experience.

This year's cohort includes a student from Dublin, Ohio working with **Dr. Matt Dodson**, a Cincinnati-based student paired with **Dr. Michelle Kossack**, and a student from Hudson, Ohio mentored by **Dr. Josh Benoit**. Throughout the summer, fellows are engaging in hands-on research while receiving guidance, mentorship, and opportunities to participate in program activities, culminating in the Capstone Poster Symposium.

As part of the program's seminar series, C4H will host Dr. Kathleen Grogan for the UC SURF-CLIMATE Seminar on July 28, 2026, at 12:30 PM in Kehoe Auditorium (G26). Those interested in attending can **RSVP here!**

Bringing Climate Conversations to the Community: CEC at 513Relief Bus Events

In May, CEC participated in several 513Relief Bus events across Cincinnati, connecting directly with community members through outreach and education.

At each stop, CEC staff and volunteers shared accessible resources on topics such as the benefits of green spaces, air pollution, food waste, heat-related illness, and extreme weather. These conversations often became two-way exchanges, as many residents shared personal experiences with extreme heat and its health impacts, highlighting the urgency of community-centered climate resilience.





C4H's CEC Tables at Findlay Market's "Rooted in Community" Night

In late April, C4H's Community Engagement Core (CEC) participated in Findlay Market's late-April "Rooted in Community" Night, an event focused on environmental stewardship and sustainability. The evening brought together neighbors to reflect on how we care for the places we share, an effort closely aligned with CEC's mission.



At the event, the CEC hosted an engaging educational table featuring resources on food systems, composting, the environmental impacts of food waste, and the importance of green spaces. Designed for visitors of all ages, our table also included interactive elements such as environmental coloring sheets, stickers, and a climate-themed game, all inviting hands-on learning and sparking meaningful conversations about everyday environmental action.

Supporting Community Health: CEC at W.E. Care to Be Healthy

CEC at the end of May participated in W.E. Care to Be Healthy, a community health event hosted by the Center for Clinical & Translational Science & Training (CCTST) West End Community Research Advisory Board. The event brought together a wide range of organizations offering health education, workshops, screenings, and other resources.





The CEC hosted an interactive table focused on asthma, extreme heat, and sun safety. CEC staff and student volunteers engaged community members in conversations about how environmental and climate factors can impact asthma, while sharing accessible resources for all ages. They also provided guidance on recognizing and responding to heat-related illness, along with practical tips for staying safe during heatwaves.

Recap of of Weathering Change Webinar Series: Recent and Upcoming Sessions

C4H's Weathering Change seminar series continued this spring with a range of expert speakers addressing climate and health topics:

- On May 5, 2026, **Dr. Melissa Furlong (University of Arizona)** presented on heatwaves during pregnancy and their impact on neurodevelopmental outcomes in Arizona. A recording of the seminar is available on the **Weathering Change YouTube Playlist**

- On May 12, 2026, **David Lyon (Environmental Defense Fund)** discussed how emerging technologies and policies can quantify and reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas industry. A recording of the seminar is available on the **Weathering Change YouTube Playlist.**

- On May 19, 2026, **Dr. Emily Barrett (Rutgers University)** presented on Mycoestrogens: how an emerging endocrine disruptor may impact maternal-child health. A recording of the seminar is available on the **Weathering Change YouTube Playlist.**

- On June 2, 2026, **Dr. Diana Rohlman (Oregon State University)** presented on the challenges, insights, and future directions of wildfire smoke exposure science. A recording of the seminar is available on the **Weathering Change YouTube Playlist.**

- On June 9, 2026, Dr. Nicole Errett (University of Washington) presented on People, Place and Partnership: Advancing Climate Resilience in Seattle's Duwamish River Valley, sharing resources including a **Community Partnership Agreement Template**, Resilience on Seattle's Waterfront, and **The Duwamish Valley Clean Air Program**.

- On June 16, 2026, **Renee Mahaffey Harris, President and CEO of the Center for Closing the Health Gap**, presented on the Impact of Climate Change on the Health of Marginalized Populations. A recording of the seminar is available on the **Weathering Change YouTube Playlist.**

Learn more about upcoming Weathering Change webinars at the C4H Website.

UPCOMING EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

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Register here!

2026 Ohio Valley Climate Change and Health Conference, Friday, August 7

This one-day event will feature scientific talks and posters on subjects at the intersection of the Earth and health sciences relevant to our region. Hosted by the UC School of Environment and Sustainability and the College of Medicine, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. **Register for the conference here**.

Environmental Risk and Cancer Research Conference, November 12-13, 2026, Puerto Rico Convention Center

This conference will bring together researchers, health professionals, students, and leaders from Puerto Rico and the U.S. to foster knowledge exchange and meaningful research collaborations. Learn more by contacting crtec@cccupr.org

Cincinnati Residents: Share what you think about Cincinnati's historic gaslights!

Researchers from University of Cincinnati — Dr. Nancy Jennings, Usman Bah, & Tia Iddrisu — invite you to share your thoughts about **Cincinnati's historic gaslights** and their environmental impact. Your input will help them understand what residents know, value, and feel about these iconic lights and their role in our city's environment.

SHARE YOUR HIGHLIGHTS WITH US

The Center for Collaboration on Climate and Community for Health (C4H) wants to highlight your impact!

We know you are all doing incredible work in your different cores and the C4H newsletter provides a great opportunity for you to share that with our network. If you have a story, research projects, an upcoming event to highlight, or climate news and resources (conferences, fellowships, awards, volunteering, etc.), please let us know at cincinnati4health@gmail.com.

Our LinkedIn page is live. Ensure you follow us!

Stay up to date with C4H Weathering Change Newsletter!

See you next month!