

October 15th, 2018

Climate and Health in Colorado

WHERE: Library Portico, Iliff School of Theology (2323 E. Iliff Ave.)

SPEAKERS: CHRISSY ESPOSITO and KARAM AHMAD, Colorado Health Institute

SPONSORED BY: Ethics and Ecological Economics (EEE) Forum at Iliff

Post meeting links and highlights:

- YouTube video: Climate Change: It's About Health | Kaiser Permanente <https://youtu.be/yeih2v4P25A>
- web page: <https://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/research/colorados-climate-and-colorados-health>
- Full report: [full report: examining the connection](#)
- Slides:
 - PDF – [Climate and Health In Colorado-EEE Forum Public](#)
 - Pptx – [Climate and Health In Colorado-EEE Forum Public](#)
- IPCC Press release Global Warming of 1.5 degrees C: [IPCC October 8 2018 Press Release](#)
- IPCC Summary for Policy makers Global Warming of 1.5 degrees C: [1.5C Summary for Policy Makers](#)
- IPCC 6th summary home page or more info: <http://www.ipcc.ch/index.htm>

Climate change is affecting public health in many ways. For example, climate change influences air quality levels and the frequency and intensity of food-borne illnesses, vector-borne diseases, and heat-related illnesses. This EEE Forum is the second in a series this fall on “Addressing Public Health and Climate Change.”

Our speakers from the Colorado Health Institute (CHI) will brief us on the Institute's recent report on the climate and health connection in Colorado, “Colorado's Climate, Colorado's Health: Examining the Connection.” In addition, they will provide a group activity on climate communication and an introduction to the Institute's “Health and Climate Index” (not yet released). CHI (www.coloradohealthinstitute.org) provides evidence-based data and information to inform policy, advance health, promote collaboration and support better access to care for all Coloradans.

Chrissy Esposito and Karam Ahmad are policy analysts with CHI. Each earned a master's degree in public health from the Colorado School of Public Health at Colorado State University in 2016. Ms. Esposito is also a co-author of the CHI report and a specialist in data visualization. Mr. Ahmad is a contributing author for this report. He is especially interested in the concept of *OneHealth* – exploring the notion that environmental, animal and human/social determinants of health are coexisting realms and must be approached as such.

On a global scale, the deep interconnection between climate change and health is vividly presented in a new three-minute video by Kaiser Permanente, “Climate Change: It’s About Health.” It’s available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeih2v4P25A&t=0s>. Kaiser Permanente is also a major player in the recently formed *California Health Care Climate Alliance*. The Alliance seeks not only to reduce the carbon footprint of the health care system in California, but also to advocate for laws and regulations to support the state’s climate plan. For more information, see <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/california-health-systems-form-alliance-to-advise-on-climate-change-laws-regulations.html>. *Is there a similar movement underway in Colorado?*