

The Climate Reality Project Central Minnesota Chapter

Final Draft

2023 Strategic Plan

Last revised 2-1-2023

Who We Are

The Central Minnesota Chapter of The Climate Reality Project, is a diverse group of passionate individuals who have come together to solve the greatest challenge of our time – Climate Change. We are activists, cultural leaders, organizers, scientists, and storytellers committed to building a sustainable future together. As of January 2023, 112 of our 205 members have been trained as Climate Reality Leaders.

Our Mission

Our mission is to spark urgent action and rapid adoption of solutions to the climate crisis across every sector of society to implement policies that promote clean, renewable energy sources and restoration of a balanced carbon cycle. Our focus is to educate the public and government about climate science and solutions, build coalitions with other climate activists, and conduct issue advocacy campaigns to bring about the rapid and just implementation of climate solutions at the local, state, and national levels.

Our Vision

A more just and equitable world fueled by clean energy and ensuring clean air, clean water and a healthy environment for future generations.

Chapter Organization

2023 Leadership Team

Operations Team

Tim Fremouw*

Jason Torgerson*

Presentations Team

Susan McNichols

Natalie LaBarbera

Bill Middlecamp

Outreach

Charlie Cox

Steven Japs

Julie Moore

* Chapter co-chairs

The leadership of the Central MN Chapter of the Climate Project is elected annually from the current membership of the chapter. Leadership responsibilities are currently divided between operations, presentations and outreach activities. Co-chairs are chosen from the membership, and have completed the Climate Reality Leadership training. Co-chairs have additional responsibilities including communication with the main Climate Reality Project organization, chairing the official monthly chapter meetings, and developing the strategic plan for the coming year.

Our commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ):

At The Climate Reality Project, we are committed to building a more just and equitable world, one where all voices are heard and respected regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or physical ability.

We recognize that a diverse and inclusive movement is critical to solving the climate crisis, and that to build this winning coalition, we must ensure that those directly impacted – particularly those who have been excluded in the past – are at the center of the movement for change. While the climate crisis manifests on a global scale, we acknowledge that indigenous peoples, low-income families, people of color, and other historically marginalized groups represent frontline communities who experience harmful climate impacts first and worst.

To live our values of a truly sustainable future for all, we must commit to understanding and undoing the historic injustices which contribute to this reality and, in our solutions, address systemic inequities.

At The Climate Reality Project, we believe that equity, fairness, and the fully voiced engagement of frontline communities most impacted by climate change are essential components of any enduring climate solution and that to solve the climate crisis, we must pursue a just transition to a clean energy economy that nurtures healthy and sustainable communities and ecosystems.

Our Campaigns, Programs and Initiatives

1. Presentations Team:
 - a. Secure quality speakers for each chapter meeting, including a featured speaker and at least one short talk. Whenever possible make arrangements **at least two months in advance**.
 - b. Secure at least 1 high profile speaker in 2023.
 - c. Encourage members to give short talks and to get involved.
2. Operations Team:
 - a. Reach out to new members (on OPT-IN list) within 1 week of receiving their contact information
 - b. Experiment with quarterly in person gatherings
 - c. Publish at least one chapter newsletter per month
 - d. Regularly update our chapter website and YouTube channel.
 - e. Host our chapter meetings via Zoom
 - f. Create a tactical plan to implement the goals established in the strategic plan
 - g. Build and maintain a backlog of potential activities, which can be groomed based on capacity for a given time frame.
 - h. Explore Action Tracking software
3. Outreach Team: Education
 - a. *Get our speakers bureau up and running. Through presentations, gathering and sharing information we will increase the number of informed climate activists.*
 - b. *Look for opportunities to participate in organized climate action education events and for groups or organizations interested in learning more about global warming/climate change.*
 - c. Look for opportunity to co-sponsor a major event
 - d. Develop a package to help members communicate to local leaders

Our 2023 (measurable) Goals

1. At least 10 members will attend and/or mentor during Climate Reality's Power Up training in April of 2023.
2. Take actions tied to:
 - a. Support the implementation of the IRA and IIJA by taking at least 20 actions that help neighbors and community groups understand how the legislation can help them and the environment. This could include talks, tabling, speakers, articles, rallies, videos and more.
 - b. Launch an initiative to encourage our legislators to move swiftly on implementing the rebate provisions of the IRA, and to set aside funds to enable our state to maximize the impact of the legislation (e.g.: supporting Green Bank legislation).

3. Have at least 230 chapter members by the end of 2023 with an emphasis on inclusion and diversity.
4. Hold 10 or more chapter meetings during 2023
5. Encourage chapter members to give presentations (during our meetings & to the public), with a goal of at least 20 presentations on climate change and its solutions OR the provisions of the IRA and IIJA legislation to local groups.
6. Join with at least 2 other climate related groups in taking local climate actions this year.
7. Ongoing initiative to collaborate with other chapters in our region on a project or event – or at least contact and share information on upcoming events and actions and report back to our group.
8. Hit or exceed the 9,000 views mark on the homepage of our website.