



The Partners for Advancing Health Equity Collaborative hosted the 2022 Summit, *On the Front Lines of Equity & Justice*, December 4-6, 2022. The Summit brought together leaders in health equity and justice to foster collaboration across sectors, and to promote action in advancing health equity in research, practice, and policy. This report provides a synthesis of key takeaways from the opening plenary session, *Climate change as a threat multiplier*.

Session Voices



Vernice Miller-Travis,
Executive Vice President
and Social Justice Lead,
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Jessica Dandridge,
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Dr. Margot Brown, Vice
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Key Takeaways

Be aware of the syndemics that contribute to climate. A syndemic can be defined as a situation where two or more interrelated biological factors work together to make a disease or health crisis worse. [Structural racism and climate change](#) contribute to [ongoing inequities in health outcomes](#). [Redlining](#) is a major instance of this. Redline districts are underinvested areas that are marked by a lack of access to greenspace, healthcare, grocery stores, education, and economic growth, and [increased pollution](#) all of which have been [correlated with health disparities](#).

Advocate for the redesign of communities to reduce the impacts of climate change. [20 million people](#) are displaced every year due to climate change. With the rate of people being displaced because of climate change, we must create communities that have a norm of [renewable energy](#), green spaces, and livable infrastructures to keep people safe from the harmful effects of climate change such as increased flooding. [Green infrastructure](#) is one approach to mitigate the impacts of climate change and fortify communities against natural disasters. Advocates can leverage [research on green infrastructure](#) to promote the development of [resilient communities](#).

Build durable solutions driven by lived experience. Those [most impacted by climate change](#) have the solutions. Their lived experiences should be front and center, driving equitable, holistic, and durable solutions. Highlight their experiences to focus the environmental justice and climate justice conversations around the social determinants of health.

Share your thoughts!
What did you think of this topic? Would you like to hear more from these speakers? Do you have any resources you would like to share with us? [Email us!](#)

Interested in hearing more? The full recording from this session is available [here](#). For more Partners for Health Equity content including more summit sessions, past, webinars, and a resource library, visit the P4HE [website](#).