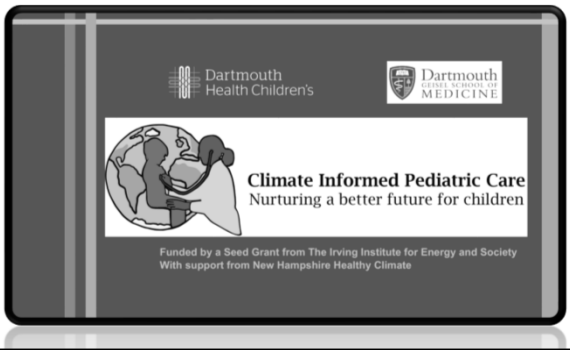
EHR for NH Students – An Overview

A Program By NH Healthy Climate

Presented by: Joan C. Widmer, MS, MSBA, RN, CEN

Based on Climate Informed Pediatric Care and School Health Impacts of Climate Change





Who We Are/Accreditation/Conflict of Interest

NH HEALTHY CLIMATE

A NH 501c-3 non-profit comprised of students, trainees, professionals, and retirees from clinical and non-clinical healthcare settings concerned about the impact of climate on individual and population health and employ education and advocacy to support climate health solutions.

Climate Informed Pediatric Care
Nurturing a better future for children

A collaborative pilot project between NH Healthy Climate, Dartmouth Health, and Geisel School of Medicine to incorporate climate health into pediatric care through climate health education for medical students, pediatric residents, and pediatricians, and providing a toolkit and resources for pediatric offices.

AHEC Southern New Hampshire Area Health Education Center

This presentation provides 1 hour of nurse continuing education through Southern New Hampshire Area Health Education Center.

Any individuals in a position to control the content of a CE activity, including planners, faculty, authors, or others, are required to disclose all financial relationships with ineligible companies^. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.

^Ineligible Company is any entity whose primary business purpose is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

Brief History

- In 2023-24 NH Healthy Climate teamed with Dartmouth College's Center for Program Design & Evaluation and Dartmouth Health to develop the Climate Informed Pediatric Care program.
- This program, via a lunch & learn format, trained pediatricians in the Dartmouth Health system how to incorporate climate and health conversations during routine pediatric well patient visits.

Brief History

- This program was nationally recognized as one of 10 finalists for ecoAmerica's Climate Leadership Awards in 2025.
- The Climate Leadership Award is granted to innovative programs addressing environmental issues, with focus on replicable programs.



AMERICAN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Celebrating Action from Local to National

Why School Nurses

- But pediatric visits are very brief and pediatricians site time as the biggest challenge to provide climate and health related anticipatory care guidance.
- School nurses are the face of public health in many communities, in particular, in New Hampshire's more rural communities.
- There are approximately 500 school nurses across the state.



Why School Nurses



- School nurses have the opportunity to provide students with anticipatory guidance regarding the health impacts of NH's changing weather patterns
- NH Healthy Climate worked with a school nurse to develop the Environmental Health & Resilience for NH Students program

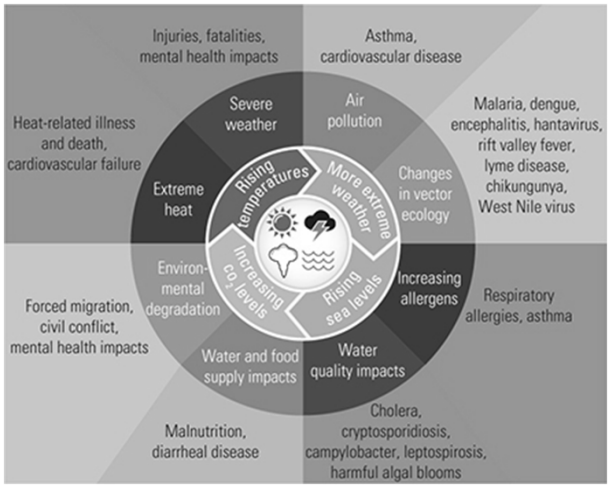
Program Development: Phase 1

- Trish Anglin began with anonymously survey school nurses who attended the NH School Nurses Associations April 2025 Conference.
- The data collected from this survey was used to adapt the CIPC program for school nurses.



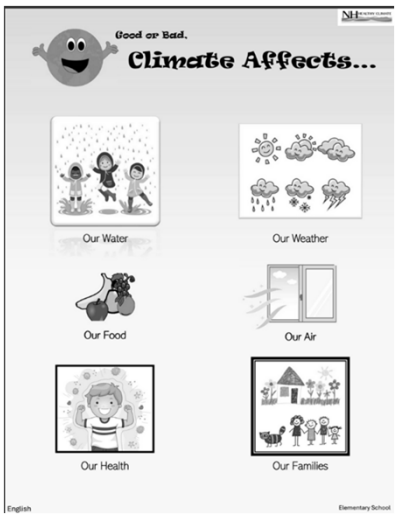
Program Development: Phase 1

- The program provides a brief overview of the science behind climate change.
- It shares information regarding each of the major health impacts of climate change and related guidance for school nurses, including:
  - Heat
  - Air Quality
  - Flood/Water Contamination
  - Vector-borne Illnesses
  - Other Extreme Weather Events
  - Mental Health
  - Longer Pollen Seasons
  - Financial Stability



Program Development: Phase 1

- Trish identified various online evidenced-based resources to provide valuable, in-depth clinical information.
- She developed a series of informational posters geared towards elementary, middle and high school students, respectively.
- These posters were then translated by volunteers from the Manchester School District Multilingual Liaisons

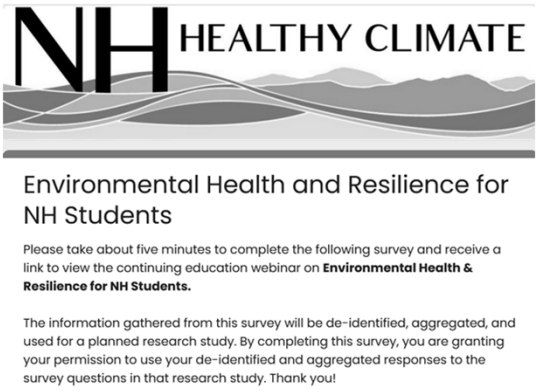


- These resources are posted to a School Nurses Resource webpage on NH Healthy Climate's website: www.nhclimatehealth.org/school-nurse

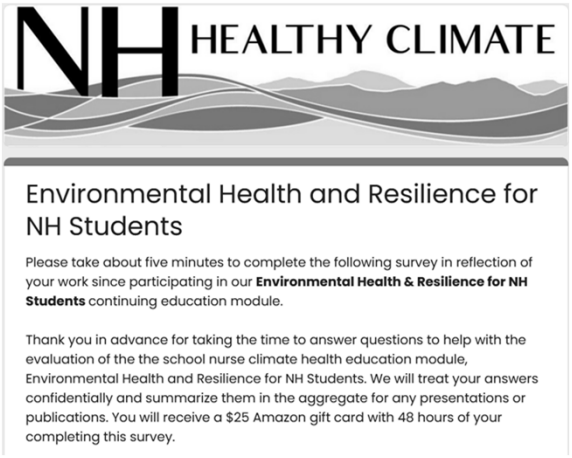


Program Development: Phase 1

- The EHR for NH Students program was launched on August 18, 2025 via a live webinar format.
- Trish Anglin presented the program.
- Each participant completed a survey assessing baseline knowledge at the time of registration (data stored anonymously).
- This survey asked about baseline knowledge and inquired about which health impacts school nurses saw in their practice and what barriers, if any, they encountered providing anticipatory guidance.
- All participants received 1 hour continue education credit.



Program Development: Phase 2



- Phase 2 of the EHR for NH Students was launched in Feb. 2026.
- All school nurses who attended the August launch webinar were sent a 6-month post attendance survey.
- This survey assesses knowledge retention (7 questions), revisits the questions asked in the pre-survey regarding impacts being seen, confidence in their knowledge on the topic and perceived barriers, as well as question regarding the usefulness of the School Nurses Resource webpage.
- Nurses who complete the survey receive an e-gift certificate for $25.

Program Development: Phase 2

- Phase 2 also includes an enduring version of the EHR for NH Students.
- Access to this program is available vie the School Nurses Resources webpage.
- We will continue to survey school nurses, before and after the taking the program until we succeed in surveying at least 50 school nurses.
- Nurses who take the follow-up survey at about 6 months will receive a $25 gift card from Amazon (survey takes about 5 min.)

Program Development: Phase 3

- NH Health Climate will again team with Darthmouth College's Center for Program Development and Evaluation to assess the de-identified data collected from the pre- and post-surveys.
- We then plan to prepare a manuscript on our findings for submission to a peer-reviewed public health or nursing journal.

Special Thank You

- This project was developed through funding provided by the following organizations:
  - NH Healthy Climate
  - Irving Institute
  - The Hitchcock Foundation
  - American Nurses Foundation
  - New Hampshire Nurses Association
- NH Healthy Climate and the program development team are grateful for this support.

QR Code for Access to Pre-Survey & Webinar

