

Ascension joins United Nations Climate Champions Race to Zero Campaign

Ascension, a member of Health Care Without Harm's [Health Care Climate Challenge](#), has joined the United Nations-backed [Race to Zero](#) campaign. By joining the Race to Zero, Ascension is committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

Ascension is joining healthcare institutions worldwide that collectively are leading the effort to decarbonize as part of the global transition to a zero-carbon economy. The UN Race to Zero campaign is the largest alliance of non-government organizations committed to reducing climate pollution.

"This work is consistent with our identity as a Catholic ministry to take a leadership role in helping to create a healthier, safer, cleaner, zero-carbon world, as well as our Mission commitment to be advocates for a compassionate and just society, both in our actions and in our words," said Craig Cordola, MBA, MHA, FACHE, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Ascension. "Ascension has an incredible history of being good stewards of the environment and we're picking this up and accelerating this work with the goal of achieving net zero carbon and zero waste by 2040. We're excited to join our colleagues at hospitals and health systems around the globe in the Race to Zero so that we can preserve God's creation for future generations and really make a difference for the patients and communities that we serve."

Race to Zero is a global campaign initiated by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to rally leadership and support from non-state actors for a healthy, resilient, zero-carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth. Race to Zero healthcare leadership is part of a diverse and growing global health sector movement for climate action.

Health Care Without Harm's Health Care Climate Challenge is the official Race to Zero partner for the healthcare sector. The initiative mobilizes healthcare institutions around the world to play a leadership role in addressing climate change. To date, more than 300 institutions representing the interests of over 22,000 hospitals and health centers from more than 37 countries have joined the Health Care Climate Challenge and committed to taking meaningful action.

Health Care Without Harm seeks to transform healthcare worldwide so that it reduces its environmental footprint, and becomes a community anchor for sustainability and a leader in the global movement for environmental health and justice.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Ascension's bold goal to achieve net zero carbon and zero waste by 2040.