



IT'S TIME FOR A CLIMATE CHANGE OF MIND



HELLO, WE'RE THE CLEO INSTITUTE.

The CLEO Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, nonpartisan organization exclusively dedicated to climate change education, engagement, and advocacy. Founded in 2010 by Caroline Lewis and headquartered in Miami, FL, we work with frontline communities and their leaders to build climate literacy. We highlight the urgency and impact policy, while championing solutions for a resilient future.



WHY YOU CAN NOT IGNORE CLIMATE CHANGE.

Driven by a sense of self-preservation to protect ourselves and our families by any means necessary, the human instinct to survive is our most powerful characteristic. Climate change may sound abstract and distant, yet it is inherently connected to today's headlines: **HOMELAND SECURITY, HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, ECONOMY, AND IMMIGRATION.** When you widen and focus the lens, the causality is difficult to ignore. Climate change is at the root of many issues that dominate our lives physically, financially and culturally.

Climate change effects are painfully felt when intense rainstorms, severe droughts, powerful hurricanes, extreme heat waves, Arctic chills, glacial melting, increased wildfires, and sea level rise disrupt our lives. Rising sea levels are causing sunny day flooding, destroying coastal areas and precious natural spaces, and in some cases, swallowing and displacing entire islands. The most vulnerable – the elderly, women, children, minorities, and the poor – are disproportionately affected by these impacts. Wildlife populations are also declining at an alarming rate as Earth undergoes the Sixth Mass Extinction[2]*. No one is immune to climate change.

The climate has always shifted naturally. However, scientific data proves that our dependency on fossil fuels since the industrial revolution has increased CO₂[3]* emissions in the atmosphere, causing Earth to heat up at an unprecedented rate. We are now facing a new set of challenges that affect our quality of life and our ability to survive. Climate change is a threat multiplier and the future of mankind is on the line.

The question is, **when will climate change get *personal* for you?**



WHEN WILL CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECT YOU?

Climate change affects everyone.

When a hurricane wreaks havoc on an island and forces an entire population to flee to the US for safety it becomes a **homeland security**, **immigration**, and **economic** issue.

When heat waves ignite wildfires and cause droughts, our fresh water supply and crop production are jeopardized becoming a **public safety**, **economic**, and **health** issue.

When increased precipitation and temperatures intensify the rate and expand the range of vector-borne diseases such as Zika, the **economy** and our **health** are impacted.

When sea level rises the **economy**, **immigration**, **homeland security**, and **health** are impacted.

The CLEO Institute, along with 97%^{[1]*} of climate scientists from distinguished institutions such as the National Academy of Science, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the World Meteorological Association (WMO), agree that man has contributed to historic levels of CO₂ currently present in Earth's atmosphere. Not only must we take responsibility for decisions made in the past, we must understand that climate change is more than a weather headline, it's a humanitarian crisis.

If homeland security, immigration, public safety, health, and the economy matter to you, then so should climate change. We have the responsibility to turn things around. In order to survive we must transition to renewable energies, improve natural and urban land use, and shift our consumption habits. The generations that follow are counting on you.

What will YOUR legacy be?



Our mission is to **EMPOWER** communities across all levels of society, through climate science **EDUCATION**, to understand the **URGENCY** and take **ACTION**, by becoming part of the **SOLUTION**, and demanding climate policies from their elected leaders.

EDUCATION IS POWER

We connect with people across all levels of society to educate them on the **SCIENCE**, **URGENCY**, and **SOLUTIONS** to climate change. We are **empowering** the next class of climate ambassadors to advocate for a resilient future. We are **educating** teachers and school administrators to include climate education into their curriculum, and we are **partnering** with businesses and municipalities to integrate climate action in their sustainability planning.

With your support and donation, we are able to offer free climate change trainings to the community. Our goal is to help people connect the dots between climate change, its current effects, and how it is a threat multiplier. Informed citizens advocate for climate action.

Together we EDUCATE, together we EMPOWER.

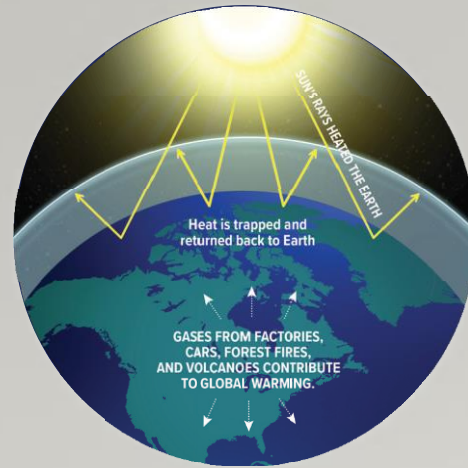


WE ARE LEADERS IN



EVALUATION

Work with climate scientists & experts, and evaluate the most up-to-date data to include in our trainings.



EDUCATION

Teaching the seriousness of and science behind climate change.



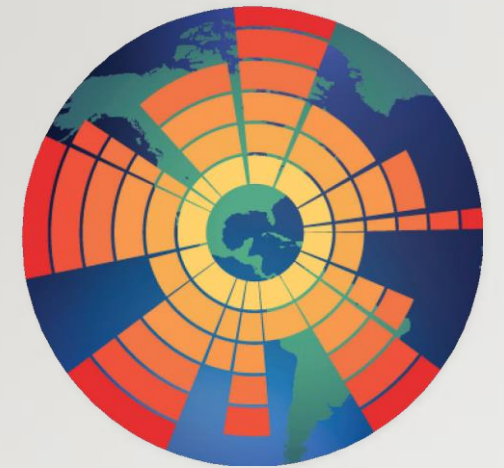
TRAINING

Preparing the next class of climate advocates and communicators.



LEADERSHIP

Connecting with individuals, politicians and organizations across all levels of society.



IMPACT

Driving climate actions with regional, national, and global results.

IMPACT

PEOPLE ENGAGED

Over
250,000

...engaged through
trainings, forums, social media,
panels & workshops

PEOPLE TRAINED

Over
50,000

...educated through
our climate 101 presentations,
trainings & speakers network

TRAININGS & FORUMS

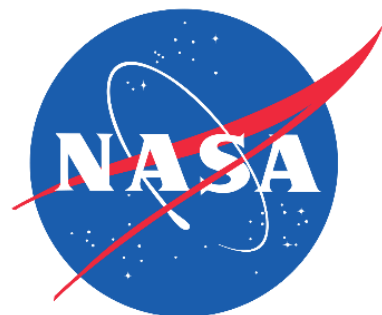
Over
175

...hosted or participated in
throughout South Florida

EVALUATION

The CLEO Institute is informed by and works with **distinguished scientists, resilience experts, community groups, and public and private institutions**. Thus, we analyze the most up-to-date data and strategies to shape our **nationally-known and highly effective climate trainings, forums and events**.

The CLEO Institute is **proud of the local, regional and national partners** we've developed. Our **Expert Advisory Council** includes some of the most renowned experts in dynamic, interdisciplinary fields... all linked in our **collective effort to build climate resilience**.



EDUCATION

CLEO Climate Trainings include:

- Causes & effects of global warming
- Earth's current vital signs
- Climate change issues in South Florida
 - Transportation
 - Energy
 - Sea Level Rise
 - Food
 - Health
 - Biodiversity
- Solutions - individual and collective



Training the community

CLEO Climate Speakers Network

Since 2011, CLEO has been building a network of climate speakers to expand our mission. **The multiplier effect** of this effort is impressive and impossible to quantify.

We provide resources and coaching to develop each trainee's knowledge of climate science, seriousness, and solutions, so that they can effectively communicate as CLEO-certified climate speakers.



Training Teachers

CLEO Teacher Network

CLEO has been working with teachers since 2011. Through our *Climate Across the Curriculum*, we inspire teachers to include climate change in their classrooms. From science, to language arts, to history, or art, climate change can be taught to children from kindergarten all the way up to 12th grade. We invite teachers to climate training seminars as well as provide them with a monthly newsletter which contains innovative ways to teach climate change science in the classroom.

Today's youth are the ones who will truly feel the impacts of climate change and it is vital that we educate them on the reality of our Planet, as well as the opportunities that have to improve our current course of action. Not only are they able to go home and discuss these facts with their parents, but it also provides them with inspiration to innovate new solutions!

"I can educate my students further on what causes climate change and give them the tools they need to make a change in the world."

- Mater Academy Charter High Teacher

"I found the seminar to be very informative and learned a great many things that I suspected, are true and there is scientific data to back up these beliefs, which actually makes them FACTS! These are the ideas I have integrated already in my classroom instruction and in our Environmental club."

- Gateway Environmental K-8 Learning Center Teacher

"I plan to use the handouts we received with my students. Additionally, via the websites, Weebly.com and ReadWriteThink.com, I plan to have the students create brochures & newspaper articles addressing the topic of climate change. I will also continue to get my fellow teachers (across the subject areas) to join me in educating our students about these very important worldwide climate issues. "

- Terra Environmental Research Institute English Teacher

Training Students

CLEO Student Chapters

In 2011 CLEO started its Youth Task Force, which was a group of high school and college students who had attended a CLEO climate training and wanted to become climate ambassadors. They created their own speakers network within their schools, participated in CLEO events, and created chapters to motivate fellow students to learn about climate change and become advocates for their planet.

Today CLEO has student chapters across many high schools and colleges across South Florida, thanks to our Youth Task Force. Our Student Chapters work closely with CLEO staff to develop interactive projects that help them communicate the science, seriousness and solutions of climate change at their schools/ colleges, as well as participate in CLEO events.



Municipal Partners

LEADERSHIP in Government

Mayors Roundtables

- Annually, the CLEO Institute hosts Mayors Roundtable luncheon discussions with elected mayors, their managers and senior representatives from municipalities.
- These roundtables convene local elected leaders to share concerns, climate-related resolutions, best practices, and strategies. These discussions often promote joint planning toward infrastructure improvements and climate readiness.



Municipality Staff Climate Trainings

- CLEO also provides interactive climate workshops for municipality employees in cities across South Florida. These help department heads and staff better understand the need for climate action and sustainability practices related to their work.



MIAMI BEACH





LEADERSHIP in Government

Elected Leader Climate Trainings

CLEO has also partnered with organizations such as the Union of Concerned Scientists, World Resources Institute, Vizcaya Museum & Gardens, Florida Atlantic University, Miami-Dade College Earth Ethics Institute, University of Miami, Florida International University, and the Good Government Initiative to conduct special climate trainings and town halls for elected officials, business leaders, and the public to better understand and embrace the need for climate action.

Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (RCAP) 2.0

- The RCAP 2.0 is designed as a tool for local leaders in the four-county region, including its 108 municipalities, to implement coordinated actions to curb greenhouse gas emissions and prepare communities for the new normal of more extreme weather events fueled by climate change.
- CLEO was a pivotal partner in envisioning and organizing the 2017 **South Florida Climate Change Equity Solutions Summit**. With the Center for American Progress and Catalyst Miami, we identified the top concerns of under-resourced communities in the four-county region. Most of these actionable equity recommendations were included in RCAP 2.0, released in December of 2017.
- The new **Social Equity** section of the **RCAP 2.0** makes important policy, infrastructure planning, and community engagement recommendations for local leaders to follow.

Recognition

CLEO's executive director & founder, Caroline Lewis:

- was 1 of 12 **White House Champions of Change** awarded for building community climate **resilience** in 2013 by the Obama Administration.
- joined 100 women leaders at the **White House Leadership Summit on Women, Climate and Energy**, co-hosted by the U.S. Dept. of Energy in 2013.
- was 1 of 11 environmental education professionals appointed to the **EPA's National Environmental Education Advisory Council** in 2012.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



The GenCLEO Movement

Strength in Numbers







