



Ardea Climate Coalition Of Kalamazoo County

A Resolution of the Kalamazoo Nature Center Climate Leadership Students Calling for Congressional Action on the Climate Crisis

WHEREAS, there is consensus among an overwhelming majority of scientists that global warming is anthropogenic and that activities which create greenhouse gas emissions are the dominant cause of climate change; and,

WHEREAS, climate change is a racial justice, social justice, and equity issue. While climate change impacts all people, it disproportionately affects people of color and people in poverty, thereby exacerbating existing inequities and limiting equality of opportunity which is a foundational aspiration for modern America; and,

WHEREAS, youth represent a particularly vulnerable group because greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere will continue to accumulate over the coming decades and will profoundly impact our current students throughout their lives, as well as the lives of future generations; and,

WHEREAS, we agree with the City of Kalamazoo Mayor, Council and Environmental Concerns Commission who all declared October 21, 2019 that a climate emergency threatens our citizens, city, region, state, and the natural world; and,

WHEREAS, climate change is posing an immediate threat to our community with the rising floods, droughts, extreme temperatures, spread of invasive species and disease, and lack of regionally grown foods; and,

WHEREAS, in our pursuit of a sustainable future, the Ardea Climate Coalition of Kalamazoo County seeks constant improvement by the sharing of knowledge, linking long-term sustainable considerations with ethical responsibility, and reestablishing the integral relationship between natural processes and human activity; and

WHEREAS, we commit to work for community-wide sustainability practices and principles; and

WHEREAS, the global impact, the urgency, and the magnitude of climate change calls for leadership, action, and accountability in all sectors of society, all institutions, and all elected leaders; and,

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT . . .

1. We declare climate change a generational justice, human rights, social justice, and equity issue for people across the world.
2. We advocate for the establishment of a standard scholastic curriculum based on the most reliable scientific information that encompasses climate change education and empowerment.
3. We call on Congress to swiftly end decades of neglect by passing commonsense, bi-partisan climate policies. Possible solutions include enacting a revenue neutral carbon fee and dividend, a clean energy transition plan with green infrastructure and technology investments, to restore the climate for the good of young people and future generations.
4. We call on Congress to hold accountable and rectify the destruction that individuals and corporations have committed to our environment, exacerbated by the political failure to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.
5. We call on city governments in Kalamazoo County to commit themselves to furthering the ideal of food sovereignty (the right of people to healthy, culturally appropriate food, produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agricultural systems); including creating an accessible food system and eliminating food deserts.
6. We call on the United Nations to adopt language which provides rights and financial support for Climate Refugees.
7. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we call on the communities of Kalamazoo County to underscore the need for full community participation, inclusion, and

support for the climate mobilization effort.

Signed:

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