2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Mobilizing health professionals on issues that represent the gravest dangers to human health.
If the habits of successful individuals can be applied to organizations, 2019 for PSR was a year of continued success towards positive and meaningful change and growth, while maintaining our core values. I appreciated the opportunity to be a second term president in 2019 because many of the initiatives we had embarked upon in 2018 bore fruit. We had begun our journey to cultivate and nurture a more diverse organization. After defining our value statement in diversity, equity and inclusion, we worked hard to elect board members who bring us closer to reflecting the partners and communities we have the privilege of collaborating with. A survey designed by chapter representatives and staff delved into the organizational culture of PSR over the last several years. The results of that survey showed us that we must do better in acknowledging the experiences of historically under-represented members of our organization, such as women. To further cement our commitment to the different facets of diversity, the November gala included a panel of all-women nuclear disarmament experts, and PSR’s first female president, Dr. Helen Caldicott, was honored with a lifetime achievement award. While our work is nowhere near complete, the groundwork we have laid brings us closer to the level of support we must bring as health professionals to movements such as Black Lives Matter.

I know for certain, as I move to my role as immediate past president, that PSR is in excellent hands. In 2019 our board of directors voted unanimously to renew the contract of our executive director, Jeff Carter, for another three years. He will continue his efforts to support the board and the organization in highlighting the importance of recognizing social justice in addition to diversity, equity and inclusion. Dr. Alan Greenglass takes the helm as president in 2020, bringing his many years of valuable experience as the chief medical officer of a large healthcare institution. It is perhaps fitting that the next president elect, Dr. David Drake, is an experienced psychotherapist who will use his skills to help us calmly navigate the turbulence in our outside world.

The engagement of our chapters is more impressive than ever, and the staff at PSR continue their excellent work. And you, our wonderful donors, continue to make all this possible despite multitudes of competing options. We recognize the importance of all that must be done to protect everything that is beautiful and valuable in our planet, and we are so grateful that you recognize our organization as worthy of your contribution. Onward and forward, together.
Looking back on our work in 2019 is a strange exercise in 2020. Reviewing last year’s activities from a post-COVID-19 perspective, I’m proud of what we accomplished, but that feeling of accomplishment is accompanied by a nagging sense of impatience and frustration. Last year feels like an ocean of possibility compared to the masked, socially distanced times we live in today.

Of course, 2020 will be remembered not just for the devastation caused by the pandemic, but also for several disturbing incidents of violence and injustice towards African Americans this year, and the protests that ensued. Our country is clearly facing another reckoning regarding the institutional and systemic racism that undergirds our society.

Where do we go from here? We know that COVID-19’s most devastating health and economic impacts have been hardest on the poorest Americans. That a disproportionate number of them are people of color mirrors the way that the burden of other adverse conditions — such as air pollution, lack of clean water, and lax enforcement of environmental laws — have typically fallen heaviest on this population. To me, a just recovery from the damage caused by COVID-19 begins by recognizing the degree to which the virus has spread in these communities and the disproportionate death rates they have experienced. Likewise, whether we are talking about reversing climate change or abolishing nuclear weapons, PSR should advocate for solutions that recognize the adverse impact that these threats have on the poor, particularly people of color.

In fact, in my mind, dismantling systemic racism should be at the core of what we do. After all, systemic racism in the U.S. has been a major contributor towards creating the policies and institutions that have led us to the brink of global destruction in the first place. It’s hard for me to imagine eliminating these threats without jettisoning the racist policies and structures that got us here.

I’m heartened by the way PSR members are rising to these challenges. I look forward to working with you in the months ahead.
• In January, thanks to the efforts of PSR, our Washington chapter, and other anti-nuclear weapons activists, Congressman Adam Smith, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, and Senator Elizabeth Warren, Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, introduced joint No First Use legislation, to establish that it is the official policy of the United States never to use nuclear weapons first.

• In February, PSR hosted a panel discussion in Washington, D.C. on the Green New Deal and what it could mean for our health, for our climate, and for justice. The panel was moderated by Barbara Gottlieb, Director of our Environment and Health Program, and featured various experts on environmental justice and climate policies.

• In March, PSR and fellow plaintiffs won a landmark victory for climate and health as a federal judge rejected the leasing of public lands for fracking and ordered a halt to drilling on more than 300,000 acres in Wyoming. This lawsuit and victory received a lot of media attention in national and local outlets around the country, and helped spotlight efforts to halt oil and gas leases on public lands throughout the nation.

• In April, PSR announced the addition of six new board members: Joy L. Blackwood; Dr. Natasha DeJarnett; Dr. Gwen DuBois; Dr. Michael Martin; Surili Patel; and Dr. Linda Rudolph.

• In June, PSR and Concerned Health Professionals of New York released the sixth edition of the “Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking,” which details how fracking imperils the health of millions of Americans.

• In July, PSR helped win an extension of the comment period for the proposal to allow transport of liquefied natural gas (LNG) by rail, a dangerous and often overlooked part of the natural gas supply chain.

• Also in July, the American Medical Association (AMA) officially adopted a call for education about climate change in medical schools and “across the medical education continuum” as an AMA policy. This welcome development was spearheaded by PSR board member Todd Sack, MD FACP, with assistance from former PSR president Erica Frank, MD.

• Thanks to PSR and other anti-nuclear weapons activists, the U.S. House of Representatives voted in July to zero out funding for low-yield nuclear weapons. Although the funding was eventually restored by the Senate, the vote in the House marked an increased willingness by members of Congress to consider cutting funding for these weapons.

• In August, PSR and PSR chapters around the country participated in or led events to commemorate the 74th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings. PSR once again provided a calendar of commemoration events on the PSR website, which has become a go-to resource for information on anniversary events in the United States, helping to promote over 73 commemoration events around the country.

• During the September 20 Global Climate Strike, PSR members joined with other activists around the country to draw attention to the health emergency posed by climate change, including chapter contingents in Boston, Iowa City, Portland, OR, San Francisco, and Seattle. On the evening of the climate strike, PSR joined over 450 other organizations and activists in a group letter urging the United Nations to back a global fracking ban.
• On November 8, PSR hosted our fourth annual Visionary Leaders Awards in Washington, D.C., to recognize outstanding efforts by individuals and organizations to advance the abolition of nuclear weapons and address environmental hazards to health. Our honorees included Marylia Kelley, Cofounder and Executive Director of TriValley CAREs (Communities Against a Radioactive Environment); Kelly Campbell and Regna Merritt of Oregon PSR; and the leaders of the Sunrise Movement. In addition, PSR co-founder and former president Dr. Helen Caldicott was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award for her invaluable work as a former president of PSR and her extraordinary work as an anti-nuclear activist.

• Prior to the Visionary Leaders Awards ceremony, PSR hosted a symposium led by a panel of prominent women leaders, who discussed the interwoven threats of a nuclear war and climate change to health and human survival, and the points of intersectionality between these issues and the fight to end systemic racism, poverty, and other injustices.

• In December, PSR released a white paper, “Climate and Health Risks of Liquified Natural Gas,” detailing the ways that gas processed for export endangers human health and lives.

• Also in December, PSR, the American Lung Association, 10 PSR chapters and 15 other health organizations submitted comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) opposing the agency’s proposal to roll back limits on leaks and emissions of methane from oil and gas wells.
PSR's Environment and Health Program amplifies the voices of health professionals and other health-minded advocates on the catastrophic consequences of climate change and other environmental damage.

In 2019, our corps of Climate Ambassadors grew to more than 50—including medical students—working across 20 states (as of September 2020, there are 116 Ambassadors working across 27 states). These individuals make themselves available for media interviews, write op-ed's and letters to the editor, submit comments to federal agencies, meet with congressional offices, and speak at events. Their efforts, in combination with leadership from our national office, are working to advance these major long-term goals:

• Supporting efforts to abandon fracking, fracked-gas pipelines, compressor stations and fossil fuel export facilities. We continued to support health professionals working with public officials to fight fracking, and supporting that advocacy with critical research, such as the sixth edition of the “Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking,” released in June. Our national office kept the pressure on federal officials: we helped win a federal court case that halted oil and gas leases at least temporarily on over 300,000 acres in Wyoming; and won an extension of the public comment period for a proposal to allow transport of liquefied natural gas (LNG) by rail, a dangerous and often overlooked part of the natural gas supply chain.

In addition, the PSR national office teamed up with PSR chapters in Philadelphia, Boston, Colorado and Los Angeles to promote a new approach to slashing greenhouse gas emissions called energy optimization, which combines energy efficiency with fuel-swapping and replaces technologies that burn fossil fuels with those that use electricity. This project builds local support to replace gas-powered furnaces and stoves with highly efficient electric heat pumps and electric induction stovetops.

• Promoting investment in clean, safe renewable energy and energy efficiency. We’re working with health professionals to make the health case for a rapid energy transition. The health case has broader public appeal than traditional energy advocacy, whose arguments may not be engaging enough for some audiences, and too polarizing for others.

• Protecting federal policies and programs that safeguard clean air and our climate. Coalition actions in which we participate successfully fended off multiple policy assaults in Congress in 2019. We led several sign-on letter campaigns to Congress and comment submissions to the EPA.

• Engaging health professionals to speak about climate change as a health crisis. In 2019, PSR brought new health voices into policy advocacy with the launch of a Colorado chapter this year. We helped build calls for urgent climate action through two health-focused coalition efforts: through participation in planning with the “Call to Action on Climate, Health & Equity,” and by contributing materials to the “Climate for Health” project of ecoAmerica.

Of course, we know that we have a very limited time to slash carbon emissions and avert catastrophic climate change. It is our fervent hope that we emerge from the 2020 election with the opportunity to work with policymakers who acknowledge the climate crisis and will work to implement policies to aggressively address it, while providing equitable access to the benefits of a clean energy economy.
PSR SUCCESSFULLY EXPANDS CLIMATE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

125
Total actions taken by Climate Ambassadors in 2019 (op-eds, media appearances, educational events, etc.)

20
Number of states where PSR has recruited Climate Ambassadors

35
Target number of Climate Ambassadors PSR looked to recruit by end of 2019

51
Total Climate Ambassadors by end of 2019
NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOLITION 2019:
HELPING PSR CHAPTERS
BUILD LOCAL ADVOCACY POWER

7
Nuclear Weapons Abolition Advocacy Teams established at PSR chapters

33
Constituent meetings with Members of Congress or staff on Capitol Hill

31
“In-district” constituent meetings

8
Co-sponsorship prompted on PSR-favored legislation
In 2019, PSR’s Nuclear Weapons Abolition program focused on establishing stronger partnerships with other groups working on this issue at the state, national, and local level. We reached out to other justice movements — groups and individuals working on worker rights, environmental justice, and voting rights, for example — and encouraged our chapters to do the same, as we worked together to advance these three overarching goals:

**Increasing popular support for policies aimed at reducing the nuclear weapons threat.**

In 2019, 40% of our chapters passed “Back from the Brink” or similar local resolutions, and Oregon PSR successfully passed a state resolution urging the U.S. to embrace the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Our Oregon and Washington chapters have established large, identifiable coalitions of groups supporting nuclear weapons abolition, and coalitions have also been mobilized in Los Angeles, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, and Arizona.

Nationally, PSR is a leader in the growing United Against Nuclear War (UANW) coalition, which includes most of the other organizations invested in grassroots nuclear weapons advocacy, such as Beyond the Bomb, Win Without War, Peace Action, ReThink Media, Union of Concerned Scientists, and Women’s Action for New Directions.

**Convincing Congress to take actions that reduce the threat of nuclear weapons and move us closer toward their total elimination.**

Our national office plays a pivotal role in communicating key federal advocacy opportunities to our chapters. In 2019, we worked with our chapters to support cutting funding for so-called “low-yield” nuclear warheads, blocking funding for any attack on Iran without congressional authorization, prohibiting funding for any missiles non-compliant with the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, and for extending the New START Treaty and prohibiting funds from being used to exit the treaty. In all, eight co-sponsorships for PSR-favored legislation can be directly attributed to PSR-organized constituent meetings.

Our best opportunity for policy change in 2019 emerged after Rep. Adam Smith, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee announced his support for “no first use” policy in the U.S. No first use is a pledge by a nuclear-armed country not to use their nuclear weapons arsenals for a first strike against another country. Rep. Smith and Sen. Elizabeth Warren introduced legislation in the House and the Senate to change U.S. policy to no first use. PSR national staff helped coordinate meetings between members of local chapters to build congressional support for this legislation.

**Building a stronger health voice on the need to move toward nuclear disarmament.**

Messengers can be as important as the message. Doctors and other health professionals are trusted, authoritative messengers, and while we saw our numbers increase in 2019, we are looking forward to mobilizing even more of them on this issue in 2020 and beyond.
PSR Colorado, PSR’s newest chapter, was officially formed in October to focus on the environmental and health problems unique to Colorado. In February, a small group put together a symposium on the health impacts of oil and gas in Colorado at the campus of Colorado State University. The concerns discussed at that event led to the chapter’s formation.

On September 25, the Ventura County, California Board of Supervisors voted to overturn an earlier Board decision allowing four new oil wells within 1600 feet of a low-income mobile home park after PSR Los Angeles provided an expert witness who testified live before them and quoted the fracking Compendium. On May 21, their Associate Director, Denise Duffield, was honored by the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability presented with their 2019 Bill Mitchell Grassroots Activist of the Year Award in recognition of her outstanding work to address nuclear issues in Los Angeles, in the state of California, and the nation at large.

Throughout the year, PSR Arizona worked with the International Indian Treaty Council to film screenings to various public policy groups that highlight environmental destruction on tribal lands.

In January, PSR Maine and their allies persuaded the city of Portland, Maine to unanimously pass a “Back from the Brink” resolution, calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons together with policy changes that would reduce the nuclear weapons threat.

In January, Oregon PSR partnered with OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon, one of the state’s leading environmental justice organizations—together with the coalition they lead, the Oregon Just Transition Alliance—to host a forum and advocacy training on nuclear weapons as a social justice issue on January, 2019, with support from our national office. Later in the year, they successfully passed a state resolution urging the U.S. to embrace ICAN’s Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. On November 13, the Portland City Council in Oregon unanimously passed Resolution 1050 to declare Portland’s “opposition to nuclear weapons and urge the U.S. Federal Government to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and take action to prevent nuclear war.”

Chesapeake PSR and allies convinced Maryland legislators to submit a joint letter to the Maryland Congressional delegation in support of the U.S. adopting a “no first use” (NFU) policy—a pledge not to use nuclear weapons arsenals in a “first strike” against another country.

On September 13, Philadelphia PSR held a symposium, “Clean Energy for a Healthy Planet,” that included a variety of talks on the benefits of renewable energy. Barbara Gottlieb, PSR National Environment and Health program director, presented the keynote address, focused on the benefits to health that come from replacing gas (methane)-burning furnaces and stoves with electric-powered heat pumps and induction stoves. The symposium also featured speakers from several other organizations, including two that work with low-income tenants; they highlighted the need to provide services such as home energy efficiency retrofits to people living in old and substandard housing.
On September 29, Washington PSR and the Washington Against Nuclear Weapons Coalition convened a People’s Town Hall on Nuclear Weapons to inform the public and elected officials about the nuclear weapons threat—highlighting Washington’s nuclear weapons arsenals, the role of the state’s industry in producing them, and the direct impacts of nuclear weapons on people’s health. The Town Hall culminated in the development of a resolution with recommendations for action needed by Congress to achieve a nuclear-free future.

In addition, the governor of Washington thanked Washington PSR for supporting the state’s 100% clean energy bill, which requires utilities to remove fossil fuels from electric grids by 2045, coal by 2025, and includes energy assistance for low-income households and living-wage labor provisions.

Oregon PSR collaborated with southern Oregon-based groups to persuade the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to deny a critical permit to the proposed Jordan Cove LNG (liquefied natural gas) project and the Pacific Connector fracked gas pipeline. Washington PSR and Oregon PSR also wrote a paper on six proposed major fracked-gas infrastructure projects in their states and their implications for health. Washington PSR presented the paper to Washington state Governor Jay Inslee’s staff, and Oregon PSR presented the paper to Oregon Governor Kate Brown’s staff. The projects have all been delayed and/or received additional permit denials, including a proposed methanol refinery, an LNG export facility, and related pipelines.

Physicians for Social Responsibility has 23 chapters around the United States:

ARIZONA
Tucson, AZ

CHESAPEAKE
Baltimore, MD

CHICAGO
Chicago, IL

COLORADO
Denver, CO

DC METRO
Washington, DC

FLORIDA
Tampa, FL

GREATER BOSTON
Boston, MA

HARRISBURG
Harrisburg, PA

IOWA
Oxford, IA

KANSAS CITY
Kansas City, KS

LOS ANGELES
Los Angeles, CA

MAINE
Portland, ME

NEW MEXICO
Santa Fe, NM

NEW YORK
New York, NY

OREGON
Portland, OR

PHILADELPHIA
Philadelphia, PA

PIONEER VALLEY
Amherst, MA

SACRAMENTO
Sacramento, CA

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
San Francisco, CA

TENNESSEE
Nashville, TN

TEXAS
Austin, TX

WASHINGTON
Seattle, WA

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
Asheville, NC

PSR also has student chapters around the country.
PSR LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

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AWARDEES

Helen Caldicott, MD (Lifetime Achievement Award)
At our 2019 Visionary Leaders Awards, PSR was proud to present Dr. Helen Caldicott with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her leadership of PSR during the 1980s. Dr. Caldicott, a prominent Australian pediatrician, has devoted more than half of her life to an international campaign to educate the public about the medical hazards of nuclear weapons and nuclear power and changes we must make in human behavior to stop environmental destruction. During her time living in the United States, she played a major role in reviving PSR and serving as its president (1978-1983). She also founded several organizations, both here and abroad, including WAND (Women’s Action for New Directions). Dr. Caldicott currently divides her time between her home in Australia and the United States and was named one of the most important women of the 20th century by Ladies’ Home Journal.

Marylia Kelley
Cofounder and Executive Director of Tri-Valley CAREs (Communities Against a Radioactive Environment) Marylia Kelley received the Visionary Leaders Award for her work for 30 years on in-depth research, analysis and advocacy regarding the U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, nuclear weapons policy, waste and cleanup.

Sunrise Movement
Sunrise Movement, a powerful youth-led organization, has elevated nationwide and worldwide demands for bold, to-scale solutions like the Green New Deal that uplift communities, create millions of jobs, and provide a rapid just transition to a clean, safe renewable energy economy for fossil fuel workers. With their core emphasis on social justice and on centering impacted communities, Sunrise has proved that the winning model for climate action is demanding concrete commitments from powerful decisionmakers and creating massive public support for impactful policies rooted in justice and equity.

Kelly Campbell and Regna Merritt
During her 10 years leading Oregon PSR, Kelly Campbell has kept the chapter strong, focused and visionary. Under her leadership, the chapter’s current environment and health efforts address the prevention of any new fossil fuel infrastructure or transport through the Northwest region. This is a great example of how the fight against fossil fuels can be carried out in states that do not frack for gas or oil or mine and burn coal. The program is robust and ambitious and includes multiple specific efforts.

Regna Merritt has been absolutely key to the chapter’s successful implementation of these initiatives. She has represented Oregon PSR in these efforts, and she has made the chapter a leader in regional and crosstown coalitions and initiatives, where she has served not only as PSR’s representative but as a key individual leader. She has also been instrumental in ensuring that low-income families and communities of color receive their fair share of the benefits of Oregon’s new renewable energy ecosystem. This insistence on successfully incorporating environmental justice and equity into the energy transition is a leading model for PSR and in and of itself deserves to be honored.

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Lonnie Draper, MD
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PSR/San Francisco
PSR/Western North Carolina
Pouné Saberi, MD, MPH
### 2019 FINANCIALS

#### INCOME

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>$391,499</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Dues</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>$840,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
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#### EXPENSES

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<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>Management &amp; General</td>
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<td>Chapter Support</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>$1,578,086</td>
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</tbody>
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- **Grants** 28%
- **Contributions & Dues** 61%
- **Bequests** 11%
- **Other Income** <1%
Abolition Program
Director, Nuclear Weapons
Martin Fleck
Program Director, Environment & Health
Barbara Gottlieb
Director of Operations
W. Taylor Johnson, MFA, DLS
Executive Director
Jeff Carter, JD
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Medical Director We Care at Borland Groover Clinic
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Autumn Vogel
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