From: Case, Colleen R  
To: StudentCOMServices  
Subject: From the Office of Medical Student Education  
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*From the Office of Medical Student Education*

Dear Medical Education Community,

Given the recent interest and events this week surrounding climate change concerns, we wanted to provide some alternative avenues for showing your support around this issue.

First, you can learn more! If you are interested in learning about how climate change may affect our health and wellbeing (which is of great interest to our community!), here are a couple of places to start.

- Here is some information from the CDC on their Climate and Health program.
- A local organization, the Vermont Climate and Health Alliance (VTCHA), brings together health professionals in Vermont and works to educate Vermonters about this issue as well as bring attention to climate-friendly policies to our legislature. Read more about their work in the link provided above and the science behind climate change including some videos addressing the issue. LCOM faculty and staff are involved in this organization and would be happy to be a resource to those interested in learning more or becoming involved. Please contact Aimee Gale if you would like to be connected to a LCOM VTCHA member.
- You can read more about youth climate activist, Greta Thunberg, and her work in the links provided.

Second, there are ways to get more involved:

- Learn more about ways to reduce the impact you and your family are having, this article *How to reduce your carbon footprint* is a good place to start.
- **Speak up** and make your voice heard by:
  - Write a letter or call your local legislature to talk about your concerns and show your support for them acting to prepare ourselves for a changing climate. Hearing from constituents is one of the most powerful drivers to action and it only takes a few minutes.
  - Write a letter to the editor in your local paper
- Volunteer for a local organization (plant trees, run letter-writing campaigns, help ‘green-up’ programs)
- See more options for getting involved [here](#).

The most important thing we can do is to stay informed, learn more and teach more, especially by talking with one another. Keep the conversation going. It’s not about generating alarm, but rather, taking an informed approach to the issue and making sure that we are doing what we can to be prepared, yet drive change.
It is also important to note that this issue can generate a lot of different emotions, which can sometimes be difficult. If you feel like you could use some additional support, please do not hesitate to reach out to the resources available to you through OMSE and UVM.

Thank you!