Dear CLEO Supporter,

As we close out the second quarter of 2024, I’m excited to reflect on the remarkable accomplishments of the CLEO Institute’s team.

From educating thousands through our Climate programs to mobilizing youth leaders in our genCLEO movement by opening 2 new genCLEO chapters, we are building a community of climate advocates. Our advocacy and policy efforts have mobilized $346 million for energy rebate programs among other crucial federal funding to our communities, significantly advancing our mission & scaling the just clean-energy transition. Our community-focused projects & extreme weather preparedness efforts are saving lives as we face record-breaking temperatures and extreme heat this year reminding us to scale action with speed & scale against global heating.

We are thrilled to build on our momentum and ramp up our efforts through this pivotal year and “unfinished” race. Your support, cheers, and donations are essential in driving climate action forward and we are grateful to count on them!

Enjoy the next few pages & celebrate. This is all thanks to our collective efforts!

Onwards!

Executive Director | The CLEO Institute
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BUILDING COMMUNITY

Annual Race for our Future Earth Day 5k

The CLEO Institute kicked off Earth Month with our annual Race for our Future Earth Day 5k races in Tampa and Miami, themed “the Unfinished Race.” These events brought together hundreds of participants to promote environmental sustainability and climate action, fostering health, community spirit, and a shared commitment to a greener future.

650 Earth Day 5K Participants in Tampa and Miami.

WHAT IF A 5K COULD CHANGE THE WORLD?
THERE ARE NO WINNERS IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS.
THIS IS AN UNFINISHED RACE.
THANK YOU
TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS & PARTNERS

EARTH DAY 5K CLUB

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA

Cindy Lerner

PEP CAPITAL

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD

Canada

Cutler Bay Solar Solutions

Edwin Freedman and Trudy Kane

Miami Dade College

Northeastern University

NV2A

CONSERVATION ADVOCATE

ALLEN MORRIS COMPANY

Dana Kulvin & Daniel Dietch

MEDIA PARTNER

FIU

Ocaquatics

SELF

IN-KIND PARTNERS

CAFE LA LLAVE ESPRESSO

DUNKIN' COMMUNITY CRUISER

phade

WHOLE FOODS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

MCI

MIA MIAMI DDA

MAST GO GREEN

YOUTH LEAD CHANGE
The CLEO Institute was presented with a proclamation proposed by Miami-Dade Public School Board Member, Luisa Santos, spotlighting our impactful work with students countywide.
Our Earth Day Soireé, held in Miami, honored key figures in environmental sustainability and climate justice, featuring inspiring speeches, awards, and recognitions.
Congratulations to our CLEO Leadership Inductees! Louis Aguirre, Alex Harris, Mario Alejandro Ariza, Katja Esson, Anna V. Eskamani, and Oscar Londoño are pictured here with Executive Director of The CLEO Institute, Yoca Arditi-Rocha, Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, and Founder of The CLEO Institute, Caroline Lewis.

The CLEO Institute also celebrated VoLo Foundation (not pictured) and Miami-Dade County Public Schools as recipients of the Dr. F. Lynn Leverett ‘CIRCLE OF CHANGE’ AWARD.
Earth Week 2024 culminated with a special screening of ‘Climate in Crisis’, presented by NBC6 and First Alert Meteorologist Steve MacLaughlin. Audience members were invited to stay for a panel with NBC6/Telemundo51 climate meteorologists Chelsea Ambriz and Ariel Rodriguez.
Joanne Perodin, Senior Director of Climate Equity with The CLEO Institute, was appointed to the White House Environmental Justice Council. The 12 members of the Council provide advice and recommendations to the White House Environmental Justice Interagency Council and the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, with the goal of addressing current and historic environmental injustice.
ADVOCACY WIN

After we called on POTUS to grant federal protection for outdoor workers facing extreme heat, OSHA proposed a heat standard rule.

March 23rd, 2024

The CLEO Institute
2163 Coral Way, 2nd Floor
Miami, FL 33145

President Joseph Biden
Vice President Kamala Harris
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden & Vice President Harris,

As the scorching summer approaches, the danger to Florida's outdoor workers becomes increasingly urgent. In 2023, the June-July-August season was the warmest on record globally by a large margin. Outdoor workers in the U.S. face up to 35 times the risk of dying from heat exposure compared to the average American. Outdoor workers desperately need the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to formalize rules for exposure to extreme heat.

Heat regulations are not just a matter of comfort; they are a matter of life and death. Exposure to scorching temperatures can cause illness or death. With anthropogenic climate change making higher temperatures more frequent and extreme, the need for a national heat standard for outdoor workers has never been more critical.

This urgency is further underscored by the recent legislation, H.B. 433, passed by Florida's legislature, which bans local governments from passing policies to address heat to protect outdoor workers on exceptionally hot days. If Governor DeSantis signs H.B. 433 or allows it to become law without a signature, Florida's local governments will be prevent from creating heat policies for outdoor workers starting on July 1st, 2024.

The legislation states, "(2)(g) A political subdivision may not establish, adopt, or otherwise regulate an employee, including an employer contracting to provide goods or services to the political subdivision, to meet or provide heat exposure requirements not otherwise required under state or federal law."

OSHA is reported to be developing heat rules. Since federal law would override Florida's heat policy preemption, we appeal to your authority and influence to help push OSHA to quickly issue rules that protect the health and safety of outdoor workers. We urge your administration to pass interim rules or issue an executive order to ensure quick action to protect people's health, lives, and livelihoods. The lives of many are at stake.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Hardin-Rocha | Executive Director, The CLEO Institute

CC:

The Washington Post
OSHA proposes rule to protect workers exposed to extreme heat
Investing in a ClimateReady future

South Florida is booming. But more water, heat and powerful storms are pushing everyday costs higher for people and businesses.

That’s why Miami-Dade County’s ClimateReady Tech Hub accelerates local technology that improves quality of life, lowers everyday expenses and creates jobs.

Washington sees it too, and recently awarded crucial funding to ClimateReady Tech Hub. Under the leadership of Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, ClimateReady covers Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward and Palm Beach counties. It also partners with local municipalities and has the support of elected leaders on both sides of the aisle from across the region.

ClimateReady works with public, private, academic and philanthropic partners to commercialize and deploy climate technology. Our hub in Miami is a national model.

We’re investing in technologies built in South Florida that can scale globally. This include: advanced concrete materials that reduce carbon emissions by 40%, reefs and breakwaters that protect our $3.5 billion in coastal assets, and cooling systems for humid climates that can reduce energy consumption by up to 90%.

Florida International University, University of Miami, and Florida Atlantic University lead these technology efforts with locally grown scale-ups. ClimateReady anticipates creating 23,000 good-paying jobs and adding $1 billion to the region’s GDP when fully funded. We expect 15,000 will be filled by people from underrepresented groups.

The Miami-Dade Innovation Authority will help 500 start-ups and entrepreneurs learn from the experience of our first investments and replicate global market successes. They will provide operating support and guidance on regulatory and policy matters in partnership with leading organizations such as SeaWorthy Collective, Marine Research Lab and Miami Waterkeeper.

We’re investing in communities. We’ve developed “first-of-their-kind” demonstration opportunities with the Miccosukee Tribe and Florida Memorial University to deploy the Hub’s proven technology to communities most affected by changing water and heat.

Additionally, we’ve brought in the University of Florida to ensure we work across the state.

This investment is a validation of the work we’ve already begun through the initial support of Citadel investment firm founder and CEO Kenneth C. Griffin, the Knight Foundation, Levine Cava’s administration, and the South Florida Regional Planning Council.

Since designation by the U.S. Economic Development Administration in November, startups like Blue Frontier have been added to Miami-Dade County procurement pools. And, 1Print, a 3D printing company is working with University of Miami to deploy a Department of Defense-funded artificial reef. Wetco and the CLEO Institute are developing climate training for HVAC technicians. Titan Cement received funding from the Department of Energy.

With a clear vision and unwavering determination, we will tackle our challenges head-on and serve as a national example.

Francesca de Quesada Covey is the regional innovation officer for South Florida’s ClimateReady Tech Hub and chief innovation and economic development officer for Miami-Dade County.

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Florida’s 2024-25 budget allocates $346M for energy-efficiency, lowering electricity bills

Biden Names Key Appointments to Environmental Justice Council

Miami ‘climate tech hub’ gets $19.5 million from feds. Focus will be reinforcing coast

$346M

Allocated towards energy efficiency rebate programs approved in the Florida annual budget.
CELEBRATING TWO NEW GENCLEO CAMPUS CHAPTERS

We are thrilled to introduce new genCLEO chapters at the University of Florida and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University!

FSU & FAMU

UF

USF

UCF

MDC, FIU, & UM

8 Total
SO FAR THIS YEAR WE HAVE...

TRAINED

215 Teachers

1,479 Students

HOSTED

100 Trainings

ENGAGED

4,683 People Through Events & 145 Elected Officials

SIGNED-UP

1,963 Climate Voters

REACHED

255K on Social Media (23.7% from ads)

EDUCATION & ADVOCACY IMPACT

We’ve been making waves & our impact is undeniable!
Beginning on May 29th, The CLEO Institute partnered with the Miami Climate Alliance, the Miami-Dade Department of Emergency Management, and Miami-Dade County CERT to offer preparedness training for extreme weather events such as hurricanes, heat, and flooding. The trainings were offered in English, Haitian Creole, and Spanish.
Participants also received heat and hurricane preparedness kits including cooling towels, electrolyte packets, solar lamps, flashlights, and battery-powered fans. We are very grateful to Allegany Franciscan Ministries and The Miami Foundation for their generosity in funding these kits!
EMPOWERING RESILIENT WOMEN

Advancing Environmental Justice and Sustainability

Over six transformative months, 31 incredible women completed 12 workshops, countless meetings, and community events, with 84% starting small edible gardens at home. They also received vital resources, including hurricane kits, extreme heat protection kits, and ‘Stop the Bleed’ training. For the first time, past fellows provided mentoring, adding invaluable support and inspiration to new participants.
EMPOWERING RESILIENT WOMEN

Advancing Environmental Justice and Sustainability

31
Empowering Resilient Women Graduates

84%
Of participants started their own garden
“I talked to so many brilliant people. I became so much more tied to the community of gardening and climate activism. [I] will always remember the people I talked to from Roger to Bereatha to Turquisha. Appreciate you all and warm wishes.”

2023/2024 ERW FELLOW
GIVING MATTERS

The CLEO Institute relies on the generosity of people like you to support our mission. To protect the planet we love, we must stop it from warming. Donate today!

SCAN ME

STAY IN TOUCH

https://cleoinstitute.org