



## 2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

### San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility

With your trust and investment, SF Bay PSR has achieved significant progress in the last year. **We thank all of you for your steadfast partnership and ask for your continued support—please give today!** Your gift will strengthen our three pillars of work: Abolishing Nuclear Weapons, Protecting the Climate, Environment, and Health, and our newly adopted third pillar, Safeguarding and Strengthening Democracy.

Some highlights and selected examples of our 2025 accomplishments include the following:

#### We expanded our mission to include democracy—

Our newest pillar makes transparent that, as with peace and a healthy environment, democracy is a public health imperative. Without functioning democratic institutions—those that value truth, protect rights, and allow equitable participation—our ability to address nuclear threats, our climate crisis, and social and environmental injustice is deeply compromised.

- Given the unprecedented attacks on our democracy, SF Bay PSR Board of Directors voted unanimously to adopt **“Safeguarding & Strengthening Democracy”** as the third pillar of our work—joining our long-standing commitments to Abolishing Nuclear Weapons and Protecting the Climate, Environment, and Health.
- Our Board also approved our **new Mission, Focus, and Vision statements**, which reflect both our legacy and our evolving role in protecting health, equity, and our shared future.
- To educate our members and guests about the threats to our democracy, our annual GALA: Gathering for Action, Leadership, and Advocacy focused on **Democracy Under Threat: Health, Climate, and Global Security at Risk** with environmental health and policy leader Tracey Woodruff and acclaimed journalist Norman Solomon.
- We created a factsheet to educate and mobilize health professionals around **CA Proposition 50** which passed and will help to protect health, equity, and fair representation.
- And in support of democracy, we organized health professionals to join us at **rallies across the Bay Area**. History shows that when even a relatively small percentage of a nation’s people engage in sustained, nonviolent action, it can help dismantle tyranny. We will continue to organize health professionals as part of this life-saving effort throughout 2026.

#### We supported public health, climate, and community protections—

We have countered attacks on our public health agencies and policies by mobilizing health voices in a wide range of policy forums to support health protective policies and counter disinformation that imperils public health, research, and care—threats that fall hardest on children, elders, environmental justice, immigrant, and low-income communities.

- We have been working harder than ever to provide science- and medicine-based information to policy makers by hosting educational events, giving scores of talks and public comments/testimony; **signing 165 letters** and **writing 4 letters** to support or oppose legislation or regulations; mobilizing hundreds of chapter

members through our action alerts; meeting with policy makers and regulators; writing op-eds, contributing comments to major media articles, producing educational materials, and so much more.

- One of our biggest successes this year—we helped to gain **more than 1,000 letters from PSR members to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defending the Endangerment Finding**, a linchpin to addressing our climate emergency.
- We continue to work to protect our communities from the harms of the fossil fuel industry by advocating for the California **Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act** including signing on to full-page ads in the *Sacramento Bee*, mobilizing health professionals to lobby in Sacramento, creating a health professional sign-on letter, and mentoring our interns as they launched a student Make Polluters Pay campaign on local college campuses.
- We also worked to protect the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** which is an essential tool for communities, often lower-income communities, to address the potential health harms of polluting industries moving into their neighborhoods.
- We joined the SF Climate Emergency Coalition steering committee to actively engage with the campaign for **San Francisco’s Climate Plan and Building Electrification Efforts** that could be a model for other cities across the country. We are making local, tangible wins!
- **We continue to address the health harms of air pollution**—the SF Bay Area has the sixth worst PM air pollution in the country. For the third year, our white coats were on the frontlines of the **Bay Area building electrification movement** as we continue our work with local coalition to support the timely implementation of the Bay Area Air District’s *first-in-the-nation*, zero-emissions (ZE) home appliance standards.
- This year we continued our advocacy to the **California Air Resources Board (CARB)** to encourage their implementation of similar ZE appliance rules, and to support the creation of indoor air pollution standards; our work includes **a new partnership with UCLA to study indoor air pollution in lower-income homes**. These new local and state rules would significantly improve air quality, prevent asthma cases, and save lives.
- In addition, our **Building Electrification program** created and distributed health- and equity-focused information to educate community members, policy makers, and health professionals about the benefits of electrification. We hosted an event on **“Neurological Associations with Air Pollution and Health Benefits of Building Electrification,”** and participated in events every month including electric fairs, youth climate summits, and community-center talks.
- We launched our **NEW Continuing Medical Education (CME) series SF Bay PSR Expert Perspectives** with the event mentioned above, showcasing the expertise of our board and committee members on the effects of climate change, nuclear industry and militarism, and environmental degradation on patient health. Look for more webinars in 2026!
- **Environmental Health Committee members** continue to build progress on many fronts and continue to advocate for climate health and pollution prevention initiatives within their medical societies and institutions, including University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), Stanford, Kaiser, and more.

## **We collaborated with environmental justice nonprofits—**

We are working with communities to protect residents living near toxic sites, breathing some of the worst air pollution in our country, and confronting rising bay waters. Your investments enable us to meet our shared goal to advance climate and environmental health and justice through advocacy, fundraising, serving as fiscal sponsors, providing health educational resources, and the health voice in policy settings.

- Also, in collaboration with the Bay View Hunters Point Advocates and the SF Environment Department, we completed and celebrated the **installation of a heat-cooling pump and induction cooktop at a community-childcare center**. We hosted an induction stovetop cooking and health benefits training for staff and gave away induction cooktops to families.
- We are also actively participating in the **SF Environment Climate Equity Hub Advisory committee** with a broad group of EJ nonprofits to build our city’s support program for residents, and ensure that our transition to healthier, electric buildings is just and equitable. We expanded our work this year with **a grant from the**

**Bay Area Air District** to develop community educational materials on air pollution and the benefits of healthier electric homes.

- Our fiscal sponsorship of **Richmond Shoreline Alliance** continues to support their work to mobilize and educate Richmond residents regarding the impacts of sea level rise, and the ongoing harms of the hazardous waste from the AstraZeneca Superfund site on Richmond's southwest shoreline, including adding virtual tours to better educate the public, **and their NEW animated series *Toxic Tales*.**

## **We advocated for nuclear weapons abolition and peace—**

Our Nuclear Weapons Abolition Committee has been working to stand up against continued conflicts and attacks on health care providers, and to counter the threat of a new nuclear arms race, and the health harms and existential threats of the nuclear industry “death” cycle.

- SF Bay PSR continues to advance the **Back from the Brink campaign**, a coalition working together on a multi-year effort to rid the world of nuclear weapons—while securing a set of U.S. nuclear weapons disarmament policies that will make the world safer, healthier, and more just.
- We saw a major victory—the **enactment of the Radiation Compensation Exposure Act (RECA)**. This was born out of years of dedicated organizing efforts by Ms. Tina Cordova (2024 SF Bay PSR Gala speaker), PSR, and countless other activists, but the compensation and promised health care remains limited, and for many people, this win is outweighed by the budget legislation's slashing of Medicare, Medicaid, and other fundamental healthcare programs.
- We joined colleagues in communities speaking out forcefully at public hearings **against expanding local and national Department of Energy (DOE) facility plutonium “pit” production** geared at expanding the numbers and lethality of our nuclear arsenal.
- We provided testimony at **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)** hearings in opposition to proposed weakened radiation exposure health standards that would facilitate all aspects of the nuclear power/weapons death-cycle.
- SF Bay PSR and PSR National continue to advocate for the **extension of the New START Agreement**. Without a follow-on agreement to New START, we face a new nuclear arms race, greater instability, higher risk of nuclear conflict, and an enormous new wave of spending on weapons we should be working to eliminate.
- We co-organized **events on Hiroshima and Nagasaki days** to commemorate the victims of the US bombings of Japan, and we engaged in non-violent protest of accelerated nuclear weapons work at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, **including a “die-in” that was covered by the Associated Press News**.
- SF Bay PSR leaders traveled to Japan this year for the honor of representing us at the **24th World Congress of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)** where we commemorated victims of the bombs dropped on Japan 80 years ago, and the countless others who have been imperiled by the global production and testing of nuclear weapons as well as by the toxic legacy of its companion nuclear power industry.
- SF Bay PSR leaders have for decades been leaders in the **Peace Caucus in Affiliation with the American Public Health Association**, bringing PSR's work on eliminating nuclear weapons and opposing militarism to the forefront of the public health community, most recently at the annual meeting in DC. SF Bay PSR continues to strengthen the capacity of the Peace Caucus by incorporating it into our fiscal sponsorship program.
- We stood in **solidarity with health and humanitarian workers in Gaza and other conflict zones**, calling for the bombs to stop falling, and defending medical professionals who speak out against the war and the targeting of health systems.

## **We nurtured future health activists—**

We are nurturing the next generation of health professional activists by giving them real-world experience in leadership, and advocacy skills— diving into the nuts and bolts of public policy, learning how decisions are made,

how advocacy and nonprofits work, and how to protect the democratic systems that make community change possible.

- Our **2025 interns** made important contributions toward our goals. **Sabrina Spatny**, UC Berkeley graduate, staffed our Nuclear Weapons Abolition Committee and hosted a very successful film screening and discussion of *Dark Circle* with director Judy Irving. This special online event for students and community members helped to educate about the continued health harms to communities near nuclear testing sites. **Daphney Saviotti-Orozco**, UC Berkeley graduate, staffed our vibrant Environmental Health Committee, organized our student Make Polluters Pay Campaign, participated in community outreach events about air pollution, and more.
- At our Gala, we expanded our awards to **honor and provide financial support for SIX young health professionals** for their outstanding work: Debbie Adam/UCSF; Rio Barrere-Cain /UCSF; Tara Benesch, MD/ER Physician in Oakland; Camila De Pierola Casalino/UCB-UCSF; Mateo Frumholtz/University of Minnesota; Jonah Henry/recent UC Santa Cruz graduate.
- And we continued our tradition of **partnering with youth climate summits and educators and students at Stanford, UCSF, UC Berkeley, and UC Santa Cruz** to support student efforts, present talks, and help to develop curriculum about climate health, advocacy, and the consequences of nuclear war.

We know that we will be called upon in 2026 to continue building and protecting our accomplishments, we hope you will be with us!

P.S. If every one of our 3,500 newsletter subscribers gave just \$86 a year (the cost of a TV streaming service) we would be able to raise the \$300,000 we need annually to continue our programs. Your gifts are truly investments because they also allow us to pursue more grant funding which currently makes up about half of our budget.

Please donate on our website or at the QR code below.



**THANK YOU from all of us at SF Bay PSR!**