CCAN 2020: A GLANCE BACK

In 2020, CCAN transitioned our operations online as we continued to advocate for climate solutions across city, county, state, and federal levels. Here is a snapshot of what we were able to accomplish with your support.

January
Our 15th annual Polar Bear Plunge is the most successful yet, with 296 plungers raising $167,000, a nearly 14% increase over what we raised in 2019. Spoiler alert: the 2021 BRRRR-tual Plunge exceeds even this record!

June
In response to the killing of George Floyd, and in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, CCAN calls an emergency meeting of its Board of Directors. They vote unanimously to include police reform principles in our actions going forward.

July
The Atlantic Coast Pipeline is defeated! This 600-mile, $8 billion pipeline would have carried fracked gas from West Virginia, across the Appalachian Trail into Virginia and the Carolinas. CCAN opposed the pipeline from day one and could not be more thankful for the tireless local organizing efforts that halted this pipeline.

February
Virginia joins the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. This carbon trading program includes 11 East Coast states. The state’s fossil fuel plants will now pay for pollution they create while reducing overall emissions. Virginia also bans offshore drilling!

March
The Virginia Clean Economy Act passes! It mandates the shutdown of most coal plants by 2030, and all fossil fuel plants for electricity (including gas) by 2045, opening the gates for wind and solar power.

Spring
COVID-19 is declared a worldwide pandemic and CCAN quickly pivots to fully-online organizing. We adopt new tools and technology to connect with supporters and one another. We host a virtual Comedy Night to raise funds for area food banks.

Summer and Autumn
Our sister organization, CCAN Action Fund, launches the Fight to Vote campaign which reaches over 200,000 voters in key districts.

Autumn
CCAN adds two staff positions to work on national climate issues. The 2020 national election brings climate action back into focus in a big way. Biden’s climate plan of 100% clean electricity by 2035 and $2 trillion proposed investment in clean-energy jobs and resilience gives us hope for the coming year!
In 2020, the world witnessed two emergencies caused by the tiniest of foes: a virus and molecules of carbon dioxide in the air. A global pandemic brought the world to a halt, while at the same time we experienced a record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season, devastating wildfires, and the end of the warmest decade yet. 2021 is the year when we must pull together to create a more just society that puts the needs of the people first. CCAN will work to ensure that environmental justice and coronavirus relief are at the center of regional climate policy debates. We will also take our grassroots power to Capitol Hill as we push for 100% clean electricity by 2035. Our country is overwhelmingly ready for climate solutions and clean energy. Now is the time, can you feel the shift? We are grateful to have dedicated and generous members like you to support this work. Thank you.