



MEDIA ADVISORY FOR JULY 11, 2019

Contact: Blair Fitzgibbon, (202) 503-6141, blair@soundspeedpr.com

FL MOMS JOIN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ON CAPITOL HILL AS PART OF SWEEPING MOVEMENT FOR CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Moms Clean Air Force to Host "Play-In" Demanding Lawmakers Solve our Climate Crisis

(Washington, D.C.) – On Thursday, July 11th, four moms from Florida will join more than **500 members from over 25 states** to gather at the U.S. Capitol for the **sixth** Moms Clean Air Force "Play-In" for Climate Action and live-streamed press conference. This annual event will showcase visionary leaders including members of the Global Climate Strikes who will join moms and Members of Congress on stage to demand action on climate. Speakers of all generations will be calling on political leadership at all levels to advance solutions to protect our families from the climate crisis. This means 100% clean energy across the entire economy by 2050.

Following the Play-In, the intergenerational Florida delegation will head to the Capitol to meet with their members of Congress to share their personal stories and urge their representatives to take action on climate to protect their children's health and future. Sea level rise, flooding, wildfires, and major rainfall events are hammering the state of Florida. Floridians are seeing the impacts every day.

Media is invited to schedule interviews with our Florida delegation, which hails from Orlando and Miami.

Who:

Michelle Irizarry is a water resources engineer and artist who lives with her family near a coal power plant in Orlando, FL, with multiple violations of the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act. Michelle's daughters attend school in the shadow of this power plant, leaving them vulnerable to exposure from dangerous air pollutants. As Michelle said in a **recent PBS documentary film**: "Change is not going to happen in a vacuum. Change can only happen when enough of us protest, march, call, and demand our elected officials be accountable for pollution and put our kids' health and the health of the planet first."

Geri Freedman is creating a multigenerational movement to fight climate change as co-chair of the organization **Elders Climate Action**. Now retired, Geri devotes her wisdom and energies to advocating on behalf of her young grandchildren and generations to come. As a member of Moms Clean Air Force, Geri is passionate about using her voice to voice to push government at all levels and businesses to address our climate crisis. Geri lives in Miami with her family.

Yaritza Perez is a mother and proud veteran of the Marine Corps who, after serving in the military for more than a decade, is now mobilizing fellow Floridians to fight for climate action. As the Florida Field Organizer for Moms Clean Air Force, Yaritza brings parents together at a time when sea level rise, sunny day flooding, and major rainfall events are hammering her home state. In short, Floridians are seeing the impacts every day. Yaritza lives with her family in Orlando.

Piper Vargas lives in Orlando with her husband and two sons. Piper has been **outspoken** in her community of East Orange County about concerns over local coal-fired power plants and the serious health risks they pose to tens of thousands of residents. Piper is committed to speaking up about the hidden dangers of pollution and encouraging other parents to do the same. It's why she is travelling to Washington this summer; to ask her elected officials to do something about the same pollution which is making climate change worse.

We also invite media to watch our Play-In press conference live at approximately 10:00 AM ET on July 11th [here](#) where it will be live-streamed on our national Facebook page.

Speakers include:

Keynote speaker Alexandria Villaseñor is a 14-year-old climate justice activist and leading organizer for the ongoing global Fridays for Future Climate Strikes.

Emcee Vanessa Hauc is a Telemundo Network Emmy award-winning journalist

Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE At-large)

Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Congresswoman Kathy Castor (D-FL 7) Chair of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI 12)

Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-NM 1)

Congressman Donald McEachin (D-VA 4)

Congresswoman Kim Schrier (D-WA 8)

Great Grandmother Mary Lyons is a Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe member in Minnesota, UN Indigenous Observer and Author

Rev Michael Malcom, MDiv MBA is the Executive Director of Alabama Interfaith Power and Light

Dominique Browning is Moms Clean Air Force's Co-Founder and Senior Director

Heather McTeer Toney is Moms Clean Air Force's National Field Director

An updated list of speakers can be found [here](#).

Where: The National Mall at Madison Drive NW and 3rd Street NW, Washington D.C. or follow the press conference online [here](#).

When: Thursday, July 11, 2019, from 9:30-11:00 AM (press conference begins at 10:00 AM)

NOTE: **B-roll footage** and **photos** of Play-In available upon request.

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Moms Clean Air Force is a community of over one million moms—and dads—working together to fight air pollution, including the urgent crisis of our changing climate. For more information, go to www.momscleanairforce.org or follow us on Twitter [@CleanAirMoms](#), Instagram [@cleanairmoms](#), or Facebook.