

CARE STAFF AROUND THE WORLD ARE TAKING STEPS EVERY DAY TO THINK AND ACT GREEN, STARTING WITH THE CHOICES WE MAKE AT HOME AND IN THE OFFICE. BY MINIMIZING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT, WE ARE STRIVING TO BE MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE POOR COMMUNITIES WE SERVE—COMMUNITIES THAT, WHILE LEAST RESPONSIBLE FOR GLOBAL WARMING, WILL BEAR THE DISPROPORTIONATE BURDEN OF ITS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

YOU CAN START WITH THESE SIX, SIMPLE CHOICES:

6 WAYS TO DIMINISH YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME TO LESSEN THE ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN ON POOR COMMUNITIES

1

Cut back on meat one to two meals per week. When demand for meat grows, more trees are cut down to make space for pasture land or farmland to grow animal feed. And when trees are cut down, they release carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas.

2

Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs. Decrease your energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by installing compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), which use less power to supply the same amount of light as incandescent bulbs. Recycle your used CFLs at your local Home Depot or IKEA, or call your local garbage service or municipal government and ask if they offer CFL or mercury recycling.

3

Make it a full – and cold – load. Wait until you have a full load, and wash clothes whenever possible in cold water. This will save water use and lower your home energy costs. Or better yet, hang your laundry outside to dry!

4

Reduce your “phantom” energy load. Unplug appliances when you are not using them, or use a “smart” power strip, which detects energy use and automatically turns off when appliances are not being used.

5

Reduce your use of bottled water. Use a water filter to purify tap water instead of buying bottled water. Not all plastic water bottles make it to the recycling plant; most end up in landfills and can take centuries to decompose.

6

Give your car a break. Walk, bicycle, carpool or use public transportation whenever you can.

For more information on things you can do today, over the next month, and over the next year to reduce your carbon footprint, check out the consumer guide to home energy savings, developed by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, available online at:

www.aceee.org/consumerguide/checklist.htm

CARE is addressing global warming through programming and policy advocacy. For more information about our work, please visit:

www.careclimatechange.org