

Heat Readiness Resources for Clinics and Health Centers

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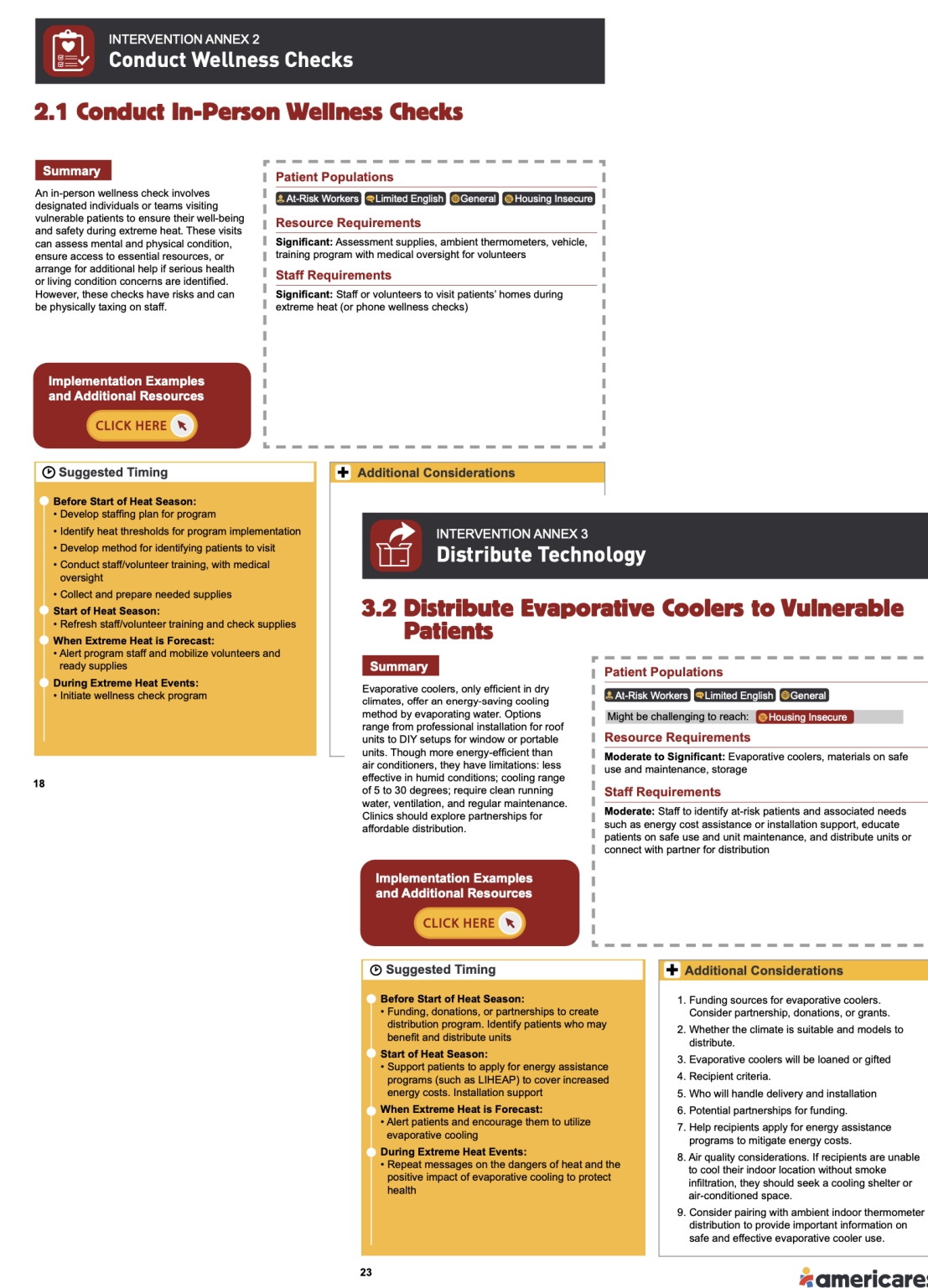
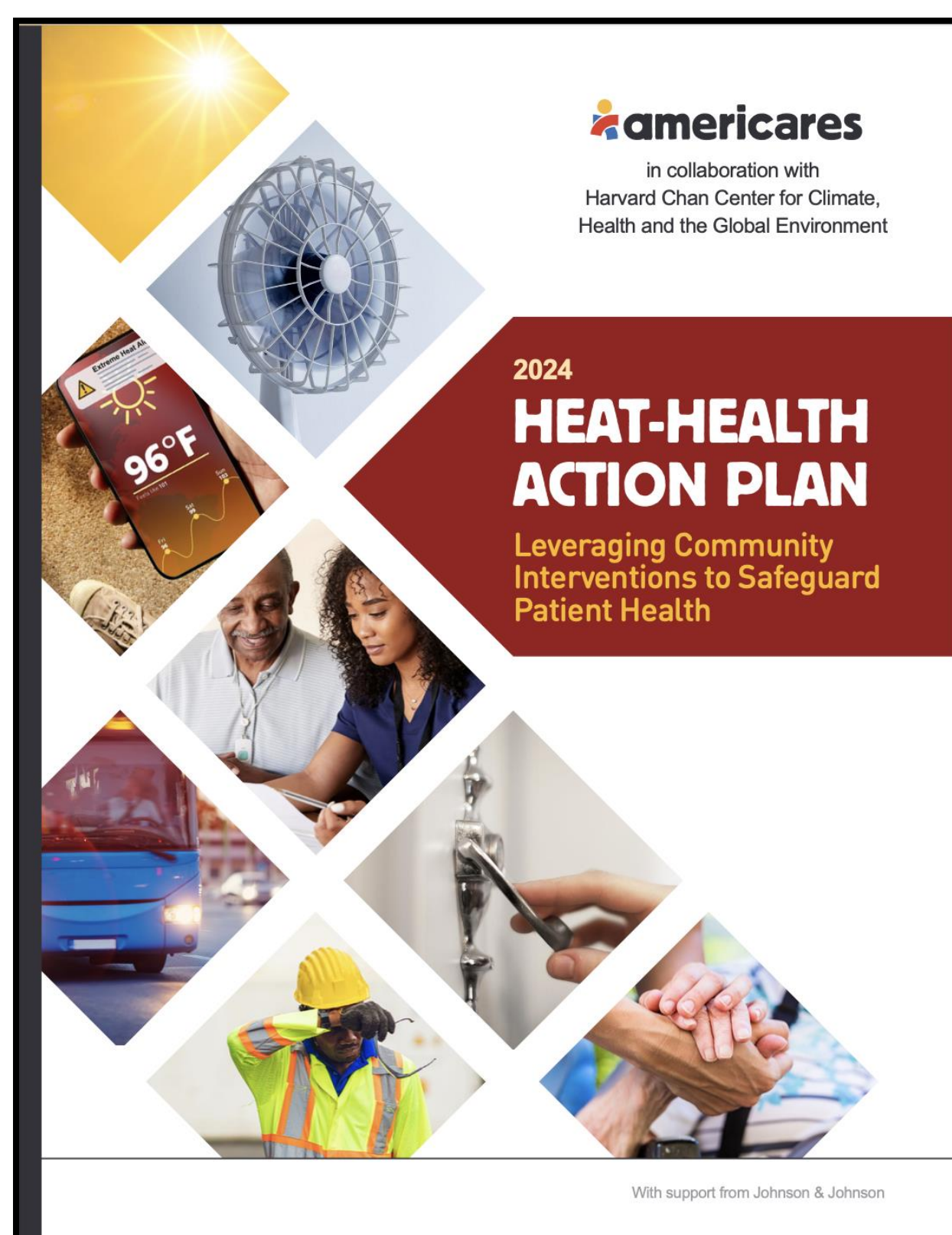
Community Risk Reduction Interventions For clinics, nonprofits, or local governments

What it is: Heat-Health Action Plans offer tailored interventions that allow clinics and health centers to support their patients beyond clinic visits. Plans identify strategic partnerships, essential health-safety information to share and opportunities to connect patients with resources and services within their community.

How it works: Users complete a brief questionnaire to self-assess resources, staffing, and patient needs. Based on their responses, they receive a list of potentially useful intervention plans. Each plan outlines steps clinic staff can take in partnership with other organizations and local governments, such as conducting home wellness checks during heat season.

History: Co-developed with 8 clinics in 2023; piloted with 40 clinics in 2023; scaled up to reach 140+ clinics by Q1 of 2025.

Development Team: This program is a collaboration between Harvard Chan C-CHANGE and AmeriCares.



Learn More:

<https://www.americares.org/what-we-do/community-health/climate-resilient-health-clinics/action-plans/>



Heat Resilience Resources For patients, providers, and administrators

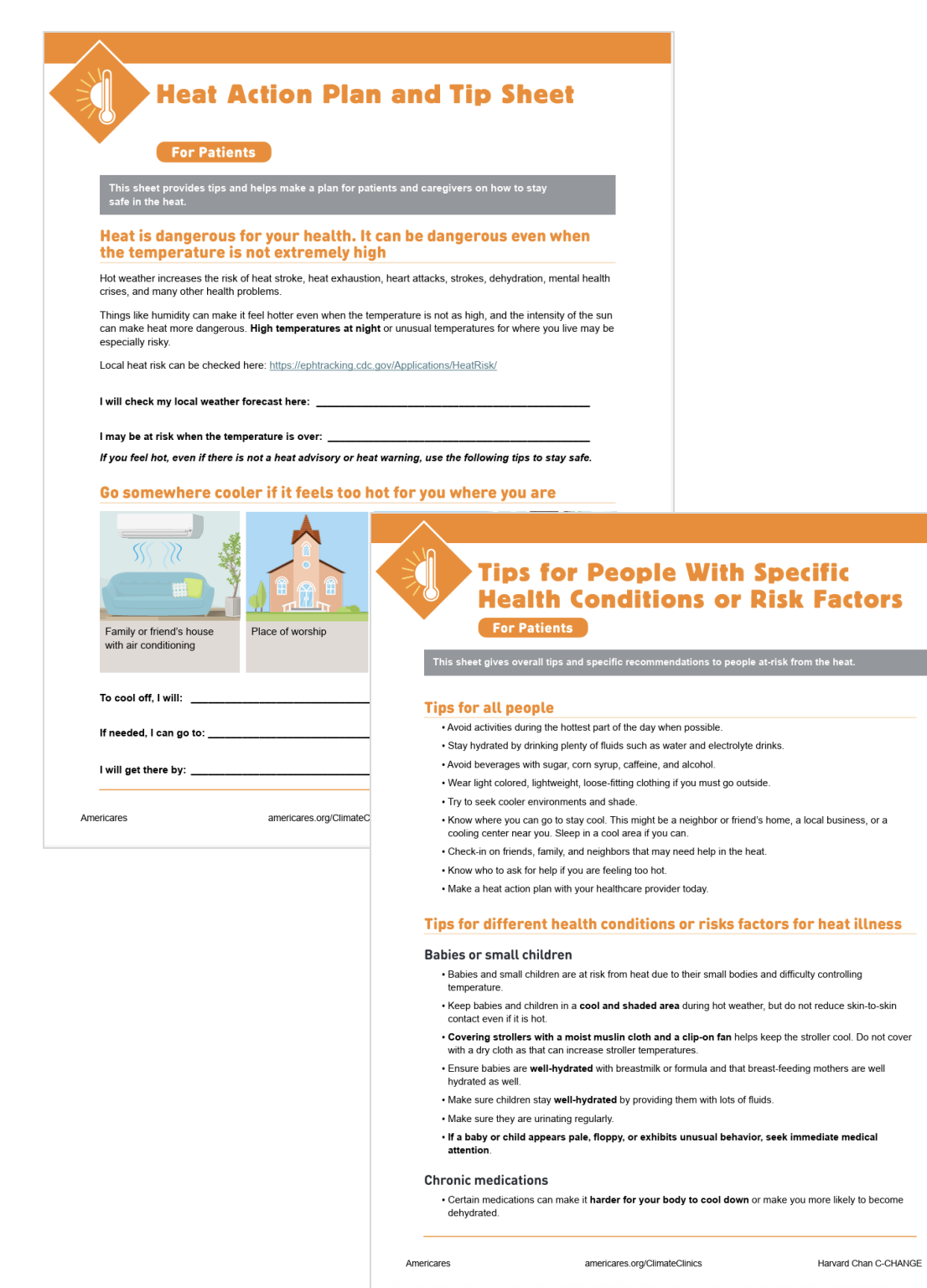
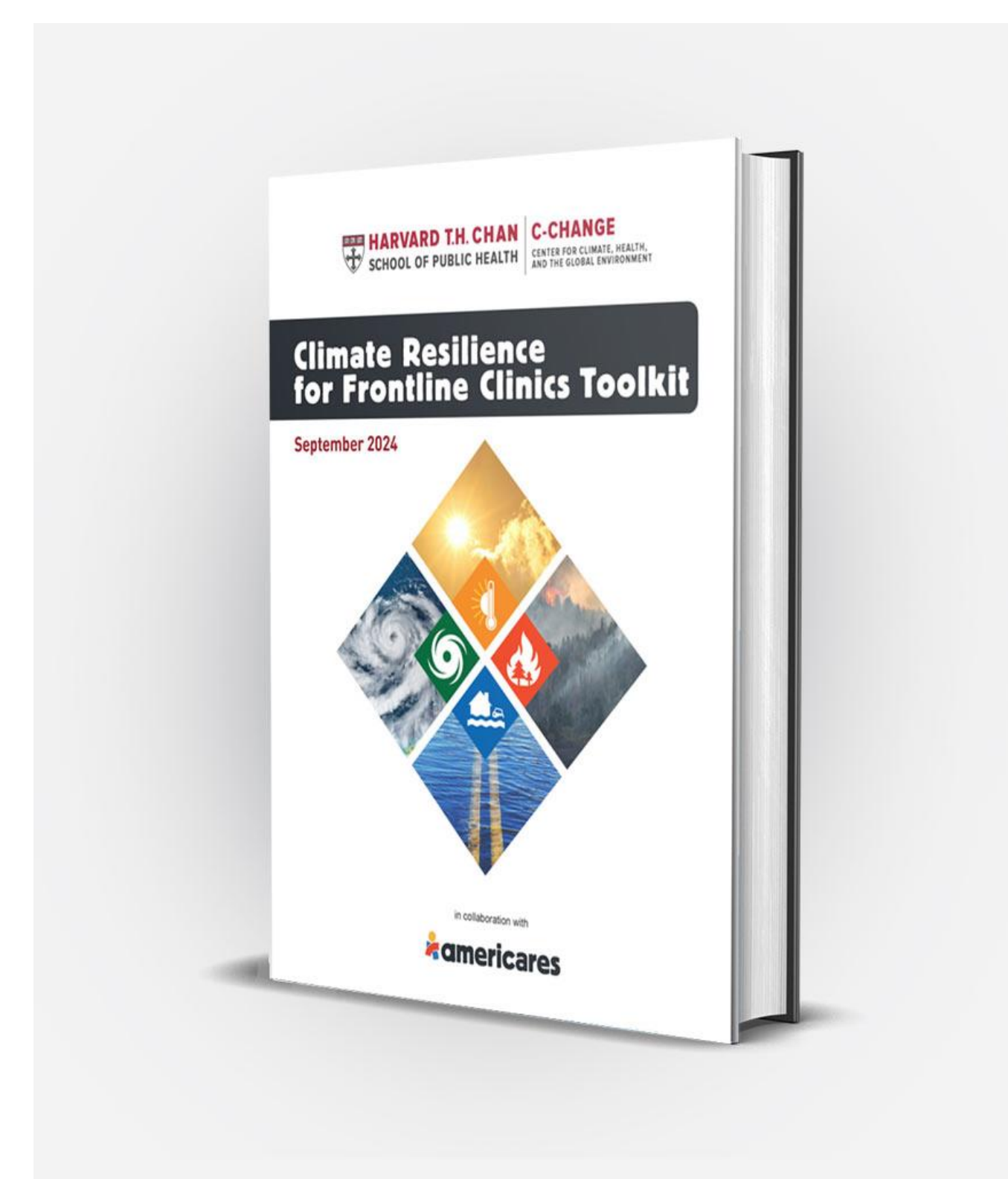
What it is and how it works: A toolkit with resources for patient counseling and education, clinician education, and clinic resilience planning. Clinic staff can download toolkit resources including printer-friendly patient counseling sheets and clinic preparedness checklists. Text files suitable for EHR integration are also provided.

History: Developed and piloted in 2022, implemented with 19 clinics in 2023, revised, expanded, and re-released in 2024. More than 44,000 views and 24,000 downloads as of May 2025.

Development Team: This program is a collaboration between Harvard Chan C-CHANGE and AmeriCares.

Publications:

- Lee Y, Ma M, Sarpy C, Dai C, Sarkar J, Heberlein C, Miles T, Dresser C. Bringing Climate Health Conversations to Frontline Clinics: A Qualitative Post-Intervention Assessment of Utilization of the Climate Resilience for Frontline Clinics Toolkit. The Journal of Climate Change and Health. April 2025.
- Wiskel T, Matthews-Trigg N, Stevens K, Miles TT, Dresser C, Bernstein A. Frontline Clinic Administrator Perspectives on Extreme Weather Events, Clinic Operations, and Climate Resilience. J Ambul Care Manage. April 2025.
- Wiskel T, Miles TT, Fonteyn M, Stevens K, Heberlein C, Matthews-Trigg N, Dresser C, Bernstein A. Frontline clinic perspectives on climate change, human health, and resilience: a national cross-sectional survey. BMC Prim Care. Nov 2024.



Learn More:

<https://www.americares.org/what-we-do/community-health/climate-resilient-health-clinics/#toolkit>



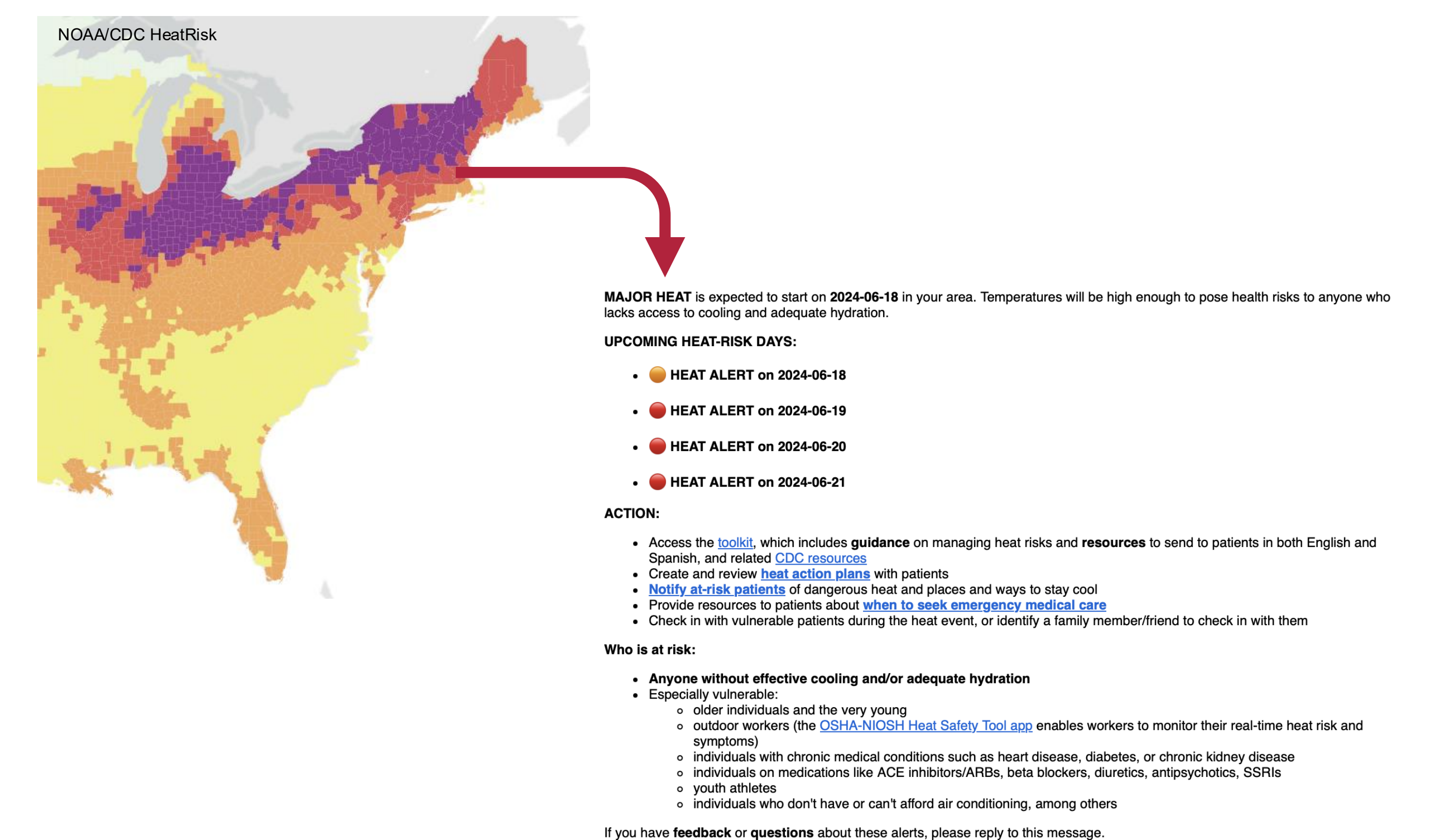
Heat Alerts for Clinic Staff When dangerously hot weather is expected

What it is: Realtime Climate Heat Risk alerts provide notifications about dangerous heat and guidance on caring for at-risk patients to frontline clinics across the United States.

How it works: Alerts are sent by email, and include dates and severity of expected heat, descriptions of at-risk patients, and resources to help clinics protect their patients. Heat alerts are location-specific and are distributed using Climate Central's Realtime Climate alert system.

History: This heat alert system was developed and tested with 180+ recipients across the U.S., and has been updated with additional content, including dangerous heat forecasts from the NOAA/CDC HeatRisk tool.

Development Team: This program is a collaboration between Harvard Chan C-CHANGE and Climate Central.



Learn More:

<https://www.climatecentral.org/realtime-climate-heat-risk>

