

# Let's Get Strategic

Tri-Valley CAREs board members, interns, staff and membership recently got together to think strategically, review our last year, and, plan the priorities for the coming year.

The group looked carefully at strategic opportunities and potential threats anticipated in the coming year, balanced against Tri-Valley CAREs' current strengths and weaknesses, and then voted on which program areas should rise to the top. The following are our strategic priorities for 2019/2020.

## **1st Place: SAFEGUARD COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY**

This is about achieving a publicly accepted, comprehensive cleanup under the Superfund law of toxic and radioactive contamination in soil, groundwater and some surface waters at the Livermore Lab Main Site and Site 300. This priority also encompasses preventing bigger bomb blasts from being conducted in the open air at Site 300. Through this priority, Tri-Valley CAREs will increase public involvement and empowerment in environmental decision-making.

## **2nd Place: STOP NEW NUCLEAR BOMBS AND BOMB PLANTS**

This is about preventing the development of new and modified nuclear weapons – and the new factories that would produce them. Under this priority, Tri-Valley CAREs will focus on Livermore Lab's warhead development programs, with a particular focus on the novel-design Interoperable Warhead-1 (now called the W87-1). This priority also addresses other new warheads in Trump Administration Nuclear Posture Review such as the low-yield "more usable" sub-launched nuke and an industrial-scale plutonium bomb core factory. Through this priority, Tri-Valley CAREs will influence national nuclear policy and the federal budget.

## **3rd Place: INVESTIGATE LIVERMORE LAB FACILITIES AND PUBLICIZE FINDINGS (Tie)**

This is about "watchdog" activities to investigate key nuclear facilities at Livermore Lab. With this priority, Tri-Valley CAREs will use right-to-know laws and other means to monitor whether Livermore is gearing up for another attempt to conduct plutonium bomb core "shake and bake" experiments at its hardened engineering test building (B334) and similar initiatives. This priority also involves seeking new information on earthquake deficiencies in the Lab's main plutonium facility (B332), vulnerabilities in its tritium facility (B331) and whether the Lab is pursuing enhanced readiness to conduct nuclear-yield tests in Nevada in order to certify novel warhead designs.

## **3rd Place: SAFEGUARD WORKER HEALTH AND SAFETY (Tie)**

This is about justice for Livermore Lab, and Sandia, Livermore, workers exposed to toxic and radioactive materials. Through this priority, Tri-Valley CAREs will assist nuclear workers, and families of deceased workers obtain compensation under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA). With this priority, we will also act to preserve ongoing worker health and safety measures, including by fortifying the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) against maneuvers to reduce its scope and weaken its oversight.

## **5th Place: PROMOTE GLOBAL NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

This is about contributing to the global abolition of nuclear weapons. Under this priority, Tri-Valley CAREs will focus on progress toward entry into force of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. This priority also addresses our participation as a non-governmental organization (NGO) at the UN in proceedings

such as the Preparatory Committee Meeting on the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and other similar instruments of international and humanitarian law.

## Community Involvement

We love it when the community gets involved! If you have an idea on how to achieve one of our goals, or would like to help in any way, please feel free to contact Executive Director Marylia Kelley at [marylia@trivalleycares.org](mailto:marylia@trivalleycares.org) or Scott Yundt at [scott@trivalleycares.org](mailto:scott@trivalleycares.org).

