

# Tri-Valley CAREs

Communities Against a Radioactive Environment

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*Peace Justice Environment  
since 1983*

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## **LIVERMORE-BASED WATCHDOG GROUP HEADS TO D.C. TO TELL CONGRESS & THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO CONFRONT “THE GROWING U.S. NUCLEAR THREAT”**

Tri-Valley CAREs (Communities Against a Radioactive Environment), a Livermore-based non-profit that monitors the activities of the Lawrence Livermore National Lab and the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex, will be sending three local students and two senior staff members to join community leaders from around the country in Washington, DC next week to oppose U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear weapons projects, which they say will waste billions in taxpayer funds, damage the environment and undermine the Nation’s non-proliferation goals. The group will meet with leading members of Congress, committee staffers, and top administration officials with responsibility for U.S. nuclear policies to press for new funding priorities.

Activists from a dozen states across the Nation are participating in the 27th annual Alliance for Nuclear Accountability (ANA) "DC Days." They will deliver copies of ANA’s just-published report, [\*The Growing U.S. Nuclear Threat\*](http://bit.ly/growing_nuclear_threat) ([http://bit.ly/growing\\_nuclear\\_threat](http://bit.ly/growing_nuclear_threat)). The 20-page analysis dissects the Obama Administration’s latest plans to spend hundreds of billions on unnecessary nuclear weapons programs that may reduce, rather than enhance, U.S. security.

“Profligate spending on nuclear weapons ‘modernization’ increases the nuclear danger for the U.S and the world. Moreover, lack of accountability at DOE wastes billions more while risking public health and safety, including in Livermore,” said Marylia Kelley, Tri-Valley CAREs’ Executive Director, and a contributor to the ANA report.

Tri-Valley CAREs' Staff Attorney, Scott Yundt, is on the 2015 DC Days Planning Committee. Yundt noted that "ANA members from across the country will urge policymakers to cut programs that fund dangerous boondoggles, like the plutonium MOX (mixed-oxide) factory at Savannah River Site and the National Ignition Facility at Livermore Lab."

Also on the team are two local high school seniors, as well as a law student from the University of Pittsburg who grew up in Livermore. "The money saved from wasteful nuclear weapons programs could be redirected to cleaning up the legacy of nuclear weapons research, testing and production. Some funds could also be put into higher education to give more Americans better access to college," Said Hayden King, a student intern at Tri-Valley CAREs who will be bringing a "next-generation" perspective to his meetings with Congress and the administration.

ANA is a network of local, regional and national organizations representing the concerns of communities downwind and downstream from U.S. nuclear weapons production and radioactive waste disposal sites.

As part of its DC Days, ANA will sponsor an Awards Reception honoring leaders of the movement for responsible nuclear policies on Monday evening, May 18. Honorees include Northern CA Congressman John Garamendi, who will be recognized for his work on the House Armed Services Committee where he plays a leadership role cutting back dangerous nuclear weapons schemes. Other awardees will include Nevada Senator Harry Reid, Los Alamos Lab whistleblower Dr. James Doyle, former FBI environmental crimes investigator of Rocky Flats, Jon Lipsky, and nuclear campaigner Michael Keegan. The event will take place in Room B-340 of the Rayburn House Office Building from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Journalists are welcome to attend.

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