

Tri-Valley CAREs

Communities Against a Radioactive Environment

4049 First St., Suite 243, Livermore, CA 94551 • (925) 443-7148 • www.trivalleycares.org



Peace Justice Environment
since 1983

Over the past 41 years together we have built an organization that is considered powerful, balanced, innovative, and principled – by our colleagues, by key elected officials and regulatory agencies, and even by some of our adversaries. *Thanks to YOUR support!*

Dear Tri-Valley CAREs member,

It is the time of year when the federal agencies budget request for the next fiscal year is released, and it is a doozy! James W. Frick, a famous administrator at Notre Dame University once said, *“Don’t tell me where your priorities are. Show me where you spend your money and I’ll tell you what they are.”* According to the new budget request, our priority is weapons of mass destruction.

Overall, the Fiscal Year 2025 request for the Defense Department and the nuclear weapons activities in the Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration NNSA stands at \$895 billion! **The nuclear weapons request alone is \$19.8 billion- the most ever requested for one year.**

But, this is not our member’s priority for our nation, and we can still make an impact. Led by Tri-Valley CAREs action alerts, you have written letters, made calls to members of Congress and signed petitions. You have come to meetings and demonstrations. You have reached deep into your pocket and contributed. Whenever we have asked for your help, you have responded, every time. And makes a difference!

Today, we also want to focus on a particularly essential part of Tri-Valley CAREs’ national work - bringing the voices of our communities directly to Washington, DC, to tell our decision makers that we have different priorities than what this budget request symbolizes.

In May, we will travel to DC with a great team to represent all of our membership in **speaking truth to power** – to the House, the Senate, key congressional committee staff, and regulatory agencies.

Your Tri-Valley CAREs team, joined by colleagues who are impacted by other U.S. nuclear weapons sites, nuclear power stations and nuclear waste sites for the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability’s annual DC Days. Together, we will conduct at least **80 meetings** with decision-makers.

Here are some of our objectives:

- **win** more money for cleanup and prevention of Livermore Lab pollution;
- **cut** funding for nuclear weapons, with a focus on the controversial W87-1 warhead being developed at Livermore Lab for the Sentinel Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, both of which (the warhead and the missile) are over budget, behind schedule and are coming under increased scrutiny;
- **preserve** on our success in advocating against funding for the nuclear variant of the Submarine Launched Cruise Missile and its warhead, the W80-4, to be developed by Livermore Lab, which has \$0 requested for it in the budget request (as it did last year, but then it received funding from Congress anyway- something we will work hard to prevent this year!);

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• **build** on our success requesting more oversight of the rampant agency and contractor cost-overruns, scheduling delays, safety concerns, waste, fraud and abuse within the nuclear weapons complex; and more!

Each year we invite you to participate with us in “DC Days” by helping financially, and we thank you for all of your contributions. **This year, however, we must also share a few facts about Tri-Valley CAREs that you may not know:**

- Your financial contributions, along with other individual donors, are an nearly 40% of our yearly budget in recent years. And for that we are grateful!
- But, raising other sources of funds is increasingly difficult.
- Although the dangers posed by nuclear weapons have *not* gone away, foundation support for confronting nuclear weapons has shrunk dramatically, with many foundations simply leaving the field altogether.
- As a result, we have not been able to build as much staff capacity as we would like to maximize our influence and do all of the work we wish we could.

There are very few grassroots groups like Tri-Valley CAREs that have the experience and institutional knowledge to tackle both the contamination at their local nuclear weapons site and contribute significantly to larger nuclear policy issues. **We are one of only a small handful of groups able to create change locally *and* nationally.**

This means that we have more and more responsibilities, yet fewer and fewer resources. Can we count on your generous financial help at this critical time?

Throughout 2024, we will keep you informed about ways you can contribute your time, ideas, words, and creativity. Together, we will organize in communities - alerting residents to the radioactive dangers they face and holding the government’s feet to the fire to stop the pollution.

From our upcoming “DC Days” meetings and beyond, we are well positioned to have real impact in the coming months. But we may fall short if we do not raise enough money. So, we are simply asking you to help with a financial donation. **Thank you for your support and for being part of Tri-Valley CAREs!**

For peace, justice and a healthy environment,

Scott Yundt
Executive Director

&

Marylia Kelley
Senior Advisor

P.S. There are many ways to make your **tax-deductible contribution!**

1) Online. Go to www.trivalleycares.org and click on **Donate!**

2) Send us a check. Our address is 4049 First St., Suite 243, Livermore Ca 94551.

3) Call our office to make a donation by credit card over the phone: (925) 443-7148.

4) Make a gift of stock. Donating stock can bring you significant tax benefits. We have an E-trade account and can process your donation simply and quickly.

5) Make a bequest and include Tri-Valley CAREs in your will. Nuclear weapons leave a lasting toxic legacy in our community. Will you leave a positive legacy?