



Mayor Mark Mallory

City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Cincinnatian Selected for The Climate Project To be trained by Al Gore as a Climate Change Messenger

Cincinnati – This week, Mayor Mark Mallory recognizes the achievement of Cincinnati resident, Mary Clare Rietz, who has been selected as one of only 1,000 individuals nationwide to be part of The Climate Project and serve as a Climate Change Messenger. Ms. Rietz is attending a training session led by former Vice President Al Gore this week in Nashville, Tennessee. At the session, Mary Clare will be trained as a global warming lecturer to present the information delivered in *An Inconvenient Truth* to audiences across the region.

"I want to commend Mary Clare for her commitment to protecting the planet," Mayor Mark Mallory said. "Global Warming is a very serious problem that affects us all and is going to require a united national response. The first step is educating people about this crisis and how it can be turned around. It is an honor for her to be selected for this important task. She is a true ambassador, not only for our city, but for the world."

"I'm honored to be part of what may prove to be the most important work on the planet in the twenty-first century: addressing the growing emergency of global climate change," Mary Clare Rietz said. "I look forward to - over the course of the next year - sharing the information that I learn at this training with as many stake holders as I can, in the Greater Cincinnati community and beyond."

The Climate Project is a movement to educate and challenge citizens and governments into action against the growing crisis of global warming. As a non-profit group, they are working to bring education, community information, research and citizen action programs to communities across the country. The first initiative, sponsored by Participant Productions, is the training of 1,000 Climate Change Messengers. Each messenger has committed to making at least 10 presentations on global warming in 2007.

Mayor Mallory has made the environment a priority of his administration. In the 2007 city budget, the Mayor won approval to create an Office of Environmental Quality that will focus on city environmental issues. The Mayor also launched the Cincinnati Green Initiative with the Cincinnati Parks Department, which included a solar and wind pilot project to power the Parks Department Administration Building. Over the summer, Mayor Mallory signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which pledges to implement common-sense environmental policies in city government to reduce both energy usage and energy costs. The Mayor was also appointed to the Mayors Council on Climate Protection.

In October, Mayor Mallory wrote a letter of support for Mary Clare Rietz's application to be part of the Climate Change Project.

To contact Mary Clare for more information about The Climate Project or the training in Nashville, you can reach her at 513-821-3031.