COUNTERING THE PRODUCTION OF HEALTH INEQUITIES

An Emerging Systems Framework to Achieve an Equitable Culture of Health

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Washington, D.C.
January 6, 2016

IOM Committee on Community Based Solutions to Promote Health Equity in the United States

http://www.facebook.com/PreventionInstitute.org

@preventioninst

Photos by Rudy Espinoza
Thank you!

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- RWJF Achieving Health Equity Team
- IOM
What’s Health Got to Do with It?

How the Environment Affects Health and Health Equity
NO CHILDREN ALLOWED PLAYING IN COURT YARD

MANAGEMENT

Photo courtesy of Latino Health Access
Life in the killing zone

Violence is the most pervasive part of growing up in East Oakland
NOW YOU CAN PAY RENT AND EAT.

BK™ BREAKFAST VALUE MENU

10 ITEMS STARTING AT $1 EACH
Verla... Es Quererla
MY NEIGHBORHOOD IS KILLING ME
Causes of Death

- Heart Disease
- Cancer
- Stroke
- Diabetes
- Injuries & Violence
ENVIROMENT

BEHAVIOR

HEALTH & SAFETY

EXPOSURES
“It is unreasonable to expect that people will change their behavior easily when so many forces in the social, cultural, and physical environment conspire against such change.”

B. Smedley & L. Syme

Promoting health: Intervention strategies from social and behavioral research
AHE Determinants of Health

1. Environment
   - Social-Cultural Environment
   - Built/Physical Environment

2. Housing

3. Public Safety

4. Education

5. Employment

6. Income & Wealth

7. Access to Quality Health Systems and Services
Identifying Target Systems for Reducing Disparities in Determinants of Health
Health Equity

“Health equity means that every person, regardless of who they are—the color of their skin, their level of education, their gender or sexual identity, whether or not they have a disability, the job that they have, or the neighborhood that they live in—has an equal opportunity to achieve optimal health.”

Definitions

**System**: A set of interrelated parts that interrelate and function together to produce a common product or outcome.

**Sector**: A field, discipline or area of expertise that is characterized by a combination of related activities and functions that are typically understood as distinct from those of others.
Criteria for Inclusion

- Account for what’s contributing to inequities
- Be actionable and mutable
- Emphasize a comprehensive approach to address the complexity of health inequity
- Align with RWJF’S AHE Team and COH priorities and investments
AHE Determinants of Health

1. Environment
   - Social-Cultural Environment
   - Built/Physical Environment
2. Housing
3. Public Safety
4. Education
5. Employment
6. Income & Wealth
7. Access to Quality Health Systems and Services
Determinants of Health as a . . .

1. Determinant of Illness and Injury
2. Determinant of Health Inequities
3. Policies and Practices that have Contributed to Health Inequity
### What’s Sold and Promoted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Group</th>
<th>Low-Wealth Neighborhood</th>
<th>High-Wealth Neighborhood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supermarkets</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carry-out eating places</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bars/Taverns</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Park Access

### Acres of Park Space per 1,000 people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood Type</th>
<th>Acres of Park Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Predominantly White Neighborhoods</td>
<td>31.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American Neighborhoods</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino Neighborhoods</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“...We could use this place as a place to play sports. We don’t get to interact as much because we don’t have places to play. The bond is broken. We could build a park so that kids my age can stay active healthy and connected.”

Daisy Romero, Age 13

Photo Voice Project, Santa Ana, CA
The Production of Inequities

Built/Physical Environment

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)

- Disproportionate highway system
- Divestment in urban core
- Suburban investment
- Loans for alcohol businesses
- Zoning
- “Jim Crow” laws
- Small business practices
- “Dawes” Act

The Production of Inequities

Social-Cultural Environment

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)

Key sectors (Who): Banking/Finance, Business/Industry, Education, Housing, Human/Social Services, Justice, Land use & Management, Transportation
The Production of Inequities

Housing

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)

The Production of Inequities

Public Safety

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)


Prevention Institute
The Production of Inequities

Education

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)

- Comparable services requirement loophole
- Lifting of desegregation orders
- Differential discipline practices
- Differential quality by neighborhood wealth
- Grant formulas favor concentrated populations

Key sectors (Who): Education, Housing, Justice
The Production of Inequities

Employment

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)

- Dangerous work conditions
- Globalization & loss of manufacturing
- Decreasing benefits with employment
- Insufficient public transportation
- Unpaid sick days
- Hiring practices
- Minimal parental leave
- Scheduling practices

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)


The Production of Inequities

Income and Wealth
The Production of Inequities

Access to Quality Health Systems and Services

Sample Policies, Practices and Procedures that Produce Inequity (What & How)

- Lack of universal coverage
- Poor reimbursement policies
- Poorly aligned funding priorities
- Inadequate focus on population health
- Healthcare workforce not reflecting served community
- Poor linkage between healthcare & DOH
- Professional education & training

Key sectors (Who): Healthcare, Human/Social Services, Public Health

Increased Inequities
Health inequity is related both to a legacy of overt discriminatory actions on the part of government and the larger society, as well as to present day practices and policies of public and private institutions that continue to perpetuate a system of diminished opportunity for certain populations.

Findings about the Determinants of Health

1) The AHE team’s prioritized DOH’s have well-documented connections to health and safety, illness and injury and inequities in health and well-being outcomes.

2) Health inequities have been produced.

3) The DOH’s are interrelated and interconnected.

4) Specific sectors are key actors within the DOH and in many cases, within multiple DOH.

5) There is more written about the problem of health inequities than the solutions for health equity.
Findings about the Determinants of Health

1) Residential segregation is the consequence of policies, practices and procedures across multiple DOH, such as redlining by housing lenders, unequal investment in schools and transportation, and judicial rulings supportive of segregation.

2) A great deal of the production of health inequities is fueled by norms and shared values within sectors and institutions; bias, discrimination and institutional racism contribute to and exacerbate inequities in health.

3) There is a need for actionable solutions that will produce systematic change.

4) There is a pathway to produce health equity.
Sectors

- Agriculture
- Banking/Finance
- Business/Industry
- Economic Development
- Education
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Human/Social Services
- Justice
- Labor
- Land use and Management
- Public Health
- Transportation
- Workforce Development
Collaboration Multiplier
## Information-Gathering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Banking/Finance</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Business/Industry</th>
<th>Land Use &amp; Management</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mandate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Data</strong></td>
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## 1 Information-Gathering Mandate

<table>
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<td>Promote financial stability and growth for private and public sectors</td>
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Promote financial stability and growth for private and public sectors
## 1 Information-Gathering

### Mandate

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<td>Promote financial stability and growth for private and public sectors</td>
<td>Provide safe and efficient ways for people to get from place to place</td>
<td>Generate profit; provide goods and services; create demand and meet supply needs</td>
<td>Manage and maintain land for the maximum benefit of the public</td>
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## Information-Gathering Activities

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<td>Manage transit authorities; determine the needs for signals, lights, signs to guide traffic; design bus routes, install bike lanes, and provide transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults; develop and maintain roadways</td>
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1. Information-Gathering Activities

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<tr>
<td>Manage a systematic check and balance system; oversee loans, investments, currency exchanges and deposits for businesses and the general public; maintain financial stability through the regulation of investments, loans and financial institutions.</td>
<td>Manage transit authorities; determine the needs for signals, lights, signs to guide traffic; design bus routes, install bike lanes, and provide transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults; develop and maintain roadways.</td>
<td>Produce, market, distribute and/or sell goods and services; develop and employ a workforce; research and development of new products, technologies, etc.</td>
<td>Review and approve land development and use, assess proposals for public/private development, create and amend municipal and zoning codes and write master plans for cities and municipalities.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
1 Information-Gathering Data

<table>
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<td>• Quality-of-life indicators</td>
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<td>• Census data as well as local history and the effects of historic land use</td>
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# Information-Gathering

## Data

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| • Productivity and consumption trends  
• Employment and wage rates  
• Consumer Price Index  
• Investment trends/stock market  
• Inflation rate | • Statistics on traffic-related collisions and injuries, including bicycles and pedestrians  
• Data on flow of traffic, miles of bikeways, and traffic citation revenues  
• Air quality  
• Transit routes and schedules  
• Transit costs | • Employee hours and earnings  
• Domestic producers of goods and services  
• Illness and injury on the job  
• Producer Price Index  
• Labor costs and productivity | • Oversee data on all permitted uses of land  
• Current and future land uses  
• Quality-of-life indicators  
• Census data as well as local history and the effects of historic land use |

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For more information, visit [Prevention Institute](https://www.preventioninstitute.org)
2 Analysis

Banking/Finance

Transportation

Shared Outcomes

Partner Strengths

Multi-Sector Systems

Business/Industry

Land Use & Management
Shared Outcomes

What can be achieved together?

- Interrupt or reverse the production of health inequity
  - Ameliorate the impacts of the production of inequities
  - Accelerate and sustain the production of health equity
  - Introduce calibration points so that we measure progress in production of health equity
  - Change norms and values to produce equitable opportunities for health and well-being
Joint Strategies

What multi-sector system can two or more sectors work on together?

- Health Equity by Design: Healthy Land Use and Planning
- Active Transportation for Health and Safety
- Safe Communities through Preventing Violence

Banking/Finance

Business/Industry

Transportation

Land Use & Management
Health Equity by Design
Health Equity by Design

*Increasing Access to Healthy Foods*
*Rochester, NY*

**What's Sold & How It's Promoted**
Health Equity by Design

Olympia, WA

Utility Tax to Improve Parks, Sidewalks, and Open Space
Active Transportation

Image Credit: Greg Raisman Flickr
Active Transportation

Columbus, OH

Complete Streets Policy

Photo: Barb Seckler from Institute for Active Living
Active Transportation

Albert Lea, Minnesota

Walking
School
Buses
2 Analysis

Multi-sector Systems

1) Thriving Communities: Community Driven Solutions for Health Equity
2) Health Equity by Design: Healthy Land Use and Planning
3) Active Transportation for Health and Safety
4) Housing Choice to Build Opportunity
5) Sustainable Food System
6) Safe Communities through Preventing Violence
7) Building a Cradle to Career Pipeline
8) Developing a Workforce for the 21st Century
9) Creating Economic Engines in Service to Community
10) Community-Centered Health System
Multi-Sector Systems

1) Each addresses multiple DOH
2) Each spans multiple sectors
3) The 10 are interrelated with each other
4) All are focused at promoting change at the community level, support by community, local/regional, state, federal and sectoral action
5) All are emerging systems and elements of them are being implemented in locales across the country
6) All will have a greater impact on health equity when they are supported by a system of health equity
Multi-Sector Systems

1) Thriving Communities: Community Driven Solutions for Health and Safety
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Thriving Communities: Community Driven Solutions

Participants at the October 6, 2007 Community Forum

Community members discuss their priorities

Livability factors:
- What’s old & here it’s preserved
- Look & feel & safety (community design, public safety, historical character)
- Parks and open space (parks, green, & open space planning and design)
- Getting around (transit, active housing, and jobs, walking, bicycling, and pedestrian design)
- Housing (affordability)
- Air, water, & solid waste (environmental, efficient water use, energy efficiency)

Vote here ↓ Vote here ↓ Vote here ↓ Vote here ↓
Thriving Communities: Community Driven Solutions

THRIVE (Tool for Health & Resilience in Vulnerable Environments) Community Assessment Worksheet
Community-Centered Health Homes

Bridging the gap between health services and community prevention

This document was prepared by Prevention Institute with funding from the Community Clinics Initiative (a joint project of Tides and The California Endowment).

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Prevention Institute is a nonprofit, national center dedicated to improving community health and well-being by building momentum for effective primary prevention. Primary prevention means taking action to build systems and in prevent problems before they occur. The Institute’s work is characterized by a strong commitment to community participation and promotion of equitable health outcomes among all social and economic groups. Since its founding in 1997, the organization has focused on injury and violence prevention, tobacco control, health disparities, nutrition and physical activity, and youth development. This and other Prevention Institute documents are available at no cost on our website.
The Community-Centered Health Home not only *acknowledges* that factors outside the health care system affect patient health outcomes, but also *actively participates* in improving them.
MULTI-SECTOR SYSTEMS TO PRODUCE HEALTH EQUITY

- Community-Centered Health Systems
- Thriving Communities
- Building a Cradle to Career Pipeline
- Health Equity by Design
- Developing a Workforce for the 21st Century
- Housing Choice to Build Opportunity
- Creating Economic Engines in Service to Community
- Sustainable Food System
- Safe Communities
- Active Transportation
A System of Systems
System of Health Equity

“a way of organizing and structuring relationships, innovation, learning, and advocacy for coherent and interrelated practices – within a foundation, government, private sector and community – to attain health equity across the population”
P is for Progress:
Toward a System of Health Equity

1. Purpose: Intentionality for Health Equity
2. People: Leadership and Engagement
3. Practice: Methodology and Capacity
4. Platform: Infrastructure to Support Success
“[Policy, systems, and environmental improvements] have great potential to prevent and reduce health inequities, affect a large portion of the population, and can be leveraged to address root causes, ensuring the greatest possible health impact is achieved over time. However, without careful design and implementation such interventions may inadvertently widen health inequities.”

Practitioner’s Guide for Advancing Health Equity, CDC.
1. Purpose: Intentionality for Health Equity

A. Laser focus on health equity

B. Intentionally addresses discrimination, structural racism and bias

C. Acknowledges the systematic production of inequities by accounting for community trauma

D. Fosters connections
2. People: Leadership and Engagement

A. Shared vision and leadership
B. Community voice, participation and leadership
C. Multi-sector engagement
3. Practice: Methodology and Capacity

A. Tools, approaches and methodologies

B. Training and capacity building
4. Platform: Infrastructure to Support Success

A. Communications/make the case
B. Financing and funding equity
C. Metrics and measurement
Multi-Sector System

1) Thriving Communities: Community Driven Solutions for Health Equity

Sectors
- Agriculture
- Banking/Finance
- Business/Industry
- Economic Development
- Education
- Healthcare
- Housing

Human/Social Services
- Justice
- Labor
- Land use & Management
- Public Health
- Transportation
- Workforce Development

Multi-Sector Systems

2) Health Equity by Design: Healthy Land use and Planning
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9) Creating Economic Engines in Service to Community
10) Community-Centered Health System

OUTCOME
Improved population health, well-being, and equity

EQUITY
Multi-Sector System

1) Thriving Communities: Community Driven Solutions for Health Equity

- Acknowledge the production of inequities by accounting for community trauma

Multi-Sector Systems

2) Health Equity by Design: Healthy Land use and Planning
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OUTCOME

- Improved population health, well-being, and equity

Multi-Sector System

- Foster connections between people, systems, issues and opportunities

Sectors

- Agriculture
- Banking/Finance
- Business/Industry
- Economic Development
- Education
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Human/Social Services
- Justice
- Labor
- Land use & Management
- Public Health
- Transportation
- Workforce Development

Lazar focus on health equity

Intentionally address discrimination, structural racism and bias

Prevention Institute