Resources on ARPA Funding and Community Health

A Framework for Assessing the Racial Equity Impact of the American Rescue Plan Act

The George Washington University's Funders Forum for Accountable Health, in collaboration with the Georgia Health Policy Center, convened a group of stakeholders, policy officials, experts, and thought leaders to discuss how government recipients of American Rescue Plan Act funding can be held accountable for focusing on equity in their decision making and programmatic choices. This paper reflects this discussion and is organized around two interrelated sets of ideas: (1) Principles and guideposts for an equity-centered decision-making process regarding these funds, along with reporting requirements that will help policy makers and the public understand if these principles have been adhered to; and (2) Policy changes and support systems that are needed to enable this approach.

Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity

Only part of an individual's health status depends on his or her behavior and choice; community-wide problems like poverty, unemployment, poor education, inadequate housing, poor public transportation, interpersonal violence, and decaying neighborhoods also contribute to health inequities, as well as the historic and ongoing interplay of structures, policies, and norms that shape lives. When these factors are not optimal in a community, it does not mean they are intractable: such inequities can be mitigated by social policies that can shape health in powerful ways. This report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine seeks to delineate the causes of and the solutions to health inequities in the United States. In addition, it focuses on what communities can do to promote health equity, what actions are needed by the many and varied stakeholders that are part of communities or support them, as well as the root causes and structural barriers that need to be overcome.

Exploring Equity in Multisector Community Health Partnerships

Building on previous National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine workshops that explored how safe and healthy communities are a necessary component of health equity and efforts to improve population health, the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement wanted to explore how a variety of community-based organizations came together to achieve population health. To do so, the roundtable hosted a workshop in Oakland, California, on December 8, 2016, to explore multisector health partnerships that engage residents, reduce health disparities, and improve health and well-being. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.

Civic Engagement and Civic Infrastructure to Advance Health Equity: A Workshop

On June 14-15, 2021, the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement held a virtual workshop that examined the relationship between civic engagement, population health, and health equity in the United States. Speakers discussed (1) the state of measurement and evidence for civic engagement in relation to health and health equity; (2) infrastructure and institutions that shape civic engagement; (3) the media and information ecosystem; and (4) the ethical and other considerations relevant to civic engagement efforts.

Community-Led Initiatives for Population Health Improvement: A Workshop

On January 28-29, 2021, the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement held a virtual workshop exploring community-led initiatives that improve health and wellbeing. The event featured presentations and discussions on community-led action around a variety of population health improvement areas, including the social determinants of health.