

What is a Health Disparity?

An Umbrella Term that Highlights the Gap Disparity of Health

Disparities in Health: differences between two or more population groups in health outcomes and in the prevalence, incidence, or burden or disease, disability, injury, or death.

Disparities in Health Care: differences between two or more population groups in health care access, coverage, and quality of care, including differences in preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services.

Families USA, *Making Public Programs Work for Communities of Color: An action kit for community leaders*, January 2006

Why are There Health Disparities?

- ◆ Racism
- ◆ Poverty
- ◆ Location of Doctors
- ◆ Access to Health Care
- ◆ Unsafe Neighborhoods

Why Study Health Disparities?

- ◆ Health disparities affect all of our lives
- ◆ A career choice can make a difference and help to understand the issues
- ◆ Eliminating health disparities is a goal of Healthy People 2010



Where Can I Access More Information?

Health Disparities Collaborative

<http://www.healthdisparities.net/>

To improve access to high quality, culturally and linguistically competent primary and preventive care for underserved, uninsured, and underinsured Americans.

American Medical Student Association (AMSA)

<http://www.amsa.org/>

The American Medical Student Association is committed to improving health care and healthcare delivery to all people; promoting active improvement in medical education; involving its members in the social, moral and ethical obligations of the profession of medicine.

Unnatural Causes

<http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/>

A seven-part documentary series exploring racial & socioeconomic inequalities in health.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

Collaborating to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health through health promotion, prevention of disease, injury and disability, and preparedness for new threats.

National Cancer Institutes (NCL)

<http://www.cancer.gov/>

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), one of eight agencies that compose the Public Health Service (PHS) in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).



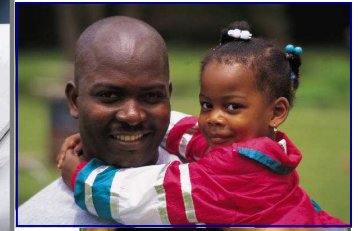
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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http://urban.csuohio.edu/che/export_healthequity

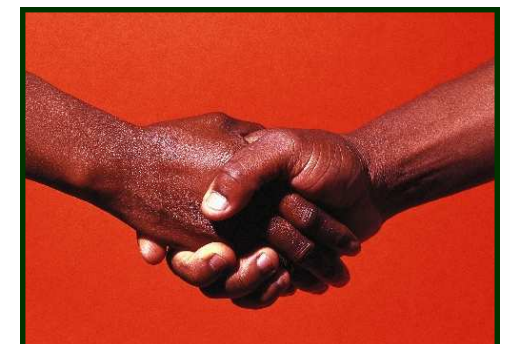
Health Disparities

What Does it Mean to You?



Health Equity

It's Time to Change!



Understand Health Equity

Health Equity: A fair opportunity to attain...full health potential and, more pragmatically, that no one should be disadvantaged from achieving this potential, if it can be avoided.

M. Whitehead. The concepts and principles of equity in health; Copenhagen: World Health Organization Regional office for Europe, 1990 (EUR/ICP/RPD 414)

How Can You Make a Difference?

- ◆ Educate *yourself*, your *family*, your *community*
- ◆ Raise *awareness* - understand the issues
 - ◆ *Be an advocate*
- ◆ Appreciate *difference* - create change thru policy
- ◆ *Ask questions*
 - ◆ Answers are in questions
- ◆ Be engaged
 - ◆ *Be a leader*
 - ◆ Be empowered



Career Opportunities That Can Make a Difference

Mental Health

- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Substance Abuse Counselor

Science and Engineering

- Biomedical Engineering
- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Health Physicist
- Research Scientist

Health Information and Communication

- Health Information Administrator
- Health Sciences Librarian
- Medical and Scientific Writer
- Medical Informatics Specialist

Nursing

- Nursing Assistant/Aide
- Personal/Home Care Aide
- Public Health Nurse
- Registered Nurse

Medicine

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Podiatrist
- Public Health

Policy/Advocacy

- Lawyer
- Lobbyist
- Public Administrator
- City Manager

More Career Opportunities

Laboratory Services

- Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist
- Histotechnologist / Histotechnician
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Pathologist

Medical Administrative Assistant

- Medical Administrative Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Medical Technologist

Pharmacy

- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Aid
- Pharmacy Technician

Public Health

- Biometrician
- Environmental Engineer
- Epidemiologist
- Health Educator

Economic Development

- City Planner
- Housing and Neighborhood Development
- Environmental Planner

