What is Health Equity?

Achieving Health Equity Begins With us!

EJAB November 14, 2017
Provide leadership to promote public awareness of health disparities, advocate for programs to eliminate health disparities, and collaborate with stakeholders to achieve measurable and sustainable improvement in health status of underrepresented populations.
Definitions

- **Health equity:**
  Efforts to ensure that all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to lead healthy lives.

- **Vulnerable communities:**
  Women/Children, inmates/ex-inmates, disabled, mentally disabled, racial and ethnic minorities, young adults, seniors, immigrants, LGBTQ, LEP

- **Vulnerable places:**
  Places or communities with inequities in the social, economic, educational, or physical environment or environmental health and that have insufficient resources or capacity to protect and promote the health and well-being of their residents.

- **Social Determinants of Health (SDoH):**
  Conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks
Health is driven by multiple factors that are intricately linked, of which medical care is one component.

Determinants of Health and Their Contribution to Premature Death. Adapted from McGinnis et al. Copyright 2007
Health Disparities

• Preventable differences in the burden of disease, injury, violence, or opportunities to achieve optimal health that are experienced by socially disadvantaged populations.
## Environmental Justice Communities

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EJC’s in OHE Focus Counties

- Rest of State: 50%
- Philadelphia County: 35%
- Other Counties: 15%

Pennsylvania Department of Health
Social Determinants of Health

- Environmental
- Transportation
- Housing
- Education
- Employment
- Food
- Access To Care
What WE Are Doing

• Focus on vulnerable counties
• Public Health 3.0 events
• Pennsylvania Interagency Health Equity Team (PIHET)
• Health Equity Report
We can ensure Health Equity

- Eliminate discrimination
- Work across sectors
- Systemic, long term approach
- Minimizing Adverse Environmental Impacts
- Empower Communities
Thank You

Questions/Comments
David Saunders
Director
Office of Health Equity

davidsaund@pa.gov
717-547-3315