A. Health equity is crucial for the wellbeing and vibrancy of communities.

B. Health is a product of multiple determinants.

C. Health inequalities are in large part a result of poverty, structural racism, and discrimination.

D. Communities have agency to promote health equity.

E. Supportive public and private policies and programs facilitate community action.

F. The collaboration and engagement of new and diverse partners is essential to promoting health equity.

G. Tools and knowledge exist to translate knowledge into action and to promote health equity...

H. Recommendations promote a culture of health...

- Reviews the state of health disparities in the United States and their root causes...
- ID’s community-based solutions to address them...
- ID’s major elements of effective solutions...
- Recommends key research needs to reduce health disparities and promote health equity.

Committee on Community-Based Solutions to Promote Health Equity in the U.S.
Equality and equal opportunity are deeply rooted in our national values, wherein everyone has a fair shot to succeed with hard work.
COMMUNITY EXAMPLES...

The struggle for health equity begins where people live, work, learn and play.

People United for Sustainable Housing, Buffalo, NY

Mandela Marketplace, Oakland, CA

Indianapolis Congregation Action Network, IN

Magnolia Community Initiative, Los Angeles, CA

Delta Health Center, Mount Bayou, MS

Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, Boston, MA
GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR COMMUNITIES...

- Leverage existing efforts wherever possible.
- Adopt strategies for authentic community engagement, ownership, involvement, and input.
- Nurture the next generation of leadership.
- Foster flexibility, creativity, and resilience.
- Consider non-traditional community partners.
- Commit to results, systematic learning, cross-boundary collaboration, capacity building, and sustainability.
- Partner with public health agencies.

Communities have power to promote health equity.

BRYAN MARKET MURAL... A COMMUNITY MOSAIC DESIGNED BY SHARRA FRANK. BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

EASTSIDE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD, SAN ANTONIO, TX

2 MORE COMMUNITY EXAMPLES!
HEALTH EQUITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS...

WE ACT RALLIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL + CLIMATE JUSTICE USING CIVIL RIGHTS TOOLS.

CIVIL RIGHTS APPROACHES HAVE HELPED MITIGATE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DISCRIMINATION, PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY, AND GUARD AGAINST UNJUSTIFIED DISCRIMINATORY IMPACTS THAT AFFECT HEALTH.

FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER FUNDERS SHOULD SUPPORT COMMUNITY INTERVENTIONS TO PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY BY SUPPORTING EDUCATION, COMPLIANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT RELATED TO CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS.

GUIDING EQUITY ANALYSIS...
- DESCRIBE THE PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY.
- ANALYZE THE BURDENS AND BENEFITS FOR ALL PEOPLE.
- ANALYZE ALTERNATIVES.
- INCLUDE STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING PEOPLE OF COLOR AND LOW-INCOME PEOPLE IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS.
- IMPLEMENT A PLAN TO PROMOTE EQUITY, ADDRESS DISPARITIES, AND AVOID DISCRIMINATION.
- Support research that examines the effects of implicit + explicit bias and structural racism on health and health care delivery.

- Government agencies should ensure robust and authentic community participation in policy development, ensure that benefits and burdens are distributed equally, prioritize affordable housing, and avoid displacement.

- State departments of education should provide guidance to schools on how to conduct assessments of student health needs.

- Local policy makers should assess policies, programs, initiatives, and funding allocations for their potential to create or increase health inequalities in their communities.

- Hospitals and health care systems should focus community benefit dollars to eradicate the root causes of poor health.

- Create a repository of evidence on health equity at the community level.

POW! 15 Meaningful Recommendations!

AND MORE...

Above: Mississippi State University students work on community gardens with Delta Fresh Foods...
COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY-BASED SOLUTIONS TO PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY IN THE UNITED STATES...

JAMES N. WEINSTEIN (CHAIR)
HORTENSIA DE LOS ANGELES AMARO
ELIZABETH BACA
B. NED CALONGE
BECHARA CHOUCAIR
ALISON EVANS CUELLAR
ROBERT H. DUGGER
CHANDRA FORD
ROBERT GARCIA
HELENE D. GAYLE
ANDREW GRANT-THOMAS
SISTER CAROL KEEHAN
CHRISTOPHER LYONS
KENT MCGUIRE
JULIE MORITA
TIA POWELL
LISBETH SCHORR
NICK TILSEN
WILLIAM WYMAN
AMY GELLER, STUDY DIRECTOR

SEE THE FULL REPORT, HIGHLIGHTS, AND MORE AT WWW.NATIONALACADEMIES.ORG/PROMOTHEALTHEQUITY

THIS IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF REPORTS FROM THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE'S CULTURE OF HEALTH PROGRAM! LEARN MORE AT NAM.EDU/CULTUREOFHEALTH

COMIC BY SAMUEL GARCIA BASED ON THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES REPORT... SAMUEL, STANFORD ’18, IS THE CREATOR OF TAKE ACTION COMICS.