Addressing the Root Causes of Health Inequities through a Local Policy Agenda

Presentation to the Congressional Black Caucus

Alameda County Place Matters Team

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Life Expectancy at Birth by Neighborhood Poverty, Alameda County

Source: Alameda County vital statistics files, 2001-2005.
Race and Racism Matter
Health Inequities by Race/Ethnicity

Figure 5: Historical Life Expectancy at Birth, Alameda County

Note: White and African American defined regardless of Latino origin.
Place Matters
Health Inequities by Where People Live

Map 1: Mortality Rate by Census Tract, Alameda County

Life Expectancy
- 72.7
- 78.6
- 82.7

Mortality Rate
- >950.0
- 704.4-950.0
- ≤704.3
- No data

Source: Alameda County vital statistics files, 2001-2005.
Mortality Rate by Tract

High school grads: 88%
Unemployment: 4%
Poverty: 7%
Home ownership: 60%
Non-White: 51%
High school grads: 81%
Unemployment: 6%
Poverty: 10%
Home ownership: 54%
Non-White: 59%
High school grads: 65%
Unemployment: 12%
Poverty: 26%
Home ownership: 37%
Non-White: 89%
Social Inequities: Root Causes of Health Inequities

- Segregation
- Income & Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Transportation
- Air Quality
- Food Access & Liquor Stores
- Physical Activity & Neighborhood Conditions
- Criminal Justice
- Access to Healthcare
- Social Relationships & Community Capacity

Health Inequities

Social Inequities
ACPHD’s Approach to Achieving Health Equity

Data and Research

Programs

Services
Building the Case

- Report increases:
  - Understanding of the social – health inequity links
  - Support for Place-based health interventions
  - Opportunities for multi-sectoral partnerships

- Find it online: www.acphd.org
Alameda County Place Matters Team

The Alameda County Place Matters team promotes health equity through a community-centered local policy agenda focused on education, economic development, housing, incarceration, land use, and transportation.
Policy Activities

- Transportation
  - Port of Oakland – Clean Trucks
  - Bus transit fare affordability
- Housing
  - Foreclosure Crisis
  - Transit Oriented Development
- Land Use
  - Estuary Specific Plan
  - Eastshore Power Plant
Moving Forward

- Analyze health impacts of policy decisions
- Use “place” to increase multi-sectoral work
  - Break down silos
- Support reports on social and health inequities
  - Commission a report in your district
  - Ensure the next Surgeon General’s report includes a health equity focus
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