Taking a Data-Driven Approach to Equity

Marguerite Ro, DrPH
Public Health – Seattle & King County

Purpose

• Have an understanding of a framework for equity, along with an understanding of the determinants of equity
• Know where to find local data to inform your local efforts
• Discuss lessons learned from other regional work on equity
Definition: Equity

“All people having full and equal access to opportunities”
- King County Ordinance 18653

Definition: Disparities

“A lack of equality or similarity, especially in a way that is not fair”
- Cambridge English Dictionary

Over a 10 year difference in life expectancy by place or race
The conditions King County has identified that each of us need to thrive:

- Access to affordable, healthy, local food
- Access to health and human services
- Access to parks and natural resources
- Access to safe and efficient transportation
- Affordable, safe, quality housing
- Community and public safety
- Early childhood development
- Economic development
- Equitable law and justice system
- Equity in county practices
- Family wage jobs and job training
- Healthy built and natural environments
- Quality education
- Strong, vibrant neighborhoods
Inequities hurt everyone. We are all better off when all of us are better off.

WHEN PEOPLE LACK ACCESS TO THE DETERMINANTS OF EQUITY, THEY LACK OPPORTUNITY. THE RESULTING INEQUITIES IMPACT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

KING COUNTY IS FOCUSING ON REMOVING BARRIERS AND INCREASING ACCESS, SO ALL PEOPLE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE.
Questions: How are our values and beliefs reflected in our policies and practices? What would be needed to assure that the individuals and families in our communities have a fair opportunity to achieve their full potential?

Adapted from the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative
Where to find data (especially for small regions or cities)
- Air Quality
- Asthma
- Biomonitoring
- Birth Outcomes
- Body Mass Index
- Cancer
- Climate Change
- Community Characteristics
- Drinking Water
- Heart Attack
- Heat Stress
- Injury
- Lead Risk and Exposure
- Pesticides
- Population Characteristics
- Radon
- Transportation
- Traffic Air Pollution
- Zoonotic Diseases

- Population Characteristics
  - Age distribution
  - Race
  - Gender
  - Education
  - Household income
  - Poverty
  - Life expectancy
- Community Characteristics
  - Healthy food stores compared to unhealthy ones
  - Density of alcohol stores
  - Voting rates
  - Transportation affordability
  - Transportation safety
Disparities by race
Yakima: Upward trend since 2013

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You want inspiring stories of successful initiatives to inform your work and keep you going when things get tough. You like mapping tools to view community-specific data, but only when they’re intuitive and easy to use. You want an easy way to locate favorite content on the site, personalize and sort what you see, and share with others.
Lessons from the field

Example: Setting a vision and making progress

Before and after the ACA: Uninsured adults age 18-64 by ZIP code

Source: American Community Survey, 10th Census Estimates
Setting a vision and making progress

Little physical activity

Obesity

Diabetes

Diabetes deaths

Upstream

Downstream

Source: American Community Survey, US Census Bureau

Source: WA State Office of Financial Management
Identify the opportunity for improvement – what disparity exists

Determine influencing factors (positive and negative)

Develop and test strategies and interventions

Adopt and refine for widespread adoption

Community Engagement
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Data and Measurement

Community Engagement

EQUALITY

EQUITY