Reducing Race Based Disparities in the United States

July 30, 2020
3:00pm EDT

Regina Davis Moss PhD, MPH, MCHES
Associate Executive Director Public Health Policy and Practice American Public Health Association

Keith Martin, MD, PC
Executive Director CUGH

Moderator

info@cugh.org
@CUGHnews
@CUGH_TAC
www.cugh.org
Housing and Education: Access, Quality & Desegregation

Consortium of Universities for Global Health
Regina Davis Moss, PhD, MPH, MCHES
Associate Executive Director
July 30, 2020
Health and Housing
Home Environments have Significant Potential to Influence Health

Americans spend 70% of their time at home

Housing Affects Health in Multiple Ways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood Context</th>
<th>Affordability</th>
<th>Homeownership</th>
<th>Quality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical neighborhood attributes affect health by facilitating (or impairing) walkability/bikability, <strong>proximity to traffic</strong>, <strong>outdoor air quality</strong>, and <strong>access to public transportation, parks</strong>, and <strong>fresh fruits and vegetables</strong>.</td>
<td>Unaffordable housing costs affect health by <strong>reducing the income</strong> that a household has available for <strong>nutritious food</strong> and necessary <strong>health care expenses</strong>, as well as by causing <strong>stress, residential instability, and crowding</strong>.</td>
<td>Affordable homeownership can positively impact health, but unaffordable homeownership can negatively impact both physical and <strong>mental well-being</strong>, especially for adults.</td>
<td>Housing quality can impact <strong>physiological health</strong> (e.g., asthma, lead, radon, mold, extreme temperatures), <strong>psychological health</strong> (e.g., noise, inadequate light), and <strong>safety</strong> (e.g., falls, fires).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Center for Healthy Housing
Structural Racism and Housing Inequities

• **Redlining**
  - Denying or limiting private, public and government services to certain neighborhoods based on racial and ethnic composition, with neighborhoods of color being within the “red lines”.

• **Exclusionary Zoning**
  - Applying local zoning ordinances to prevent affordable, multi-unit housing from being developed.

• **Restrictive Covenants**
  - Property deeds for existing housing or undeveloped lots with binding legal obligations that seller must adhere to when selling the property.

• **Gentrification**
  - Historically underinvested neighborhoods become renovated, leading to a rise in property values and taxes that result in displacement of lower-income residents.

• **Discriminatory Lending Practices**
  - High rates of loan denial, higher than average interest rates on mortgages, and low numbers of conventional mortgages.

Evidence-based Strategies to Address the Issue

• Prevent Structural Racism
  – Eliminate Racist Restrictive Covenants
  – Utilize a Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach or Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to engage broad coalitions focused on social change
  – Establish Community Land Trusts

• Increase Affordability and Economic Choice
  – Public-private partnerships to expand affordable housing and the construction of new, health-promoting affordable housing
  – Enact and enforce land use and zoning policies that promote fair and safe housing options
  – Create equal access to credit, lending, and homeownership
  – Improve landlord-tenant laws and tenant protections
  – Partnerships with the healthcare sector (e.g. Medicaid waivers or state plan amendments, quality improvement initiatives to require or encourage investment, hospital benefits programs, pay for success initiatives, partnerships with individual managed care organizations or accountable health communities)
  – Leverage private initiatives (e.g. Habitat for Humanity)

Source: American Public Health Association; National Center for Healthy Housing
Evidence-based Strategies to Address the Issue
- Continued -

• Improve Housing Quality
  – Improve housing codes and enforcement and implement proactive rental inspections
  – Support smoke-free housing
  – Invest in lead hazard control, remove lead service lines, and enforce EPA’s RRP Rule
  – Expand and improve disclosure policies
  – Low and no-interest loan programs to finance repairs
  – Enhance workforce training and credentialing
  – Improve data collection and integration
Moving to Opportunity program

Key findings for adults:
- Lower prevalence of severe obesity and diabetes compared to controls.
- Fewer physical limitations
- Improved mental health in areas such as depression and psychological distress.
- Little to no effect on economic self-sufficiency.

Key findings for youth:
- Improved mental health for females (e.g. psychological distress, mood disorders, panic attacks, oppositional defiant disorder and fewer serious emotional or behavioral difficulties) but not for males.
- Differential impacts by gender for problem behavior but little impact on arrests.
- Little to no measured effect on physical health.

Health and Education Equity
Health and Education: Two Sides of the Same Coin

Health

School Success
The Health Consequences of Dropout

All-cause mortality risk for men and women by years of education


Source: Center on Society and Health
The Achievement Gap

- Vision
- Teen Pregnancy
- Asthma
- Inattention & Hyperactivity
- Violence
- Breakfast
- Physical Activity

Adapted from Charles Basch
The Causal Pathways to Dropout

Adapted from Charles Basch
Adjusted cohort graduation rate for public high school students, by race/ethnicity: 2016–17

In several states and Washington, D.C., white students were graduating at a 20% higher rate than their black and Hispanic peers. Other groups experiencing graduation lags:

- Students with disabilities (66%)
- English Language Learners (67%)
- Low-income students (78%)
Promise of School-Based Health Care

• Attract harder-to-reach populations
  – Racial minorities
  – Males

• Co-located services
  – Mental health care
  – Social conditions

• Risk assessments
  – Early intervention
A Program to Improve Graduation

Program Goals

- Increased attendance
- Decreased disciplinary actions
- Improved housing and food security
- Improved school climate
- GRADUATION!!!

Action Plan Strategy

1. Clinical interventions
   Approaches with individuals and groups, inside and outside of the clinic

2. Primary Prevention*
   Approaches with the school-wide population

3. Systems interventions*
   Policies and practices with the clinic, school, school district or community

*key emphasis of program

Website: www.schoolbasedhealthcare.org

Twitter: @StopDropout
Support provided by generous funding from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, the Kresge Foundation, the Aetna Foundation, Kaiser Permanente and the District of Columbia Department of Health. Note: approaches have been initiated, enhanced, or expanded in association with the APHA program.
Urge your members of Congress to support health equity legislation

In the United States, health disparities and inequities disproportionately affect racial and ethnic minorities. Much of this inequity is rooted in social determinants of health such as housing, education, and nutrition. Two pieces of legislation, the Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2020 and the Improving Social Determinants of Health Act of 2020, would seek to eliminate these disparities while correcting the conditions that cause and perpetuate them. These bills are particularly important during the COVID-19 pandemic, as minority communities bear a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 morbidity and mortality.

Contact your members of Congress and urge them to co-sponsor these two pieces of legislation to address the impact that social determinants have on individual and community health and to remove barriers that prohibit communities of color and other individuals from obtaining quality care and achieving equitable health outcomes.

Enter your zip code and click "Check Zip Code" to continue

CHECK ZIP CODE
Thank You!

Regina Davis Moss, PhD, MPH, MCHES
Associate Executive Director
Public Health Policy and Practice
E-mail: regina.davis@apha.org
Reducing Race Based Disparities in the United States

Q&A

Regina Davis Moss PhD, MPH, MCHES
Associate Executive Director Public Health Policy and Practice American Public Health Association

Keith Martin, MD, PC
Executive Director CUGH

Moderator

info@cugh.org
@CUGHnews
@CUGH_TAC
www.cugh.org