



Health and Equity in All Policies Alliance

Racism as a Public Health Crisis

This work of health equity in local government is and always has been urgent, but the moment we are collectively experiencing has placed a spotlight on that urgency. We are facing two significant public health crises - one created by COVID-19 and another by systemic racism. COVID-19 has helped to illuminate the fundamental reasons why a Health in All Policies approach is so critical: because so many things influence our health, we need everyone working towards policies and practices that systematically improve health. The pain and rage felt in our communities following the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis Police custody has illuminated another underlying and critical component of HiAP: that this work must be rooted in equity, working to reduce disparities so that everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

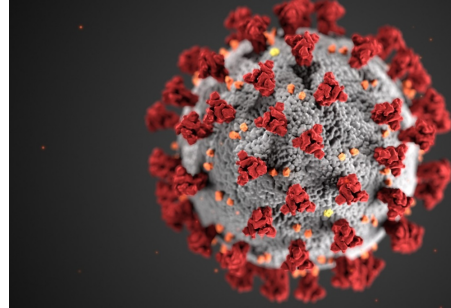
These can seem like giant problems that are difficult to influence, but local governments make decisions everyday that influence health. City budgets and planning documents are an expression of values and priorities. Make health equity a priority today. Talk about race and racism with your colleagues and elected officials. Engage your public meaningfully on issues of race and work to set up systems to increase civic participation and leadership roles for people of color in your community. Seek out [tools](#) to operationalize equity in your work. Consider individually or collectively pursuing training on equity or making a commitment to work on this issue as a community. Work on instituting [systematic processes](#) to ensure that you consider health and equity when reviewing current and proposed policy and programs. [Sign on to the declaration that racism is a public health crisis in Wisconsin](#) Sign up for the American Public Health Association's [webinar series on Advancing Racial Equity](#). View more [information and resources](#) for just recovery from the Population Health Institute. Contact us if you want to discuss more ideas.

Action Tools to Center Health Equity in COVID-19 Response & Recovery

Community Resilience & Response Task Force (CRRT)

This month we bring you several key opportunities to apply Health In All Policies approach and to center health equity in your COVID-19 response and recovery. The Community Resilience and Response Task Force (CRRTF) has developed research based messaging and action tools that can support a HiAP approach in responding to COVID-19. These are

valuable tools that local governments, nonprofits, and advocates can use to assess equity in their COVID-19 response and recovery planning. [Click here to read more, including messaging to support thriving communities, a tool to understand and incorporate equity in your rapid response work, and research and guidance to include equity in local reopening plans.](#)



The [CRRTF](#) is a partnership between the Wisconsin State Emergency Operations Center – Future Operations Branch and the UW Population Health Institute. The Task Force aims to integrate concepts of community resilience, equity, and mental health across the COVID 19 pandemic response and set the stage for changes to policy and systems that ensure every Wisconsin community reaches its full health potential. The objective is to strengthen individual and community resilience of groups vulnerable to disproportionate harm by the pandemic. The Task Force’s work is done by enhancing diverse partnerships and connecting groups to public health expertise, resources, and support.

News & Resources on Health and Equity

Racism Is a Public Health Crisis, Say Cities and Counties

Decades of research tells us that your race is a key determinant of your health. It’s time to declare racism a public health crisis and treat it with the urgency it deserves.

When the truth becomes the threat: Standing in Support of our Public Health Officials

Across the country, city and county public health officials are resigning, retiring, and otherwise leaving their positions as a result of stress, overwork, and personal attacks. They need our support.



Photo: Pew Charitable Trust

Opportunities to Learn & Engage



Online event: The Public Health Impact of Racism: **Milwaukee Health Services CEO Dr. Tito Izard** on June 25 at 11 am CST. Amid calls for action



Webinar Recording: Creating Healthy Communities - addressing the health costs of racism
The [Creating Healthy Communities:](#)

and mass protests after the killing of George Floyd and others by the police, COVID-19 has taken a disproportionate toll on African American communities. Connecting both is systemic racism, which many experts consider one of society's biggest public health threats. At a Wisconsin Health News live, virtual event on Thursday, June 25, Milwaukee Health Services CEO Dr. Tito Izard will discuss what more can be done to address health inequities. He will also talk about how COVID-19 is impacting the minority communities that his center serves. [Register here.](#)

Arts + Public Health in America webinar hosted by **Kresge's Director of Strategic Learning, Research and Evaluation Chera Reid** is now available digitally. The webinar is from a six-part series based on a recently published [white paper](#) co-commissioned by the University of Florida's [Center for Arts in Medicine](#) and [ArtPlace America](#), a Kresge partner. It includes contributions from longtime Kresge senior adviser [Maria Rosario Jackson](#) and uplifts the role of arts, culture and design in addressing the root causes of health disparities. [To access the recording, click here.](#)



Civic Canopy Engagement Session from the All In Network on June 30 at 12 CST. In partnership with the All In Network, The Civic Canopy is hosting a learning session where people can problem-solve together. This June session will focus on How to (Meaningfully) Engage Remotely. Topics of discussion include Re-imagining easy-to-use tools; making participation multi modal; rethinking meeting roles; addressing barriers. [Register here.](#)

Funding/Support Opportunities



USDA Announces **Cooperative Agreements for Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction**, which will fund projects led by local governments that: 1) generate compost; 2) increase access to compost for agricultural producers; 3) reduce reliance on, and limit the use of, fertilizer; 4) improve soil quality; 5) encourage waste management and permaculture business development; 6) increase rainwater absorption; 7) reduce municipal food waste; and 8) divert food waste from landfills. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide assistance for conservation related activities. Applications due June 26. [More information here.](#)



The Reinvestment Fund is inviting applications for financial and technical assistance through the 2020 round of the Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) Targeted Small Grants Program for food retail and food enterprises working to improve access to healthy foods in underserved areas, to create and preserve quality jobs, and to revitalize low-income communities. LOIs due July 10. [More information here.](#)

The Healthy Food Financing Initiative is offering financial assistance through a Targeted Small Grants Program (TSG Program). Up to \$3 million is available for grants (up to \$200K) for innovative fresh food

retail and food system enterprises that seek to improve access to healthy food in underserved areas. LOIs due July 10th. [More information here.](#)

The Wisconsin Health and Equity in All Policies Alliance newsletter is published by 1000 Friends of Wisconsin and brought to you by COWS and MATCH at UW-Madison, with special thanks to our partners and collaborators at the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Counties Association.



If you have questions or would like more information, contact Katya Spear at knspear@cows.org