



Local Public Health Practice Through a Health Equity Lens

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Office of Local and Regional Health

Massachusetts Department of Public Health



DPH House

VISION

Optimal health and well-being for all people in Massachusetts, supported by a strong public health infrastructure and healthcare delivery

MISSION

prevent illness, injury, and premature death; to ensure access to high quality public health and health care services and promote wellness and health equity for *all* people in the Commonwealth.

DATA

We provide relevant, timely **access to data** for DPH, researchers, press and the general public in an effective manner in order to target disparities and impact outcomes.

DETERMINANTS

We **focus on the social determinants** of health - the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, which contribute to health inequities.

DISPARITIES

We consistently recognize and strive to **eliminate health disparities** amongst populations in Massachusetts, wherever they may exist.

EVERYDAY EXCELLENCE

PASSION AND INNOVATION

INCLUSIVENESS AND COLLABORATION



*“OF ALL THE FORMS OF INEQUALITY,
INJUSTICE IN HEALTH CARE IS THE
MOST SHOCKING AND INHUMANE.”*

MLK. in a speech to the Medical Committee for Human Rights, 1966



Health Equity

Health Equity is both
the process and the outcome
of eliminating **disparities**
by addressing **determinants**

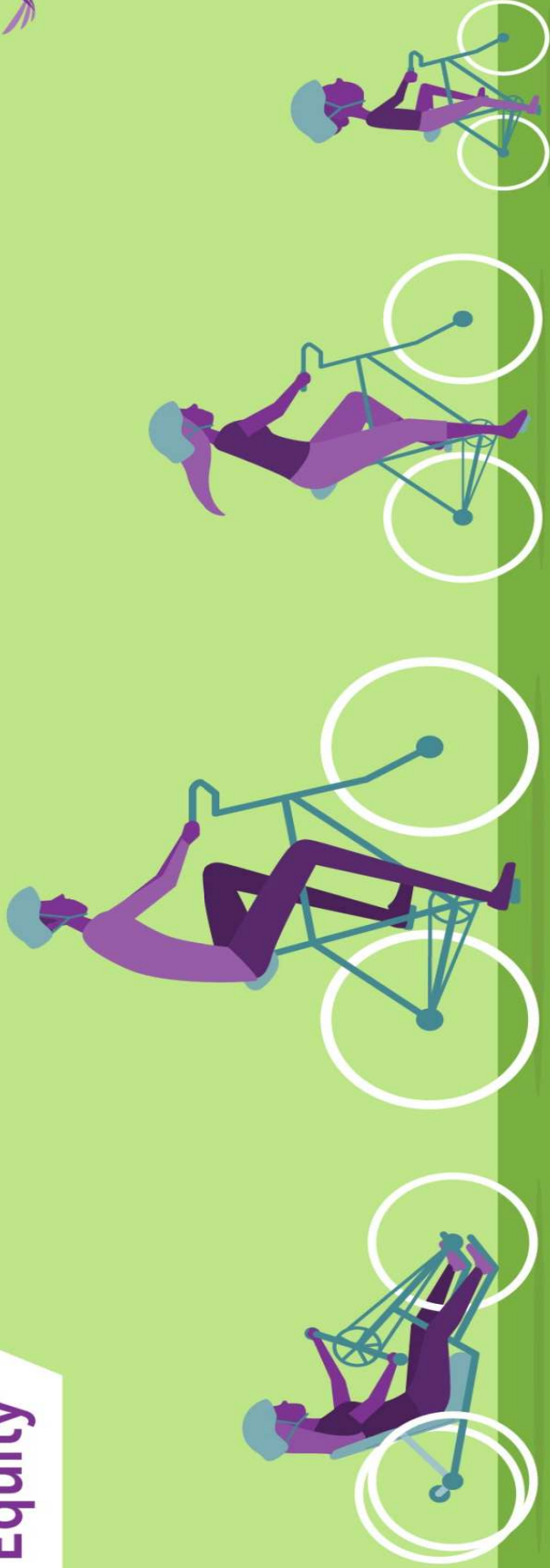
*...so “all people have the opportunity to
attain their full health potential.”*

—American Public Health Association

Equality



Equity



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Health Disparities / Inequities

“Disparities” are differences between **populations** in:

- *Rates of disease*
- *Health outcomes*

“Inequities” explains that these differences are **unjust and preventable and related to social factors**



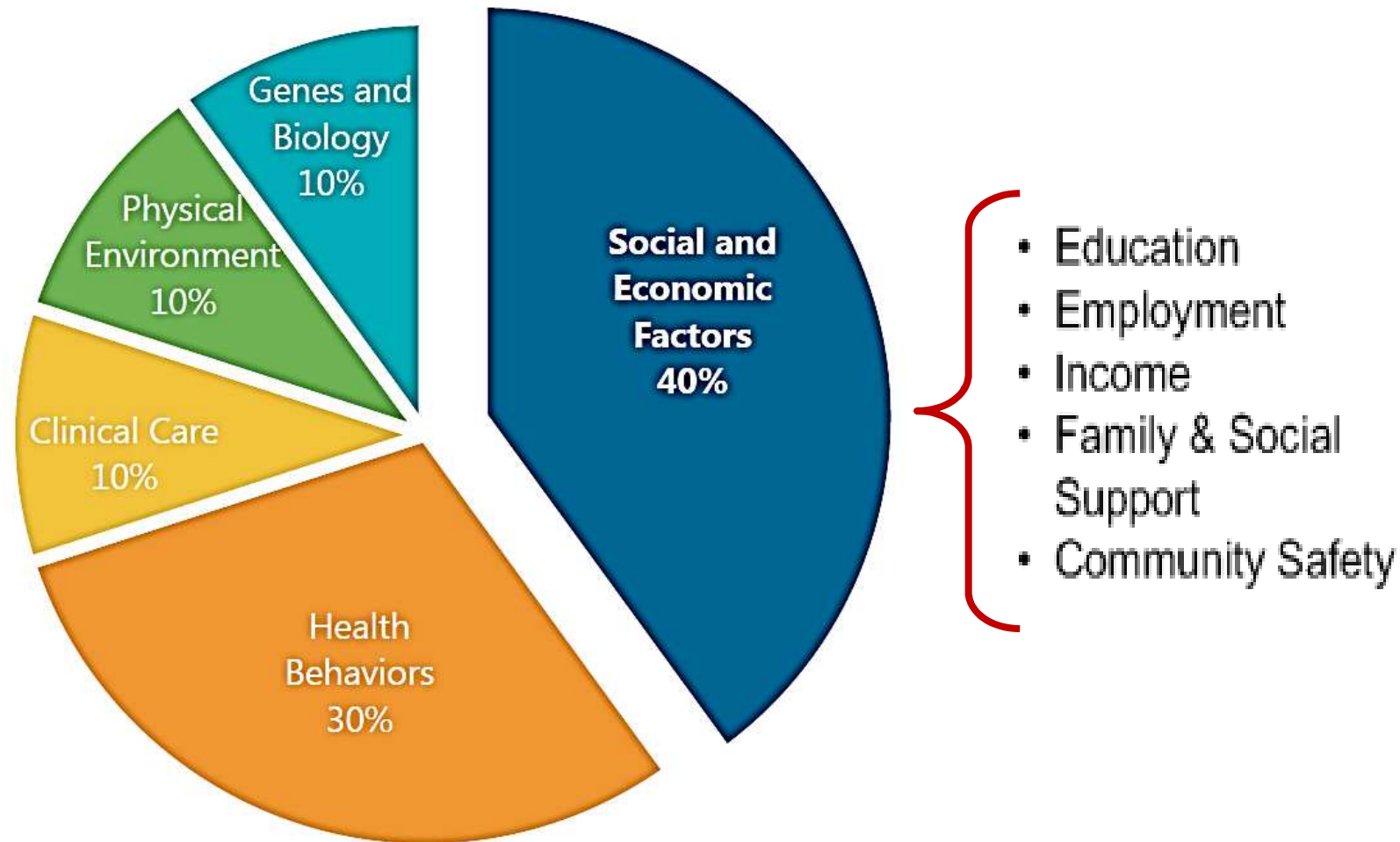
SDOH: Definition

World Health Organization:

- The ***conditions*** in which people are born, grow, live, work, play and age
- These conditions are ***shaped*** by the distribution of resources and power
- The ***factors*** that keep people from getting sick
- The ***context*** in which people must make decisions that impact their health



Determinants of Health



Determinants of Health Model based on frameworks developed by: Tarlov AR. Ann N Y Acad Sci 1999; 896: 281-93; and Kindig, et al. JAMA 2008; 299(17): 2081-2083.



Panelists

- Damon O. Chaplin, MBA
Director of Public Health, New Bedford Health Dept.
- Nate Horwitz-Willis, DrPH, MPH, MPA
Director of Public Health, Plymouth Health Dept.
- Roberto J. Santamaria, MBA, MPH
Director of Public Health, Nantucket Health Dept.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



- What value does using a health equity approach bring to your local public health work?
- Describe one health-equity project you have successfully implemented and what the impact or benefit has been?
- What are the two most important “assets” or “requirements” to achieve health equity at the local level?



- What are the challenges for local public health agencies to address health equity? And how are you addressing these?
- What is one step or action a LPH professional here today can take to begin working on health equity in their community by next week?



Health Equity Resources

- NACCHO Roots of Health Inequities- Online Learning Collaborative
<http://www.rootsofhealthinequity.org/>
- NACCHO: Guidelines for Achieving Health Equity in Public Health Practice
http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/opi/healthequity/resources/docs/Guidelines_for_Achieving_Health_Equity_in_Public_Health_Practice_1.pdf
- Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative Framework
<http://barhii.org/framework/>
- LPHI Health Promotion and Health Equity online module
- <http://sites.bu.edu/masslocalinstitute/2018/09/05/health-promotion-and-health-equity/>
- Public Health Department Accreditation and Health Equity Presentation
<http://www.astho.org/Programs/Health-Equity/Wilcox-Health-Equity-for-ASTHO-June-2017/>
- Health Equity Guide.org is A Human Impact Partners Project
<http://healthequityguide.org/>



Upcoming workshop

Using Public Health Surveillance Data and Beyond to Understand and Frame Health Inequities at the Community Level

Natalie Nguyen Durham
MA Department of Public Health
Director, Office of Data Management and
Outcomes Assessment



THANK YOU
