HEALTH EQUITY: CREATING THE CONDITIONS TO BE HEALTHY

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“Public health is what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions in which (all) people can be healthy.”

Institute of Medicine (1988), Future of Public Health

Minnesota Department of Health is the premier public health agency for the state.
What is Health?
From WHO 1948 and Ottawa Charter for Health 1986

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Health is a resource for everyday life, not the objective of living."
Prerequisite conditions for health

- Peace
- Shelter
- Education
- Food
- Income
- Stable eco-system
- Sustainable resources
- Social justice and equity

What Determines Health?

- Social and Economic Factors: 40%
- Health Behaviors: 30%
- Clinical Care: 10%
- Physical Environment: 10%
- Genes and Biology: 10%
Center for Health Equity

- Established at the end of 2013
  - Office of Minority and Multicultural Health
  - Center for Health Statistics
  - Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative Grant Program and other Initiatives

- Published the 2014 Advancing Health Equity Report
  - Identified the inequitable conditions that produce health disparities, to make recommendations to advance health equity.
  - Named structural racism as a main contributor to health disparities.

- Changing our institutions to increase access and opportunities for communities most impacted by health inequities
At the center of the Triple Aim: Social Connectivity and Inclusion
Family, Community, Social Connectivity
Social Isolation and Exclusion
Public Health is Community Health
Thank You!

Please contact me for more information or questions:

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