Health, Wealth, and Housing: Promoting Cross-Sector Collaborations for Equity Conference

Fireside Chat: Looking at the Future of Health Equity in Los Angeles County

October 4, 2017

Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd
Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Life Expectancy at Birth by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, LA County, 2013

- All: 79.5 M, 84.5 F
- White: 79.0 M, 83.5 F
- Latino: 80.5 M, 86.1 F
- African American: 72.4 M, 79.1 F
- Asian: 85.5 M, 89.1 F
Infant Mortality by Race/Ethnicity
LA County, 2014

Table does not include data for Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander or American Indian/Alaskan Native.

Source: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment & Epidemiology, Mortality in Los Angeles County 2014
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mortality</th>
<th>HP 2020</th>
<th>L.A. County</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Latino</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Death rate from all causes (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronary heart disease death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>103.4</td>
<td>116.7</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>177.1</td>
<td>132.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>48.4</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>41.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung cancer death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>33.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>66.6</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV infection-related death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide death rate (age-adjusted per 100,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant death rate per 1,000 live births</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table does not include data for Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander or American Indian/Alaskan Native.

Sources: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment & Epidemiology, Mortality in Los Angeles County 2013 Leading cases of death and premature death with trends for 2004-2013, October 2016. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Women’s Health, Health Indicators for Women in Los Angeles County: Highlighting Disparities by Ethnicity and Poverty Level, January 2017.
## Factors that impact health outcomes

### Health Outcomes

- **Mortality (50%)**
- **Morbidity (50%)**

### Health Factors

- **Health behaviors (30%)**
  - Tobacco use
  - Diet & exercise
  - Alcohol use
  - Unsafe sex

- **Clinical care (20%)**
  - Access to care
  - Quality of care

- **Social & economic factors (40%)**
  - Education
  - Employment & Income
  - Racism
  - Family & social support
  - Community safety

- **Physical environment (10%)**
  - Environmental quality
  - Built environment

### Programs and Policies

Source: [http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/our-approach](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/our-approach)
Need for Safe Spaces to Exercise

Black and Latina women fare worse among:

- Percent of adults who believe their neighborhood is safe from crime
- Percent of adults who report their neighborhoods do not have walking paths, parks, playgrounds, or sport fields

Health Indicators For Women In Los Angeles County: Highlighting Disparities by Ethnicity and Poverty Level.
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/owh/docs/HealthIndicators2.pdf
Food Desert in LA County, USDA 2015

- Green = low income and low access areas at 1 and 10 miles
- Orange = low income and low access at ½ and 10 miles

CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Results, 2017
LA County communities disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution and with population characteristics that make them more sensitive to pollution

https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/maps-data
Well-being score

- **7 and over**
- **6 to 7**
- **5 to 6**
- **4 to 5**
- **Less than 4**
- **No data**

Note: No data available for the counties of Alpine, Calaveras, Colusa, Inyo, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Sierra, and Trinity.

**TOP:** Newport Beach (8.88)

**BOTTOM:** Watts (1.91)

---

Slide 8
### How DPH Reframes Using an Equity Lens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conventional Question</th>
<th>Health Equity Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How can we promote healthy behavior?</td>
<td>How can we target dangerous conditions and reorganize land use and transportation policies to ensure healthy spaces and places?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What social programs and services are needed to address health disparities?</td>
<td>What types of institutional and social changes are necessary to tackle health inequities?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can individuals protect themselves against health disparities?</td>
<td>What kinds of community organizing and alliance building are necessary to protect communities?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How can your sector reframe using a health equity lens?**