Connecting Communities

Exploring the Intersection of Health and Economic Equity

May 13, 2021

Organized by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
Welcome

Agenda for this webinar

The Health and Wealth Connection

Multisolving for Health, Economic Prosperity, and Democracy

Cross-Sectors Health Partnerships for Equitable Recovery

Panel Discussion

Jason Q. Purnell
Vice President
BJC Healthcare

Bobby Milstein
Director
ReThink Health®

Ruth Thomas-Squance
Senior Director
Build Healthy Places Network

Nishesh Chalise
Director
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
The Connecting Communities® audio conference series is a Federal Reserve System initiative intended to provide timely information on emerging and important community and economic development topics with a national audience. The audio conference series complements existing Federal Reserve Community Development outreach initiatives that are conducted through our regional Reserve Bank offices and at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington, D.C.

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The mission of the Federal Reserve’s community development function is to promote the economic resilience and mobility of low- to moderate-income and underserved individuals and communities.
Opening Remarks

Nishesh Chalise
*Director of Community-Based Policy and Analysis*
The Health and Wealth Connection

Jason Q. Purnell, PhD, MPH
Vice President of Community Health Improvement

BJC HealthCare
A Simple Statement That Stuck with Me

“If you want to lower my blood pressure, help me pay my electricity bill.”

FINANCIAL HEALTH IS PUBLIC HEALTH

Jason Q. Purnell
Washington University in St. Louis
## Social Determinants and Health Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Stability</th>
<th>Neighborhood and Physical Environment</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Community and Social Context</th>
<th>Health Care System</th>
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<td>Support</td>
<td>Walkability</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discrimination</td>
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**Health Outcomes**
Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations

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Health equity means that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. This requires removing obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination, and their consequences, including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education and housing, safe environments, and health care.

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2017
Those with more wealth have...

- Lower death rates
- Lower rates of chronic diseases
- Improved mental health
- Better ability to function in daily life
- Lower rates of smoking, obesity, and excessive alcohol use

Purnell & Hajat, 2017 “The Health and Wealth Connection”
Children from wealthier families have...

- Lower obesity rates
- Fewer markers of asthma
- Better social-emotional development

Purnell & Hajat, 2017 “The Health and Wealth Connection”
Explanation of Health-Wealth Connection

- Stress pathway
- Education
- Future orientation
- Systemic racism

WEALTH ENABLES PEOPLE TO AFFORD HEALTH-PROMOTING GOODS AND RESOURCES, spend more time on health-promoting activities, and feel less anxious. All of this has a direct impact on health.

Harper & Baker, 2020 “Wealth and Health Equity”
Stress in the time of COVID

Stress in America 2020, American Psychological Association
The role of healthcare:

- Only explains 10–20% of health outcomes
- Can’t change population health alone
- Should address individual patient social needs at midstream
- Needs to move upstream to have maximum sustainable impact

Castrucci & Auerbach, 2019
Multisolving for Health, Economic Prosperity, and Democracy

Bobby Milstein
Director of System Strategy

ReThink Health
“Dare to imagine that problems might be easier to solve together rather than one by one.”

– Elizabeth Sawin

WHAT? Efforts to reduce poverty and to expand social inclusion have stronger, more diverse, and quicker impacts on health and well-being than a dozen other interventions.

WHY? They are at the center of tangled threats that are often treated separately.

SO WHAT? Analytic methods and strategic investments can account for the way seemingly separate threats are, in fact, connected.
## Selected Threats and Metrics (County Health Rankings 2006–2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vital Conditions</th>
<th>Selected Threats</th>
<th>County Health Metric</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Needs for Health &amp; Safety</strong></td>
<td>No health insurance</td>
<td>Uninsured age &lt;65</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inadequate routine care</td>
<td>Diabetic not monitored</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unhealthy diet</td>
<td>Vegetable less than daily</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Physical inactivity</td>
<td>No exercise past month</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>Self-report BMI 30+</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Smoking</td>
<td>Smoke past month</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addiction</td>
<td>Drug OD deaths per 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Violent crime</td>
<td>Violent crimes per 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lifelong Learning</strong></td>
<td>Limited education</td>
<td>Not on-time HS graduation</td>
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<td><strong>Meaningful Work &amp; Wealth</strong></td>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>Households below FPL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Humane Housing</strong></td>
<td>Severe housing stress</td>
<td>Inadequate facilities or &gt;50% cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thriving Environment</strong></td>
<td>Air pollution</td>
<td>PM 2.5 mcg per cubic meter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reliable Transportation</strong></td>
<td>No metric available in CHR*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Belonging &amp; Civic Muscle</strong></td>
<td>Inadequate social support</td>
<td>Lacking social-emotional support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary Measures</strong></td>
<td>Fair-poor health</td>
<td>Self-report fair/poor health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acute illness/death</td>
<td>Years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Cross-Impacts among Selected Threats

Peer group of 39 urban counties

N=37 cross-impacts among 15 selected threats
All run through poverty and inadequate social support

Relative Contribution of Each Intervention

Simulated percentage reductions over time
12 intervention types and a combined portfolio, mean of 39 peer counties

- **Years of Life**: 1.7M more life-years
  - Combined
  - Poverty
  - Social Support

- **Quality of Life**: Better health for 2.7M people
  - Combined
  - Social Support
  - Poverty

- **Cost of Urgent Services**: $269B lower annual spending
  - Combined
  - Poverty
  - Social Support

Practical Implications

• **Economic and social inclusion work together**, especially if people experience the dignity and value of their own work to create a thriving commonwealth.

• **Multisolving initiatives** could counter multiple threats and yield many co-benefits (e.g., **civic efforts to create an equitable economy**).

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**Multisolving**
A way of looking for solutions with co-benefits that advance multiple goals at once (e.g., environment, health, and economic justice).

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**Six characteristics of multisolvers** (from Climate Interactive’s compilation of multisolving resources)

Converting Loss into Renewal

The *Thriving Together Springboard* shows how we can convert loss into renewal.

Thriving Together: A Springboard for Equitable Recovery and Resilience in Communities Across America

New Resources for Multisolvers

Surgeon General’s Report: Community Health and Economic Prosperity: Engaging Businesses as Stewards and Stakeholders
Healthy Neighborhood Investments: A Policy Scan and Strategy Map
Spotlight: Equitable Economies Policy Library

**Policy Library**
125+ policies spanning 11 impact areas

**Delphi Survey**
- Importance?
- Feasibility?
- Easy to implement?

- Drawn from BIPOC-led organizations
- Grounded in dialogues with people who are struggling or suffering in today’s economy
- Informed by a collaborative landscape analysis of research, policies, and organizations

You can contribute to the Delphi survey.
Cross-Sectors Health Partnerships for Equitable Recovery

Ruth Thomas-Squance, PhD, MPH
Senior Director of Field Building

Build Healthy Places Network
The Build Healthy Places Network

“We are the national center at the intersection of community development and health, leading a movement to accelerate investments and speed and spread solutions for building healthy and productive communities.”
Race, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion

Recognize racial equity as a key driver of health and well-being

Acknowledge calls to recognize racism as a public health crisis

Intentionally embedded REDI lens at the core of cross-sector partnerships between community development and health
Social Determinants and Social Needs

Interventions

Strategies
- Improve Community Conditions

Community Impact
- Laws, policies and regulations that create community health for all people

Tactics
- Patient screening questions about social factors like housing and food access; use of data to inform care and provide referrals

Individual Impact
- Social workers, community health workers, and/or community-based organizations providing direct support/assistance to meet patients' social needs

Provide Clinical Care
- Medical interventions

Address Individuals' Social Needs
- midstream
Community Economic Development & Healthcare Playbook
Partnership Strategies to Advance Economic Inclusion

• Training and career pathways
• Support for local entrepreneurs
• Health facility development and financing
• Healthy food access and food sovereignty
• Leveraging assets from health institutions
Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), Kaiser Permanente, and Destination Crenshaw

Los Angeles, California

Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC)

Kaiser Permanente

Destination Crenshaw, 1.3-mile-long outdoor art and culture initiative

Connect residents and businesses in south Los Angeles to the regional economy

Creative Economic Development Council

Strategy: support for local entrepreneurs
So Others Might Eat (SOME) and Unity Health Care

Washington, D.C.

SOME – a non-profit working with people experiencing homelessness

Unity Health Care

Offer adult learners training for living wage jobs historically marginalized communities

Co-locating housing, job training, and healthcare

Strategy: training and career pathways to support economic mobility in historically marginalized groups
LISC and ProMedica

Toledo, Ohio

LISC

ProMedica – not-for-profit integrated health system

Creation of full-service grocery store owned by the health system

Layering Training and Financial Services housing, job training, and healthcare

Strategy: healthy food access and food sovereignty
Community Development for All People and Nationwide Children’s Hospital

_Columbus, Ohio_

Community Development For All People – faith-based organization with asset-based vision of community development

Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Families Realty Collaborative

Partnering on training and job placement

_Strategy: training and career pathways_
Future Opportunities

Innovation Districts are a potential framework for hospitals to have equitable economic impact – if equity is an explicitly desired outcome.

Healthcare providers can build community wealth and increasing levels of power for community members through their anchor activities.

Public health will shift priorities and programs to address inequities accelerated by the pandemic.

Increasing recognition that BIPOC workers hold front-line jobs, including healthcare; this recognition provides opportunities for advancing living wage over the long term.
Stockdale Paradox

“[We] must never confuse faith that we will prevail in the end, which [we] can never afford to lose, with the discipline to confront the most brutal facts of our current reality, whatever they might be.”

Admiral Jim Stockdale
The Build Healthy Places Network Website

BuildHealthyPlaces.org
Panel Discussion

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Questions

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Chat
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Next Steps

• All session materials are available on our website, and in the next few days, we will post an audio file of today’s session.

• In connection with this session, you can find a variety of additional resources available at www.fedcommunities.org.

• If you have topical suggestions for future sessions, or any questions about this program, please feel free to contact us at communities@stls.frb.org.

• Information about future sessions will be posted on our website along with archived materials from past sessions: https://bsr.stlouisfed.org/connectingcommunities.