

Health in All Policies Community Engagement Working Meeting

November 29, 6:00-7:30

Priority areas for Health in All Policies: Participants were asked to vote for their top 5 priorities (1-most important, decreasing priority to 5)

Number of Participants: 17

Health in All Policies Opportunity Areas	1	2	3	4	5		TOTAL	Priorities
Value for weighting scores	5	4	3	2	1			
Leadership & Inter-Departmental Coordination in City Government		2	3	1		8+9+2	19	7
Identification Of Drivers of Health Inequities & Equity in Richmond	1	1	1	4	1	5+4+3+8+1	21	6
Integrate Health Equity in City's Budget Strategy	2	1	1	1		10+4+3+2	19	7
Increase Awareness of and Role For City Staff in Promoting Health Equity in Richmond			1		8	3+8	11	9
Health Equity Goals In City Procurement				1	2	2+2	4	10
Recruit And Maintain A Diverse Workforce In Richmond City Government						0	0	12
Health Equity Screening Tools		1				4	4	10
Increase Economic Opportunities In Richmond	2	1	4	1	4	10+4+12+2+4	32	4
Environmental Health and Justice	3	3	1	2	1	15+12+3+4+1	35	3
Education & School Environments	5	3	2	2		25+12+6+4	47	1
Housing, Residential Segregation & Concentrated Poverty	2	3	1	2		10+12+3+4	29	5
Full Service & Safe Communities with Quality Health Care	2	2	3	4	1	10+8+9+8+1	36	2

Draft descriptions of 12 priority areas:

Leadership & Inter-Departmental Coordination within City Government

There is a need to demonstrate and institutionalize leadership within the City to make health equity a priority. The Richmond Health Equity Partnership (RHEP) is an example of leadership from within the city and coordination with other health promoting government and public entities, including the County Health Department and West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Identification of Drivers of Health Inequities & Equity in Richmond

While our working hypothesis is that cumulative stress is a key driver of health inequities in Richmond, we need better and more consistent data to identify the specific set of hazardous exposures, stressors, lack of resources, etc., that are influencing health for different population groups in Richmond. This includes collecting data on race, ethnicity, sex, primary language, and disability status; assuring public access to data that is at the appropriate geographic level (i.e. neighborhoods).

Integrate Health Equity in City's Strategic Business Plan

Each chapter of the Five Year Strategic Business Plan can be linked to the goals of health equity outlined in this Strategy. In addition, the budget can and should be linked to health equity goals already identified in the Community Health and Wellness Element of the General Plan. All city departments and community-based organizations should be involved in the drafting of the health equity measures for the Five Year Strategic Business Plan and progress should be reported annually.

Increase Awareness of and Role for City Staff in Promoting Health Equity in Richmond

Develop on-going trainings for all city staff on health equity and social justice issues in Richmond and what each department and staff person can do both within their organization and through the work of their department to promote health equity in Richmond.

Health Equity Goals in City Procurement

Contracting by the city can be one way to direct economic opportunities to businesses within Richmond that are owned by women, LGBT, and racial/ethnic minorities, as well as hold contractors to the standards that promote a healthy and equitable workplace and workforce.

Recruit and Maintain A Diverse Workforce In Richmond City Government

Hiring, training and retaining an educated and diverse workforce in Richmond that reflects the demographics of the City is crucial. This can not only provide employment opportunities for residents but also will also ensure that city residents 'see themselves' in their government and ensure that administrative decisions (not just City Council) are being made with knowledge of the needs of Richmond's diverse populations and communities.

Health Equity Screening Tools

This HiAP strategic document is intended to set in motion a process of selecting a set of tools for city staff to use that assist them in making decisions that are consistent with the goals of health equity. A set of clear but flexible tools are needed to ensure that staff know how to, and are rewarded for, screening decisions for their potential positive and adverse impacts on the poor and people of color in Richmond.

Increase Economic Opportunities in Richmond

Economic opportunities, wealth and income are all important resources that can promote the health of Richmond's residents.

Environmental Health and Justice

Environmental quality and sustainability are linked to human health and Richmond has an important history of Environmental Justice research and action. The HiAP strategy should build on this commitment to environmental health justice to promote the well-being of Richmond's residents.

Education & School Environments

Schools and the education environment more generally plays an integral role in promoting health and well-being of young people and their families in Richmond. The availability of quality education combined with supportive educational environment for students and families is essential for community health equity. The West Contra Costa Unified School District has already committed to such things as enhancing their school-based clinics and supporting students and families with health education and resources, including distributing healthy foods.

Housing, Residential Segregation & Concentrated Poverty

Housing quality, cost and location all contribute to health in numerous ways. Involuntary displacement contributes to stress, loss of supportive social networks and increased risk for substandard housing conditions and overcrowding. Racially segregated neighborhoods and those with concentrated poverty typically have fewer assets and health promoting resources. Unsafe housing and habitability conditions that affect health include poor indoor air quality and inadequate heating or ventilation, which can lead to the growth of mold and dust mites, exacerbating asthma and respiratory allergies; lead-based paint which is the primary cause of lead poisoning in children; rodent and pest infestations; exposed heating sources; excessive noise; and unprotected windows.

Full Service & Safe Communities with Quality Health Care

Access to quality, affordable and culturally appropriate primary and preventative health care is a crucial component of health equity in Richmond. Too many residents rely on emergency rooms for primary care or fail to seek preventative or early-intervention treatment. This can increase the severity of illness and the financial, social and other burdens on patients, families and the health care system. While expansions in Medicaid coverage is one care strategy, greater targeted place-based efforts are necessary to ensure that all Richmond residents enroll in eligible programs and receive the health benefits for which they are eligible.

Health Related Terms

Health Inequities

Health inequities result from an uneven distribution (of resources, services, wealth, etc.) and are unnecessary, unjust, unfair and avoidable

Health Disparities

Preventable differences in the presence of disease, health, or access to care across communities

Health Equity

Health equity is achieving the highest level of health for all people, and working toward equality in conditions for health, for all groups of people