

DECLARING RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Part 1 of Advancing Racial Equity Webinar Series

May 18, 2021

countyhealthrankings.org



Mobilizing Action Toward
Community Health (MATCH)
University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH



University of Wisconsin
Population Health Institute
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Support
provided by



Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation

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YOUR FACILITATORS TODAY



Ericka Burroughs-Girardi
Senior Outreach Specialist
CHR&R



Selma Aly
Community Coach
MATCH



Joanne Lee
Collaborative Learning Director
Healthy Places by Design



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TODAY'S GUESTS



Renée Canady
Chief Executive Officer
Michigan Public Health
Institute



Jannah Bierens
Health Equity Consultant
Center for Health Equity Practice
Michigan Public Health Institute



Jennifer Harris
Equity Research & Program
Manager
Office on African American
Affairs
Milwaukee County



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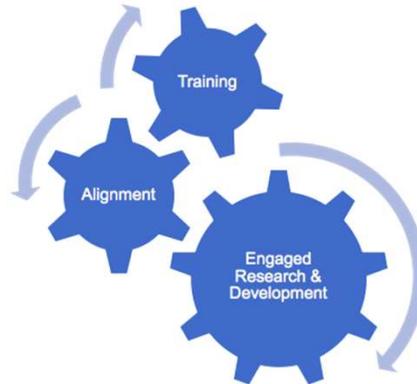
MEET CHR&R



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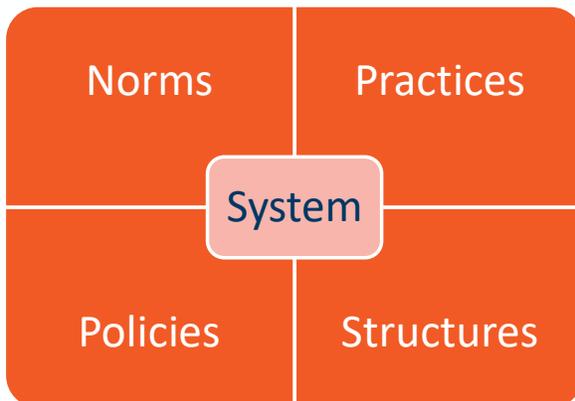
MEET MATCH

- ▶ MATCH develops and deploys programs and resources and engages in collaborative partnerships that support strategic community-driven efforts.
- ▶ Through a field building approach, we work to *evolve practice, focus priorities* and *shift power* to support collective action on root causes of health and equity.
- ▶ MATCH does this through 3 “hubs”:
 - Training
 - Alignment
 - Engaged Research and development



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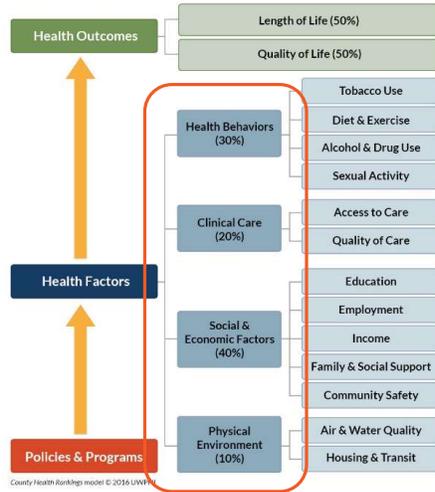
RACISM



- ▶ Can be interpersonal and structural (e.g., interacting with others negatively based on racist beliefs or institutionalized.)
- ▶ Prevents those affected by it from attaining their highest level of health, and consequently, affects the health of our entire nation.

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HOW DOES RACISM INFLUENCES HEALTH?



Racism prevents opportunity to improve factors that influence health.



Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH
National Public Radio April 8, 2021

CDC DIRECTOR DECLARES RACISM A 'SERIOUS PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT'

FORBES: MAY 16, 2021

BREAKING | 17 hours ago

Fauci: Coronavirus Pandemic Unveiled The 'Undeniable Effects Of Racism' In U.S.

"Righting this wrong will take a decades-long commitment," Fauci said Sunday.

By **Carlie Porterfield** Forbes Staff

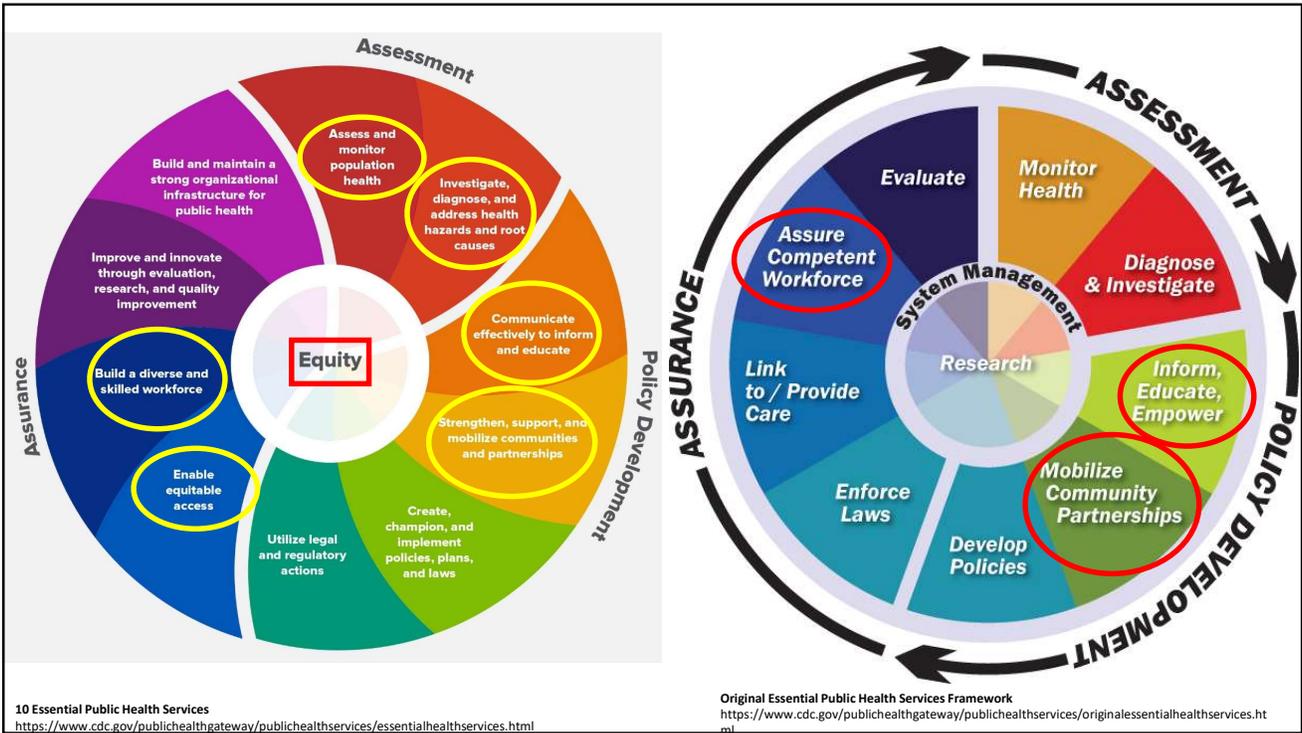


JOIN US FOR MORE DISCUSSION – TODAY!

- ▶ **When:** Immediately following the webinar
- ▶ **What:** Interactive learning experience, opportunity to share ideas and ask questions
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- ▶ **Why:** Deepen the webinar learning, allow further exploration



Photo by Chris Montgomery on Unsplash



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#NothingAboutUsWithoutUs

COMMUNITY

- ✓ Considers accessibility
- ✓ Requires honesty and transparency
- ✓ Includes dialogue and listening to understand
- ✓ Those most impacted by decisions are at the center of their own solutions
- ✓ Everyone feels heard and valued
- ✓ Humility, acknowledging mistakes and apologizing

CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY PRACTICE

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County Health Rankings & Roadmaps
Building a Culture of Health, County by County

RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS SYNOPSIS

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/racism-as-a-public-health-crisis-three-responses>

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MILWAUKEE COUNTY LIFTS DECLARATION

Signing of the Declaration of Racism as A Public Health Crisis at the Office on African American Affairs
May 20, 2019

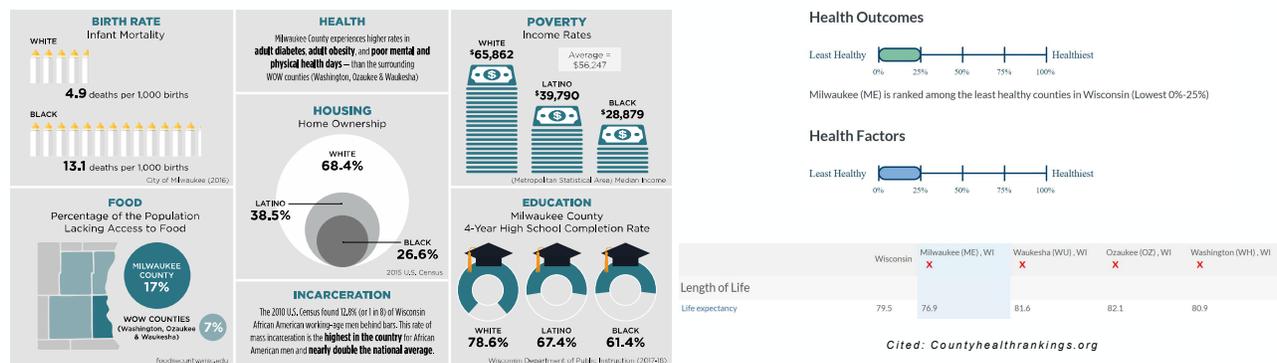


Pictured below: (Left to Right Seated) N. M. Brookshire, Supervisor M. Nicholson, County Executive C. Abele, Supervisor S. Moore, (Standing): J. Smith, M. Barry, R. Moore, F. Kaplan, L. Payne, E. Drame, C. Clough, J. Roman, D. Caesar.

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MILWAUKEE COUNTY'S INEQUITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

“By achieving racial equity, Milwaukee is the healthiest County in Wisconsin”



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TRANSACTIONAL VS TRANSFORMATIVE

Transactional approaches

- Issue-based
- Help individuals negotiate existing structures.
- Solutions "transact" with institutions
- Short-term gains for communities, but leave the existing structure in place

Transformative approaches

- Cut across multiple institutions
- Focus on policy and organizational culture
- Alter the ways institutions operate
- Shifting cultural values and political will to create racial equity

DECLARATION OPERATIONALIZED

Fix Policies

- Assess internal policies and procedures to make sure racial equity is a core element of the county.

Increase Diversity & Inclusion

- Work to create an inclusive organization and identify specific activities to increase diversity.

Educate & Equip Employees

- Incorporate inclusion and equity, and offer educational training to expand employees' understanding of how racism affects people.

Advocate

- Advocate for policies that improve health in communities of color.

Spread the Word

- Encourage other local, state and national entities to recognize racism as a public health crisis.

- Strategic Plan Development
- Countywide RE Normalization

POLICY CHANGES

Spring 2020 Milwaukee County established **Chapter 108 “Achieving Racial Equity and Health”** of the County Code of Ordinances.

The ordinance commits all of Milwaukee County employees, departments and municipalities to support reaching our vision.



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POLL

- ▶ My understanding of how a declaration of racism as a public health crisis can support changes in practice and policy has
 - Significantly improved.
 - Moderately improved.
 - A little improved.
 - Not improved.

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CHR&R'S EQUITY ACTION LEARNING GUIDES

Action Learning Guides

Dig into specific topics with a blend of guidance, tools, and hands-on practice and reflection activities.

Understand and Use Data to Improve Health

 <p>What Are Data?</p> <p>This guide introduces you to different types of data, different methods for measuring the health of your community, and common sources of data that you can access to support your work.</p> <p>Get Started ></p>	 <p>Why Use Data?</p> <p>Explore the many ways you might use data in your own community, from assessing your areas of strength to supporting policy change that will address health inequities.</p> <p>Get Started ></p>	 <p>Improving Data Fluency</p> <p>Ready to gain a deeper understanding of the kinds of data available and why they matter to community health improvement? This guide will help you make sense of new and existing data.</p> <p>Get Started ></p>
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- ▶ Blend of guidance, tools, and hands-on practice to help you get started and support community change
- ▶ Topics include:
 - Promoting health and equity
 - Understanding root causes of inequity and
 - Partnering with residents

MATCH'S RACISM DECLARATION ACTION TOOLKIT

MATCH developed a toolkit to provide and lift up resources that aid organizational action to advance racial equity.

This includes resources that can support your organization in signing on to the Racism Declaration, as well as resources organized into categories based on the action steps listed in the Declaration.

The Action Toolkit can be found on the MATCH website under the Sign-On tab.





Photo by Wonderlane on Unsplash

QUESTIONS?



Photo by Jonathan Cosens Photography on Unsplash

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

TRANSFORMING NARRATIVES TO CREATE RACIAL AND HEALTH EQUITY



T. Gonzales
Director
Center for Health Equity
Louisville Metro Department of
Public Health and Wellness



Jonathan Heller
Senior Health Equity Fellow
University of Madison
Population Health Institute



Paula Tran
Director
Mobilizing Action Toward
Community Health

Registration available at www.countyhealthrankings.org/webinars



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...& MUCH MORE ON THE CHR&R WEBSITE



• [Facebook.com/CountyHealthRankings](https://www.facebook.com/CountyHealthRankings)



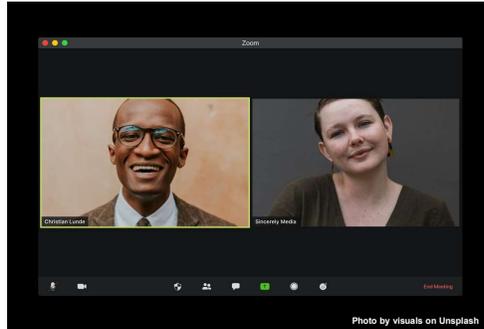
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TALK TO A TEAM MEMBER!



WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

[COUNTYHEALTHRANKINGS.ORG/ABOUT-US/CONTACT-US](https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/about-us/contact-us)

visit us at www.countyhealthrankings.org

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Webinar Discussion Group

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