

# COVID-19 Disproportionate Impact on Black Communities

## Tools and Resources

### County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Tools & Resources

- Check out our [recordings and PDF of slides](#) available for all webinars. Please consider sharing with a colleague!
- [Explore Health Rankings](#): The annual Rankings provide a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work, and play. Find and use your county data, read our reports, and learn more what and why we rank.
- [Take Action to Improve Health](#): Find strategies that we know work, guidance for setting a plan in motion, and resources to help you partner with others.
- [Learn from Others](#): Sharing the stories of others ignites possibilities and inspires action. Find out about upcoming webinars, learn more about the RWJF Culture of Health Prize, and check out community highlights.
- [What is Health?](#) Learn about our vision of health.
- Stay in touch with County Health Rankings & Roadmaps:
  - [Subscribe to our e-Newsletter](#)
  - Follow us on Twitter [@CHRankings](#)
  - [Like us on Facebook](#)
- Connect [here](#) to be connected to an Action Learning Coach to discuss how you can apply today's learnings in your community.

### Today's Guests

**Dr. Camara Jones, MD, PhD**

[Dr. Jones](#) is a family physician and epidemiologist, a senior fellow and associate professor at Morehouse School of Medicine, and past president of the American Public Health Association.



### Highlighted Guidance

[Access to Care and Income](#): Learn more about why these County Health Rankings measures are important to health.

[Trauma-Informed Approaches to Community Building](#): An evidence-based strategy in What Works for Health that lifts up local implementation approaches.

[Understand and Identify Root Causes of Inequities Action Learning Guide](#): Learn how to identify the underlying factors that create inequities in communities.

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- Dr. Jones' Definition of racism "a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race"), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, unfairly advantages other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources." Source: <https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/health-equity/racism-and-health>
- Principles required for long-term change and action for social justice:
  - **Value all individuals and populations equally.** This includes where and to whom investments are made, who we engage in planning, decision making and problem solving, etc.
  - **Recognize and rectify historical injustices:** learn the history and then rectify the injustices (e.g. reparations, investing, etc.)
  - **Provide resources according to need:** A. Develop METRICS of "need" (e.g. infant and maternal mortality rates), B. POLITICAL WILL to provide resources according to need.

### Ms. Cassandra Welchlin

Ms. Welchlin is the Lead Organizer and Co-Convener of the [Mississippi Black Women's Roundtable](#) and co-founder of the Mississippi Women's Economic Security Initiative.

### Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins

[Delegate Wilkins](#) is a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, representing Montgomery County, MD, and Director of State and Local Government Affairs at The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

### Peer-to-Peer Resources Shared in Post-Webinar Discussion Group Session

- **Racism as a Public Health Issue.** The American Public Health Association has a growing list of states, cities and counties that are naming racism as a determinant of health and have [declared racism as a public health issue](#).
- **Training, Guidance**
  - The [Racial Equity Institute](#) is an alliance of trainers, organizers, and institutional leaders who have devoted themselves to the work of creating racially equitable organizations and systems. They provide training and resources to help individuals and organizations develop tools to challenge patterns of power and grow equity.
  - The vision for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's [Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Implementation Guidebook](#) is to improve our capacity as communities and as a country to see ourselves in each other, so that we can shape a more equitable future with opportunities for every child to thrive.
  - [EmbraceRace](#) offers tools, resources, discussion spaces, and networks to nurture resilience in children of color; nurture inclusive, empathetic children; raise kids who think critically about racial inequity; and support a movement of kid and adult racial justice advocates.
- **Articles, Documentary**

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- In 2014, economist Lisa Cook of Michigan State University published [a groundbreaking paper in the Journal of Economic Growth](#). The paper was about violence against African-Americans from 1870 to 1940, and the way that violence depressed inventive activity among members of that community. It took nearly a decade for the paper to be published, and the kinds of rejections and the barriers that Lisa faced on her journey are deeply revealing.
- Journal of Counseling Psychology article, [Discrimination, work outcomes, and mental health among women of color: The protective role of womanist attitudes](#).
- Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities article, [Discrimination and Mental Health in a Representative Sample of African American and Afro Caribbean Youth](#).
- [Power to Heal](#) is an hour-long public television documentary that tells a chapter in the historic struggle to secure equal and adequate access to healthcare for all Americans. Central to the story is the tale of how Medicare was used to mount a dramatic, coordinated effort that desegregated thousands of hospitals across the country in a matter of months.
- **Additional Organizations, Resources**
  - The [Brookings Institution](#) brings together more than 300 leading experts in government and academia from all over the world who provide the highest quality research, policy recommendations, and analysis on a full range of public policy issues. They offer guidance and resources specific to COVID-19 response.
  - [Color of Change](#) designs campaigns powerful enough to end practices that unfairly hold Black people back, and champion solutions that move us all forward, until justice is real.
  - The [Equal Justice Initiative](#) is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society.
  - Policymakers, journalists, and community leaders can access free research from the [Scholars Strategy Network](#) to understand the impact of COVID-19 for communities across the country.
  - Physicians for a National Health Program offers information about legislation in the House (H.R. 1384) and Senate (S. 1129) that would establish [Medicare for all](#).
  - [The Last Straw!](#) is a board game about the social determinants of health.
  - A summit for Community Health Workers to address systemic racism using systems thinking tools is being planned to precede the 2021 American Public Health Association Conference. Learn more about the [Community Health Workers Member Section of APHA](#).

### Healthy Places by Design Resources

- [Healthy Places by Design](#) facilitated the post-webinar discussion group session. Their [Community Action Model](#) was developed with insights from more than a dozen years of supporting successful community health initiatives and a deep understanding of the community change process.
- Stay in touch with Healthy Places by Design:
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