Organizing for health equity

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Social Determinants of Health

1. As a determinant of health, medical care is insufficient for ensuring better health outcomes.

2. How do we intervene without medicalizing SDoH?

3. What (new) data are needed?

Social Determinants of Health

Take 5 minutes to think about your own story and your family's story. What has affected your health, your family's health?

Then pair off and take 10 minutes to discuss with a partner.

What is Health Equity?

Determinants of Equity
- Classism
- Ableism
- Gender Identity
- Urban/rural

Social Determinants
- Racism
- Sexism
- Homophobia

Behavioral factors
- Smoking
- Exercise
- Diet

Genetic/Epigenetic Inheritance

Onion model adapted from Camara Jones
What is Health Equity?

Determinants of Equity
- Genetic / Epigenetic
- Behavioral factors
- Social Determinants
  - Neighborhood / Healthy food
  - Housing
  - Employment
  - Education
- Healthcare
- Smoking
- Exercise
- Diet

Onion model adapted from Camara Jones
Health Equity

The assurance of the conditions of optimal health for all

Inequity: 3 core components
  - multiple axes of inequities

1) One group is unjustly disadvantaged

2) One group is unjustly advantaged

3) The whole is made less by the loss of human potential
Odds Against Tomorrow
2012 report on health inequities in Spokane

• Nearly 18 year difference in life expectancy from Southgate to Riverside (downtown)

• 13.5 year difference in mean age of death between non-Hispanic white and Native Americans

• This is because of the social determinants of health and social determinants of equity
Social Determinants of Health

• 1. Improve daily living conditions

• 2. Tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money, resources

• 3. Measure and understand the problem and assess the impact of action

Community Health Center Roots
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The doctor’s role in Health Equity

If “structural competency is taken to imply that physicians can change politically determined social determinants of health in the course of the clinical encounter,

I disagree
Spokane Street Medicine
Launched in response to Covid-19

• Homeless outreach worker
• WSU Clinician
• SRHD staff
• WSU Interprofessional students
Partnership between

- WSU Health Sciences/Range Community Clinic
- CHAS
- Spokane Regional Health District
- SNAP
- Jewels Helping Hands
- Frontier Behavioral Health
- Salvation Army
- Goodwill
- Catholic Charities
- Volunteers of America
Spokane Street Medicine

- Triage hotline for homeless services
- Street medicine rounds
- Community partner clinics
- Clinical on call capacity
Community Organizing

Listen

Plan

Reflect

Act
Community organizing

Broad based alliances of community institutions that come together to use their collective power to advance a vision of the common good.
“I support earned sick and safe leave so my patients can get the care they need before it’s an emergency.”

-BILL LOCKWOOD, SPOKANE PHYSICIAN
Clinic Based Organizing

Clinic as base for organizing staff, patients and community organizations to address the social determinants of health

OHSU Richmond clinic, Portland

Portland: $67 million increased funding for affordable housing

Prescription labelling legislation
Questions?

What to do in a pandemic...

Our cousins know.