

## Centering Health Equity in COVID Response

Thank you too all those who joined us for our August webinar on Centering Health Equity in COVID Response. We reviewed tools and resources to help public sector workers (among others) in this role, including a tool to help consider equity in rapid response policy and resources to support you in crafting public messages about COVID-19. You can access these tools and more <a href="here">here</a>. Please <a href="here">contact us</a> if you'd like to talk about how to apply these tools to your work.

## Wisconsin Community Highlight - Fitchburg

Led by Wade Thompson, Fitchburg's Community Development Planner, the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative (HNI) is a story of innovation and persistence. This concept was years in the making but needed support from the city and residents to make it a reality.



When the opportunity arose five years ago, the Legacy Communities Alliance for Health (LCAH) seemed like a great option to help move the initiative forward. The city approved entering the partnership with LCAH in 2017 and created a city work group to oversee the formation and implementation for the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative.

HNI identified three neighborhoods that have a disproportionate number of barriers for equitable access to opportunities. It was important right from the beginning to take a collaborative, holistic approach to strategic planning as the plan was developed. Wade Thompson described HNI as using the 3 P approach. People – neighborhood residents, non-profits, faith-based groups. Programs – developed as a result of the people partnerships. Places – gathering spaces to host the programs. Click here to read more...

# News & Resources on Health and Equity

### Why Racism Is a Public Health Crisis An Explainer for Public Health Professionals

We want to take this opportunity to share a new resource released by the Center for Applied Research at Johns Hopkins University. The explainer outlines the basic concept of racism from the perspective of public health. It shows that to address racism from a public health perspective we must look carefully at the unique barriers communities of color face to reach equitable



Photo: Pew Charitable Trust

Making Health Count: Monetizing the Health Benefits of Services Delivered by **Energy Efficiency** is a new study released by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). This study shows that existing weatherization programs could save almost \$3 billion dollars in avoided health harms over a tenyear period by targeting four common health risks - asthma, falls, and exposure to extreme heat or cold. The study also shows how to measure potential savings and provides a tool to customize calculations for distinct programs at both the state and local levels. By adding a dollar amount to the potential savings it adds incentive for utilities and the health care industry to work together to expand services and maximize results. Download here.



## Opportunities to Learn & Engage



Wednesday, Oct. 7th - Mayors Innovation Project Innovation Showcase This is an opportunity for US Mayors and staff to present innovative ideas in rapid-fire format. You'll get an idea-packed hour you can use in your city, or convince your mayor to present on an initiative your city has implemented! For more information and to register



Racism is a Public Health Crisis... and what we can do about it

Wednesday , Nov. 11, 2020 Noon - 4:30 pm (\$25 scholarships available) Click here to register

The MATCH (Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health) group of the UW-Madison Population Health Institute is partnering with the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service on a special Toward One Wisconsin virtual program. Grassroots groups, community-based organizations, government agencies, academic leaders, and many others have laid a solid foundation to address racial inequities in Wisconsin. This event will give participants an opportunity to reflect, connect and take action to make real change.

In 2017, Wisconsin public health leaders declared "Racism a Public Health Crisis" as a statewide priority. Since then, almost 500 individuals and 100 organizations have <u>signed on</u> to take the pledge declaring racism a public health crisis.

Please note: LCAH will cover registration costs for staff from any LCAH participating communities. <u>Contact Katya Spear</u> for more information on stipends.

## Cities of Opportunity Learning Lab

Monday, September 28th - The National League of Cities has a new peer-to-peer program initiative for

city leaders to work together to advance equity by addressing the root causes of poor health. Budget shortfalls due to the pandemic serve to highlight the existing racial and health disparities. Take the lead and join your peers in the pilot Cities of Opportunity Learning Lab and engage in curated, peer-led discussions. To learn more

Discussions topics will include financing, data, civic engagement, race and equity, and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. To register

# Responding to COVID-19 and Advancing Racial and Health Equity Through Healthy Housing

October 13 & 14 - The October session of the **Green & Healthy Homes Initiative Virtual Executive Leadership Institute 2020 (ELI)** offers the chance to engage with innovators and thought leaders working to advance racial and health equity by improving housing conditions. The sessions include the Impact of Housing on Mental and Physical Health, State Investments in Addressing Health and Safety Barriers in Energy-Efficiency, Healthy Housing in Rural Communities and much more.

<u>More information and to register (Scroll down to register for October session)</u>

# **Funding/Support Opportunities**

#### **RWJF Culture of Health Grant**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Prize (the Prize) elevates the compelling stories of places where residents are working together to transform education, jobs, transportation, housing, and more so better health flourishes for all. A Culture of Health recognizes that where we live—such as our access to affordable homes, quality schools, good jobs, and reliable transportation—affects how long and how well we live.



Application Deadline: October 15th, 2020 @ 2pm

**More Information** 

### NLM Information Resource Grants to Reduce Health Disparities (GOB Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

The **National Library of Medicine** (NLM) released this grant opportunity that provides funding for projects that use computers, information technology, and health sciences libraries to bring health-related information to consumers and their healthcare providers. The program focus is on innovation and outreach in which information access can reduce health disparities and support underserved communities that bear a disproportionate burden of disease.

Co-Sponsors: National Institutes of Health, Office of Research on Women's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. National Library of Medicine

Application Deadline: Oct 23, 2020

**More Information** 

### Wisconsin DNR Urban Forestry Grant Program

Cities, villages, towns, counties, tribes and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations in or conducting their project in Wisconsin are encouraged to apply for a regular or startup 2021 **Department of Natural Resources** Urban Forestry Grant! The grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000, and grant recipients must match each grant dollar for dollar. A startup grant of up to \$5,000 is available for communities that want to start or restart a community forestry program.

Application Deadline: October 1st, 2020

More Information

The Wisconsin Health and Equity in All Policies Alliance newsletter is published by 1000 Friends of Wisconsin and brought to you by COWS and MATCH at UW-Madison, with special thanks to our partners and collaborators at the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Counties Association.













If you have questions or would like more information, contact Katya Spear atknspear@cows.org