

HEALTH EQUITY PLEDGE

I believe that every Coloradan should have an equal opportunity to achieve their full health potential. To work towards that goal and to build upon my actions at Equity on the Hill at the Capitol on March 8, 2016, I pledge to:

- _____ **LEGISLATORS:** Consider and act on health equity in all policies and legislation in the 2016 session
- _____ Talk to 3 friends or neighbors about the importance of health equity and social determinants of health
- _____ Sign up for the Office of Health Equity's *Change the Story* newsletter (www.colorado.gov/cdphe/ohe)
- _____ Learn about the issues affecting my own community
- _____ Post a fact about health equity in Colorado on my Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and tag **#EquityCO**
- _____ Write to my local paper about a health equity issue
- _____ Call my legislators during the 2016 legislative session to to remind them that all Coloradans should have access to healthy places to live, work and play
- _____ Write a letter to my legislators supporting health equity initiatives in Colorado
- _____ Host a house party to help my friends and family learn more about health equity issues
- _____ Attend a Health Equity Commission meeting which takes place on the first Friday of the month, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m at CDPHE (www.colorado.gov/cdphe/healthequity-commission)
- _____ Watch a documentary or film about the root causes of disparities, such as *Unnatural Causes* (unnaturalcauses.org) or *The Raising of America* (raisingofamerica.org)
- _____ Other: _____
- _____ Other: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

2016

EQUITY ON THE HILL

March 8, 2016
Colorado State Capitol



Our purpose is to
raise awareness of health equity
and to lay the foundation for
equity in all policies.

Join the conversation:
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

#EQUITYCO

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)'s
Office of Health Equity and Health Equity Commission



EQUITY ON THE HILL AGENDA

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 | 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m

11:00 AM REGISTRATION/NETWORKING

Network with Health Equity Commission (HEC), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) staff and community members

11:30 AM WELCOME

Importance of health equity
Purpose of Health Equity on the Hill 2016
Lisa Brown, HEC Chair
Karen Koenemann, HEC Vice Chair

Community perspective on health equity
Deirdre Sullivan, UCHealth, Health Disparities Grant Program (HDGP) Grantee

11:50 AM LUNCH BREAK

12:00 PM PRESENTATION WITH LEGISLATORS

Opening
Lisa Brown and Karen Koenemann

Introduction of the Office of Health Equity
Web Brown, Office of Health Equity Director

How to apply a health equity lens in legislation and all policies
Chris Armijo, HEC Commissioner

Community perspective on health equity
Monica B. Thompson, YMCA of Metropolitan Denver Diabetes Prevention Program, HDGP Grantee

1:00 PM HEAR FROM YOU! BREAKOUTS

We would like to hear from you! *What are the strengths in your communities? Where are their opportunities to collaborate? How do we keep today's momentum going?*

1:45 PM DEBRIEF AND NEXT STEPS

Take the Health Equity Pledge! Sign up for the Office of Health Equity's newsletter, post on your social media about today and and connect with each other for future opportunities for collaboration.

HEALTH EQUITY is when all people, **regardless of who they are or what they believe**, have the opportunity to attain their full health potential. Achieving health equity requires valuing all people equally with focused and ongoing efforts to address inequalities.

CO FACT: 41% of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer (LGBQ) teens in Boulder County reported being smokers, compared with only 12% of heterosexual students.

HEALTH BEGINS WHERE WE LIVE, LEARN, WORK AND PLAY.

WE CAN ONLY ACHIEVE THE FULL AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION BY ALL IN OUR SOCIETY WHEN THOSE FROM PRIVILEGED BACKGROUNDS ACKNOWLEDGE IT AND WORK TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

The mission of the Office of Health Equity is to **ensure that every Coloradan** has an equal opportunity to achieve their full health potential. The Health Equity Commission advises the department through the Office of Health Equity on health equity issues, focusing on alignment, **education and capacity-building for state and local health programs and community-based organizations.**

CO FACT: 10.4% of African American/Black Coloradans have diabetes and **35.2%** have high blood pressure, both of which are chronic diseases compared to all Coloradans at 6.9% and 25.6% respectively.

ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY AND REDUCING HEALTH INEQUITIES IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE HEALTH IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT.

CO FACT: 73% of Colorado's 64 counties are rural and frontier. 24 are rural, 23 are frontier* and 17 are urban. The income gap between rural and urban counties persists. The median household income in rural counties is **26.5%** less than the median household income in urban (\$45,307 compared to \$61,642).

*Frontier counties have a population density of six or fewer persons per square mile (Colorado Rural Health Center).