

The Effectiveness of Community-Based Initiatives in Decreasing Health Disparities

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Outline

- Health Disparities (An African American Story)
- History of Community Based Participatory Research (at NIH)
- Evaluating effectiveness:
Environmental Justice
- Obesity: A case study



Health Disparities- A Historical Perspective

- Abraham Lincoln
 - W. E. DuBois, 1906 vs. Frederick Hoffman, 1896
 - Health Leagues, 1906
 - National Negro Health Movement, 1915
 - 1930 USPHS- National Negro Health Week
 - 1932-1950 Office of Negro Health Work
 - 1930-1972 Tuskegee Study
 - 1962 Government Funding and health inequities
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- Vanessa Northington Gamble and Deborah Stone,. U.S. Policy on Health Equities: The Interplay of Politics and Research, 31, *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law* 93-112, 99-108 (Feb 2006).



Health Disparities – Federal Hx

- Margaret Heckler, Sec. DHHS

- Health United States 1983

- Report revealed significant gains however there remained

“ A sad and significant fact; there was a continuing disparity in the burden of death and illness experienced by Blacks and other minority Americans compared with our nation’s population as a whole”

- 1985 OMH

- Shulman Study, 1999 NEJM

- Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education Act of 2000

- 2000 NIH Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities



DHHS Definition of Health Disparities

 “Health disparities are differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States.”



Health Disparities definition cont'd

- A population is a health disparity population if there is a significant disparity in the overall rate of disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity, mortality or survival rates in the population as compared to the health status of the general population.”



Health Disparities

- Gaps in the quality of health and health care across racial and ethnic groups



HEALTH EQUITY



Serious about eliminating
disparities????



United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

- Article 25: *Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.*



United Nations Commission
on Human Rights
52 in favor and 1 against

April 2005



STARK INTRODUCES CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH RIGHT TO HEALTH CARE

May, 2005



NIH Definition: Community Based Participatory Research

- Community-based participatory research (CBPR) is defined as scientific inquiry conducted in communities and in partnership with researchers. The process of scientific inquiry is such that community members, persons affected by the health condition, disability or issue under study, or other key stakeholders in the community's health have the opportunity to be full participants in each phase of the work (from conception - design - conduct - analysis - interpretation - conclusions - communication of results).



Community Based (Placed)
vs
Community Based
Participatory

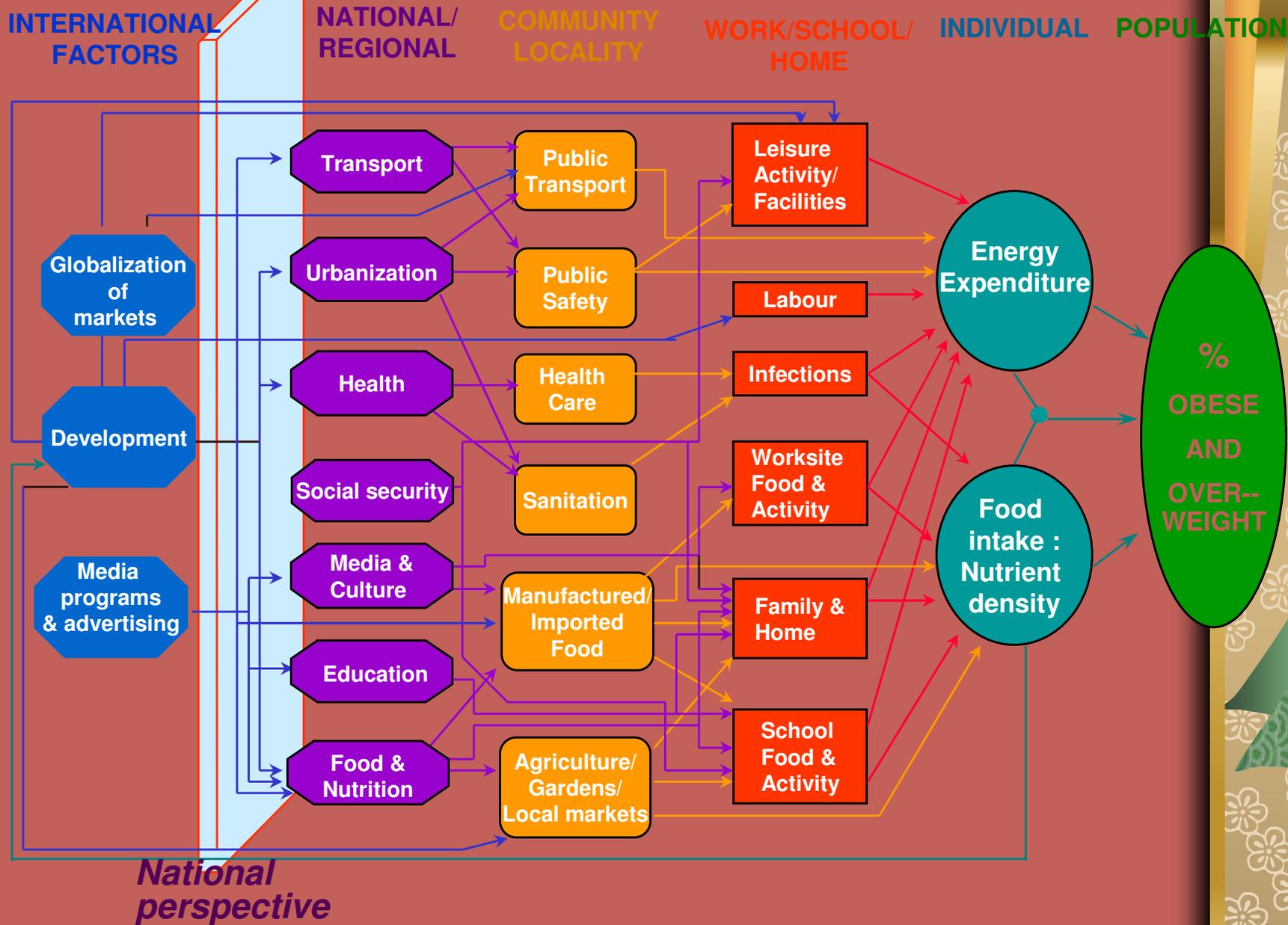


Why CBPR should be effective in eliminating Disparities?

- Disclosure
- Requires that we acknowledge old wounds
- Buy in from the people
- Reduces the power differential
- Incorporation of the socio-ecologic framework



Societal policies and processes influencing the population prevalence of obesity



Stories from Trenches: NIEHS and Environmental Justice



Goal of the Public Health Programs at NIEHS

- Improve the understanding of how physical and social environmental factors affect human health.
- Develop better means of preventing environmentally-related health problems.
- Promote interdisciplinary partnerships.
- Impact public health and policy.



Participants

The program brings together the following parties:

 Environmental Health Scientists

 Health Care Providers

 Communities



Selected Highlights

- Environmental Health Coalition
- The Northern Manhattan Environmental Justice Partnership
- The Akwesasne First Environment Restoration Initiative



Cleaner Air for Barrio's Children

- **Location:** San Diego, CA
- **Population:** Hispanic
- **Issue:** Asthma, Skin lesions, Sore eyes
- **Partners:** Environmental Health Coalition, University of Southern California & Logan Heights Health Center
- **Activities:**
 - ❏ Identify source of problems
 - ❏ Gather data to substantiate these complaints
 - ❏ Educate the community and health care professionals
 - ❏ Create public awareness & education programs



Barrio: Accomplishments

- Survey to assess disease burden
- Identified sources of pollution
 - Metal plating
 - Methyl bromide (toxic pesticide)
- Development of educational materials
 - Toxic Turnaround
 - Toxic Free Neighborhoods Community Planning Guide
- Policy Action
 - Stopped the use of methyl bromide
 - Closure of metal plating companies
- Future
 - Land zoning



Northern Manhattan Environmental Justice Partnership

- **Location:** Northern Manhattan, NY
- **Population:** African American and Latino
- **Issues:** Lead and Air Pollution
- **Partners:** West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc., Columbia University & Harlem Hospital
- **Activities:**
 - Public forums
 - Training sessions for health care providers
 - Recruit, train & certify residents on environmental health issues and concepts
 - Develop leadership training manual



Northern Manhattan: Accomplishments

- Air samples demonstrated the correlation between adverse health effects and the diesel exhaust from the buses
 - Helped to close bus depot
 - Rerouting of some buses
 - Idling time of buses
 - Publications of $PM_{2.5}$ and diesel exhaust particles on Harlem sidewalks
- Environmental Health Leadership Training
 - Training of community residents

Northern Manhattan: Accomplishments

- NIEHS support facilitated in obtaining & participating in additional grants within NIEHS & other Federal agencies
 - Community-Based Prevention/Intervention Research
 - Center for Children's Environmental Health & Disease Prevention Research
- Translate and communicate scientific findings to the public
 - *Uptown Eye*
 - *Environmental Health Perspectives*

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Akwesasne First Environment Restoration Initiative

- **Location:** Hogansburg, NY
- **Population:** Akwasasne (Houdenosaunee Nations)
- **Issue:** PCBs
- **Partners:** St. Regis Mohawk Tribe & the School of Public Health at SUNY, Albany & St. Regis Mohawk Health Services
- **Activities:**
 - environmental health education & training
 - environmental health fairs
 - focus groups & workshops

First Environment: Accomplishments

■ Health Surveys

- Higher rates of hypothyroidism in women

■ Use of traditional techniques

- Dance of the Healers
- Talking Circles

■ Radio Broadcasts

- Good Health Radio Show

■ Outreach to Schools

- Educational Specialist

■ Creation of national networks

- NY State Dept of Environment
- Congressional Black Caucus



Health Disparities

CAFOs

In NC a moratorium on industrial hog farming operations enacted 1997-2007 due to EJ project that demonstrated the inequitable distribution of CAFOs around lower SES, rural communities.

Childhood Lead

Ineffective lead poisoning prevention bill overturned and introduction of a more protective bill.

Traffic in low SES neighborhoods

Re-routing of diesel trucks so that they do not go through low-SES neighborhoods.
Decreasing idling time at depots and stops.



Health Disparities

Stress - Asthma

In children, an interaction between exacerbation of asthma and living in violent neighborhoods and/or in poor housing.

Social Isolation - Cognitive Function

Role of architecture and housing quality in isolating elderly Hispanics and potential adverse impact on cognitive function.



CBPR Evidence Report

■ Systematic Review, 2004 (AHRQ)

■ 4 Key Questions

- What defines CBPR?
- How has CBPR been implemented to date with regard to the quality of research methodology and community involvement?
- What is the evidence that CBPR efforts have resulted in intended outcomes?
- What criteria and process should be used for review of CBPR in grant proposals>



What is the evidence that CBPR efforts have resulted in intended outcomes?

- Total of 60 CBPR studies reviewed
 - Improved research quality outcomes
 - Community and Research Capacity
 - Health Outcomes



Barriers to CBPR

- Funding
- Different paradigms for the community and the research organization
- Lack of political will
- Realistic expectations



Obesity: A case for CBPR



Environmental factors that discourage physical activity and healthy eating

- Intensive marketing of unhealthy foods
- Overabundance of highly processed foods, including fast food meals, snack foods, soda and bakery goods
- Lack of full service supermarkets and other retail outlets of healthy food
- Lack of physical activity opportunities
- Neighborhood design that discourages, walking, biking and active play
- Safety concerns that keep children indoors

» Dr. George Flores, California Endowment





Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

- 499 Psychosocial Intervention for Rural Women with Breast Cancer: The Sierra Stanford Partnership
K. L. Angel; M. A. Kreshka; R. McCoy et al.
- 508 Identifying Older Chinese Immigrants at High Risk for Osteoporosis
D. S. Lauderdale; V. Kuohung; S.-L. Chang et al.
- 516 Encouraging Vietnamese-American Women to Obtain Pap Tests Through Lay Health Worker Outreach and Media Education
T. K. Lam; S. J. McPhee; J. Mock et al. Lam T.K.; McPhee S.J.; Mock J

POLICY AND PRACTICE

- 525 Internet Access and Empowerment: A Community-based Health Initiative
C. M. Masi; Y. Suarez-Balcazar; M. Z. Cassey et al.
- 531 Trust, Benefit, Satisfaction, and Burden: A Randomized Controlled Trial to Reduce Cancer Risk Through African- American Churches
G. Corbie-Smith; A. S. Ammerman; M. L. Katz et al.
- 542 A Community-centered Approach to Diabetes in East Harlem
C. R. Horowitz; L. Williams; N. A. Bickell et al.

THEORY AND METHODS

- 558 Community Action Against Asthma: Examining the Partnership Process of a Community-based Participatory Research Project
E. A. Parker; B. A. Israel; M. Williams et al.
- 568 Improving the Nutritional Resource Environment for Healthy Living Through Community-based Participatory Research
D. C. Sloane; A. L. Diamant; L. B. Lewis et al.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS



Of all forms of discrimination and inequalities, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhuman,"

Dr. Martin Luther King
1966

