

# How You Live...Where You Live: An Experiential Exercise on the Social Determinants of Health

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## What are the Social Determinants of Health?

The social Determinants of Health refer to the conditions and circumstances that contribute to health and health outcomes of people in communities. They are the extenuating factors which collectively influence or play key roles in defining the health experience of the member of certain neighborhoods.

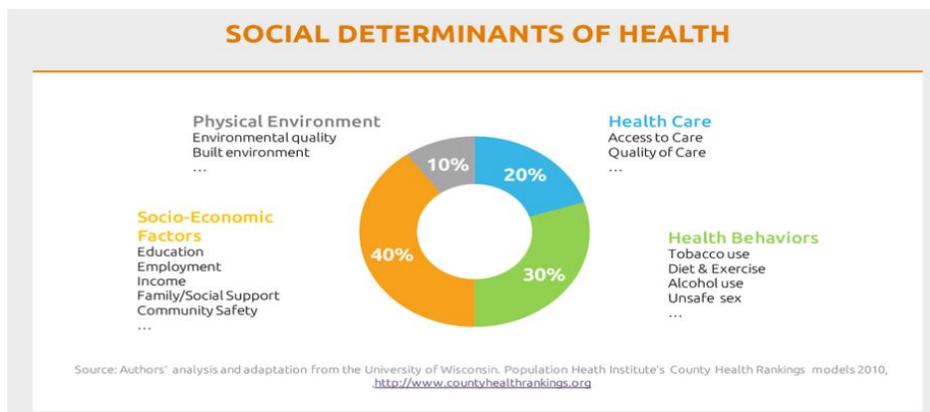
### Social Determinants of Health

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Hunger	Social integration	Health coverage
Income	Transportation	Language	Access to healthy options	Support systems	Provider availability
Expenses	Safety	Early childhood education		Community engagement	Provider linguistic and cultural competency
Debt	Parks	Vocational training		Discrimination	Quality of care
Medical bills	Playgrounds	Higher education			
Support	Walkability				

**Health Outcomes**  
Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations



What percentage of each these categories contributes to the overall impact of the health of a community?



## Healthy People 2020 Approach to Social Determinants of Health

A “place-based” organizing framework, reflecting five (5) key areas of social determinants of health (SDOH), was developed by Healthy People 2020.

These five key areas (determinants) include:

- Economic Stability
- Education
- Social and Community Context
- Health and Health Care
- Neighborhood and Built Environment



## Emerging Strategies to Address Social Determinants of Health

A number of tools and strategies are emerging to address the social determinants of health, including:

- Use of Health Impact Assessments to review needed, proposed, and existing social policies for their likely impact on health<sup>1</sup>
- Application of a “health in all policies” strategy, which introduces improved health for all and the closing of health gaps as goals to be shared across all areas of government<sup>2</sup>

1. Health Impact Assessment: A Tool to Help Policy Makers Understand Health Beyond Health Care. Annual Review of Public Health 2007;28:393-412. Retrieved October 26, 2010. Available from: <http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.publhealth.28.083006.131942>

2. The National Prevention and Health Promotion Strategy. The National Prevention Strategy: America’s Plan for Better Health and Wellness, June 2011. Available from: <https://www.surgeongeneral.gov/priorities/prevention/strategy/index.html>

### **Final Point of Emphasis**

- There is enough work for all the community agencies present there is no need for competition among organizations, we need collaboration
- We cannot allow the walls of our organizations to represent barriers to obtaining the services we provide
- The Collective Impact Model is an ideal model for addressing the Social Determinants of Health