An Environmental Approach to Understanding Health Inequities

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What’s Health Got To Do With It?

Photo courtesy of Latino Health Access
Differences in health which are not only unnecessary & avoidable, but in addition, are considered unfair & unjust.

The same injuries and illnesses only more so

Take 2 Steps to Prevention

Causes of Death
Medical Care Alone Cannot Reduce Injuries and Inequities

- Not the primary determinant of health
- Treats one person at a time
- Often comes late; can’t always restore health

The 1st step ... 

Let’s take another step ...
The Trajectory of Health and Health Inequities

A Key Opportunity for Prevention

ENVIRONMENT → EXPOSURES & BEHAVIORS → HEALTH CARE SERVICES → INJURIES, ILLNESS & INEQUITIES

EXPOSURES & BEHAVIORS

ENVIRONMENT

The Trajectory of Health and Health Inequities

A Key Opportunity for Prevention

Based on best practices and promising approaches from around the country

Offers a specific menu of achievable strategies for implementation

Each strategy is complemented by practical how-to information including tools, resources, model policies, and more

ENACT Tool

www.preventioninstitute.org/sa/enact
Useful policy is often developed locally.

**One Key Fact:**

"In our every deliberation we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations."

(Great Law of the Iroquois Indian Confederation)

"We can either be victims of change or we can plan for it, shape it, and emerge stronger from it. The choice is ours."

(Sonaran Institute)

"In theory there is no difference between theory and practice. In practice there is."

Yogi Berra

"Sooner or later all thinking and planning has to degenerate into work."

Peter Drucker
The Spectrum of Prevention

- Influencing Policy & Legislation
- Changing Organizational Practices
- Fostering Coalitions & Networks
- Educating Providers
- Promoting Community Education
- Strengthening Individual Knowledge & Skills

Local Policy Database

Promising Practices in Nutrition and Physical Activity

Catalogues promising policies in nutrition and activity at the local level

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