Montana Health Equity State Snapshot

Health equity is an economic issue as well as a social justice issue. Significant inequities and disparities exist between different racial ethnic groups, socioeconomic classes, and geographical location. Health inequities have their roots in the social determinants of health and are a reflection of the persistent inequities that exist in American society. Health inequities result in lower quality of healthcare, worse health outcomes for minority racial/ethnic populations and people with low socioeconomic status, increased direct and indirect healthcare costs, and decreased productivity. The Montana Health Equity Snapshot was developed using data from the ASTHO 2014 Minority Health Infrastructure Survey and provides an overview of the infrastructure and capacity available in state health agencies to address issues in minority health, health disparities and health equity (MH/HD/HE) in the state and across the nation.

Agency Mission

Our mission is to improve and protect the health, well-being, and self-reliance of all Montanans.

Priority Populations

Montana’s priority population for targeting health equity initiatives is American Indians/Alaskan Natives.

Partnerships

Montana collaborates with a number of partners on health equity initiatives such as community health centers, insurers, state advisory boards, independent advisory boards, and tribal governments and community agencies.

Montana provides financial resources for partners such as community health centers, insurers, state advisory bodies, and independent advisory bodies.

Montana takes the leadership role with partners such as community health centers, insurers, state advisory bodies, and independent advisory bodies.

Staffing

Montana has staff who work on MH/HD/HE initiatives in the following areas: chronic disease and/or health promotion, infectious or communicable disease, and tribal health.

Infrastructure for Health Equity

National Percentage of States with Organizational Resources for Addressing MH/HD/HE

Montana:

- Contact Person (n=53): ✔
- 100% Full-time Equivalent (n=53): ✗
- Primary Org. Unit (n=53): ✗
- Strategic Plan (n=52): ✔

National Percentage of States with Contact Person for MH/HD/HE Reporting to Leadership Positions or Bodies (n=53)

Montana:

- Chief Health/Public Health Official or higher: ✗
- Deputy Health Official/Division Director: ✔
- Department Head (Program, Bureau, or Unit Director): ✔
- Commission or other coordinating/advisory body: ✗

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Strategic Planning for Health Equity
Montana has an organizational strategic plan that addresses health equity and/or a health equity-specific strategic plan.

National Percentage of States with Strategies for Addressing MH/HD/HE in Strategic Plans (n=49)

Funding for Health Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding received in FY 2013 from all sources of funding</th>
<th>Montana (in thousands $)</th>
<th>National Funding in thousands (minimum – maximum; n=47)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Funds</td>
<td>data n/a</td>
<td>0 – 146,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State General Funds</td>
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<td>0 – 40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sources</td>
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<td>0 – 55,517</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding received in FY 2013 by federal agency</th>
<th>Montana (in thousands $)</th>
<th>National Funding in thousands (minimum – maximum; n=45)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HHS Office of Minority Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Resources and Services Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other HHS Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Federal Agency</td>
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<td>46,279</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Montana Department of Public Health and Safety Website: http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth