Prioritizing Equity in Public Health Leadership Summit

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 21, 2021
NETWORKING LOUNGE
Our network lounge is a place for you to engage and speak with your peers, make connections, and ask questions. It's also a convenient way to virtually meet others interested in the same topics as you. We encourage you to hang out there or “drop in” between the webcast sessions. The networking lounge will be open all day.

11 A.M. - 5 P.M.

This meeting will provide a forum for state and territorial health practitioners to learn about emergent public health issues and apply evidence-based practices to address structural racism and reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. The summit will feature keynote presentations from national thought leaders, breakout discussions, and real-world case examples that can be applied to current public health challenges.

Welcome Remarks: Michael Fraser, PhD, MS, CAE, FCPP, CEO, ASTHO
Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH, Director, CDC

Moderator: Renee Branch Canady, PhD, MPA, CEO, Michigan Public Health Institute

OPENING PLENARY: ADVANCING ANTI-RACISM IN PUBLIC HEALTH
Award-winning author, anti-racist activist, and historian Ibram X. Kendi is our opening keynote speaker. Professor Kendi will inspire public health practitioners and health equity experts advancing change within their government institutions by challenging them to redefine how they think about racism and discuss strategies for promoting anti-racism in public health.

Opening Plenary: Ibram X. Kendi, PhD, MA, Director, Boston University Center for Antiracist Research, National Bestselling Author

Moderator: Nicole Alexander Scott, MD, MPH, Director, Rhode Island Department of Health

12:30 - 1 P.M.

BREAK
During the break visit the exhibit hall to learn more about public health organizations that helped to plan this event or visit the networking lounge to take a stretch break or chat with colleagues.
Breakout sessions will highlight innovations and tactical strategies to operationalize health and racial equity in governmental public health through policy development and legislation, data and research, internal strategic planning, framework development, and implementation of racial equity initiatives.

1 - 2 P.M.

**BREAKOUT A: ADVANCING UPSTREAM POLICIES TO ACHIEVE EQUITY**

This session will highlight legislative actions taken by state and local governments to address systemic racism, including public commitments to declare racism a public health issue, statewide taskforces, and implementation of practices to address the root causes of health inequities.

**Moderator:** Brenda J. Jegede, MPH, MSW, Manager, Office of Equity and Minority Health, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

**Speakers:**
- Jeanette Kowalik, PhD, MPH, Director of Policy Development, Trust for America’s Health
- Dawn Hunter, JD, Deputy Director, Network for Public Health Law
- Angela E. Allbee, MPA, Senior Policy Advisor, Oregon Health Authority

**BREAKOUT B: CENTERING EQUITY IN OUR PUBLIC HEALTH TOOLS AND FRAMEWORKS**

This session will delve into state examples to advance internal organizational change efforts that prioritize health equity in the center of all processes and outcomes. Hear approaches to clearly define measures of success and foster transformation within state and territorial public health agencies.

**Moderator:** Vivian Lasley-Bibbs, Director and Epidemiologist, Office of Health Equity, Kentucky Department of Health, and President - National Association of State Offices of Minority Health

**Speakers:**
- Monica Bharel, MD, MPH, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Earl Nupsius Benjamin-Robinson, Dr.H.Sc, Director, Office of Community Partnerships and Health Equity, Louisiana Department of Health
- Christopher J. Ausura, Co-Director, Health Equity Institute, Rhode Island Department of Health
BREAKOUT C: STATES AND LOCALES WORKING TO ADDRESS RACIAL EQUITY

This session will feature examples of state and local public health agencies that made an organizational commitment to address systemic racism in their institutions. We’ll highlight specific approaches taken to build internal capacity and address policies and practices both inside and outside of agencies.

**Moderator:** Robyn Taylor, MBA, *Health Equity Consultant, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors*

**Speakers:**
- Chchy Smith, DrPH(c), MPH, CHES, *Health Equity Manager, Arkansas Department of Health*
- Janel Heinrich, MPH, MA, *Director, Public Health Madison and Dane County, Wisconsin*

BREAKOUT D: PRIORITIZING EQUITY IN DATA AND RESEARCH

This session will examine the critical importance of using data and research to address the root causes of health inequities. From authentically engaging communities and being intentional about how we use data, to incorporating racism and intersectionality explicitly in research projects, panelists will share practical approaches to apply in public health agency research.

**Moderator:** Jamie Pina, PhD, MSPH, *Vice President, Public Health Data Modernization, ASTHO*

**Speakers:**
- Chandra L. Ford, PhD, MPH, MLIS, *Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences and Founding Director, Center for the Study of Racism, Social Justice and Health - UCLA.*
- Tracy Hilliard, PhD, MPH, *Director, Center for Culturally Responsive Engagement, Michigan Public Health Institute*
- Deitre Epps, *CEO and founder, RACE for Equity*

2 - 2:15 P.M.

BREAK

Attendees can visit the Resource Library and Exhibit Hall to view the latest materials from major public health organizations.
PLENARY SESSION: COVID-19, CHRONIC DISEASE, AND HEALTH EQUITY

The session will highlight the relationship between COVID-19, chronic disease, and equity. The session will feature individual, state, and federal perspectives on the impact and human toll of COVID-19. Public health agencies will share how they integrated equity into their response efforts and how they plan to move forward now that COVID-19 has become a chronic condition.

Moderator: Karen Hacker, MD, MPH, Director, CDC National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Speakers: Magdala Chery, DO, MBS, Primary Care Physician and Commonwealth Fund Fellow in Minority Health Policy, Harvard University
Lisa C. Richardson, MD, MPH, Director, CDC Division of Cancer Prevention and Control
Susan M Kansagra, MD, MBA, Chief, Chronic Disease and Injury, North Carolina Division of Public Health, Board President—National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

CLOSING PANEL: BOUNCING BACK BETTER: ENVISIONING AN EQUITABLE POST-PANDEMIC FUTURE

COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted historically marginalized communities. As the nation moves toward recovery efforts, there must be a collective effort to address multiple crises and to prioritize the needs of the communities most impacted. COVID-19 is an opportunity to address the systemic barriers that prevent all Americans from living in healthy, thriving, and prosperous communities. A panel of national thought leaders will discuss their vision for an equitable post-pandemic future and will highlight essential policies and recovery strategies.

Moderator: Nicole Alexander Scott, MD, MPH, Director, Rhode Island Department of Health

Speakers: Richard Besser, MD, President and CEO, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Michael McAfee, PhD, MBA, President and CEO, PolicyLink
Joneigh Khaldun, MD, MPH, FACEP, Chief Medical Executive for the State of Michigan and member of the Biden-Harris COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force
CONCLUDING REMARKS

The closing remarks will summarize key themes that emerged from the summit and new opportunities to support state and territorial efforts to advance health and racial equity.

Speakers:  
Renee Branch Canady, PhD, MPA, CEO, *Michigan Public Health Institute*  
Mary Ann Cooney, MPH, MSN, *Vice President, Health Equity, ASTHO*  
Vivian Lasley-Bibbs, MPH, *Health Equity Director and Epidemiologist, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Board President - National Association of State Offices of Minority Health*

5 - 6 P.M.

FACILITATED DISCUSSION WITH S/THOS AND STATE OFFICES OF MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY DIRECTORS (INVITE ONLY).