



**Health Equity Initiative  
Member Committees Report  
January 2015 - June 2016**



### ***Membership Committee***

#### **Members:**

Carmelo Cruz Reyes (chair)

Cheryl Lamptey

Kimia Ahmadi (summer 2016 intern)

Michelle Kaufman (summer/fall 2015 intern)

#### **Summary of Key Accomplishments:**

- Organized Spring Social Event, which was held on June 1, 2015 at the Blue Mountain Gallery for HEI members, associates, partners and the broader community. HEI members mixed and mingled with partners and the broader community; learned about the work that HEI is doing to make a difference on advancing health equity; met HEI leadership and membership committee chairs/co-chairs; participated in a raffle; networked across sectors; and enjoyed art displayed at the gallery. This event resulted in membership recruitment.
- The Membership Committee collaborated with the Communication Committee to lay the foundation for a webinar focused on health equity and the built environment
- Identified members to be highlighted in HEI's monthly newsletter

#### **Future Directions:**

The Membership Committee aims to accomplish the following objectives from June 2016 – June 2017

- Recruit at least 100 new HEI members, including individual and organizational members
- Conceptualize, plan and host at least four webinars, each on one of the 4 subthemes of the 2016 summit. Webinars will be informational in purpose and may act as a conduit for capacity building opportunities for members and non-members as well as to disseminate recommendations from the 2016 summit.
- Host a speed networking event for members and non-members in addition to other events throughout the year
- Review membership benefits for optimal satisfaction
- Collaborate with other member committees to leverage HEI resources and provide members and non-members with the best opportunities to engage in efforts that aim to advance health equity
- Expand membership of the Membership Committee to at least 3 individuals, not including chairs

***HEI Public Policy Committee (PPC)***

**Members:**

Friso van Reesema (co-chair)	Pamela Straker	April Valesco
Manik Bhat (co-chair)	Pablo Farias	Jane Tabone
Doree Damoulakis	Lalitha Ramanathapuram	Upal Basu Roy
Kris Schaus	Renee Walk	Gustavo Cruz
Madeline Caparale	Adam Rattner	Katie Rubinger
Ruth Santana	Minerva Francis	
	Shauneequa Owusu	

**Summary of Key Accomplishments:**

- Formed a public policy committee to align with HEI's mission
- Engaged 8 HEI members and 5 non-members in committee meetings
- Held over 7 HEI PPC meetings
- Identified a topic for the policy brief: children's mental health as a model to exemplify systems-level change.
- Reviewed over 30 articles and research papers
- Lead a Round Table discussion over three different sessions at the bi-annual HEI Leadership Summit
- The committee's co-chairs drafted a policy brief for HEI board review and to be finalized with other members of the committee

**Future Directions:**

- Complete the policy brief with the HEI PPC larger committee by Fall
- Promote the policy brief among our constituents
- Measure the impact
- Explore other areas to focus on future policy briefs
- Grow the committee and assign specific roles

***Ad-hoc Program Committee***

**Members:**

Upal Basu Roy (co-chair)  
Carmelo Cruz Reyes (co-chair)  
Renata Schiavo

**Summary of Key Accomplishments:**

- Health Equity Initiative co-sponsored a global health networking event on October 17, 2015. with Albert Einstein College of Medicine. It brought together over 90 medical and public health students of the NYC metro area, as well as students from allied health professions and other disciplines, who are interested in pursuing careers in global health. Health Equity Initiative engaged panelists/speakers from leading organizations such as Concern Worldwide, GBCHealth, Golin, and UNICEF, among others. Other co-sponsors



included NYU College of Global Public Health, Weill Cornell Medical College, Public Health Association of New York (PHANYC), and Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

### ***Communications Committee***

#### **Members:**

Upal Basu Roy (chair)

Vandana Venugopal (summer 2016 intern)

Jane Tabone (interim chair – January-August 2015)

Michelle Kaufman (summer 2015 intern)

Katie Beck (spring/summer 2015 intern)

#### **Summary of Key Accomplishments:**

- Developed 2 issues of the 2015 newsletter and improved upon the newsletter development process by streamlining the task list and the key milestones to be accomplished for each issue/newsletter section. Each issue of HEI newsletter reaches an average of 10,000 people.
- Posted on HEI social media at least once per week and conducted relevant social media outreach
- Helped publicize HEI events, including the 2015 summer social event
- Participated in strategy development sessions with other member committees and HEI board of directors

#### **Future Directions:**

- Work closely with the Member Recruitment Committee to develop materials for new member recruitment
- Publicize all HEI events planned for 2016, including webinars, networking events and social events
- Keep members abreast of latest news and developments and news from HEI through regular email updates, including but not restricted to newsletters
- Update HEI online community about the latest research in health equity through social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter)