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Health Equity Initiative
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News and Resources from Health Equity Initiative!

Fall 2025

A Note from Health Equity Initiative

Greetings from **Health Equity Initiative**! We are still here to support you in your work and endeavors. :)

There are a few things on my mind these days.

First, how can we ensure that **advocacy remains central to our work**, even in challenging circumstances? I recently had the opportunity to facilitate a workshop on *Advocating for Health Equity: Strategies for Action* at the recent **ICCH conference.** The passion, commitment and insights of all the participants were truly inspiring.

Second, we must ensure that **health equity strategies and principles continue to benefit local communities**. We know that the CBOs/organizations in our network, including our **grantee partners**, are living proof of our collective commitment to improving health equity outcomes. We celebrate their work and the many ways in which they **empower community voices and improve health and well-being for all.**

Third, we need to increase focus on **measuring progress towards health equity and establishing a measurable and easy-to-understand definition**. The "**opportunity to stay healthy and cope with disease and crisis"** is one such definition. Opportunities such as access to better education (e.g., classrooms with a suitable teacher-student ratio), dignified and safe housing, health services and information, and other essential goods and services - that contribute to health and well-being - are measurable and something everyone can relate to. Similarly, staying 'healthy' can be measured by both physical factors (e.g. vital signs, blood tests, energy levels, sleep

quality) and socio-economic factors (e.g., belonging, and mental, emotional, social, and economic well-being). Socio-economic factors should be integrated into all analyses of community and population health status and measured in clinical settings using tools such as the **Whole PERSON Health Score** and other resources grounded in the social, political, structural, and informational determinants of health.

Fourth, **committing to interdisciplinary collaboration.** Health equity issues are complex and require systems-driven solutions. These issues can only be solved by broadening the range of professionals sectors, disciplines, leaders, and communities involved.

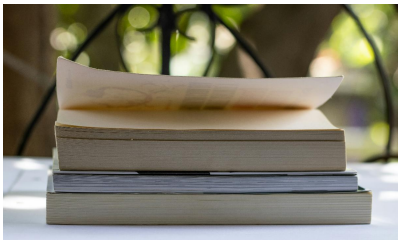
Finally, I hope you will all **register for our newly launched HEI listserv** and **share resources, job listings, conferences, and other information that may be helpful to our health equity community.**

Stay strong!

In community and solidarity,

Renata Schiavo, PhD, MA, CCL, Founder and President, Steering Committee/Board of Directors - *on behalf of everyone at Health Equity Initiative*

On Our Reading List This Fall...



- **The Political Determinants of Health** by Daniel E. Dawes
- **Everything is Tuberculosis** by John Green
- **Killing the Black Body** by Dorothy Roberts

From our *Health Equity Blog*

More Than Money: How Microfinance is Fueling Health Equity in the United States

Grameen America is contributing to equitable health outcomes, one microloan at a time. Read about how microfinance serves as a health intervention on the **Health Equity Blog.**

Reclaiming Our Stories to Reclaim Our Health

The People's Theatre in New York City is a nonprofit that serves a community of immigrants, and creates theatre with and for their community. But The People's Theatre focuses on more than just theatre - it also serves as a social justice and health equity intervention. Read more on the **Health Equity Blog**.

Subscribe to Health Equity Initiative's Listserv

Health Equity Initiative has recently launched a listserv! This platform will serve as a place to foster connection, collaborate, and share information amongst all who are working to advance health, racial, and social equity.

To subscribe to the HEI listserv, you can either:

- Send an email to **health-equity-initiative+subscribe@googlegroups.com** with "subscribe" in the subject line. Include your name and affiliation in the message body.
- Go **https://groups.google.com/u/3/g/health-equity-initiative** then click on the hyperlink to join the group.

We welcome posts on **health equity and/or its determinants** (social, political, structural, informational) AND information and resources (articles, jobs, trainings, networking opportunities, conferences, etc.) **on health, racial, and social equity**. This is a moderated forum.

Read our most recent newsletter to learn more about guidelines and allowable/disallowable posts.

We look forward to the connections and opportunities that this new platform will bring for our HEI community!

Intern with Health Equity Initiative!

Health Equity Initiative is looking for a Blog Writing & Development intern who will be primarily involved with contributing posts to, and increasing engagement with, the *Health Equity Blog.* The *blog* covers cross-sectoral efforts, narratives, news, and stories of hope, healing, community engagement, and partnerships to advance health equity. Ideal applicants will have a background in communication studies and/or public health.

Apply and learn more **here**.

Opportunities for Engagement: Health Equity Conferences

October 23, 2025: Arizona Health Equity Conference in Phoenix, AZ

November 10-12, 2025: American Medical

Group Association [2025 Health Equity Forum] in National Harbor, MD

Meet Our Founder

Meet Health Equity Initiative's founder, Renata Schiavo, at the events below!

Thursday, October 23, 2025. Italian Association for Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (Società Italiana di Igiene, Medicina Preventiva e Sanità Pubblica, SItI), Annual Conference, Bologna, Italy (in Italian). **Disinformation and Health: Challenges and Opportunities for Effective Communication. The Role of Operators, the Media, and Institutions**

Sunday, November 3, 2025. American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, United States. **Health Communication in Precarious Times: Reflections, Realities and Resilience — An Expert Discussion**

Tuesday, November 5, 2025. American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, United States. **Public Health Film Festival Feature Session: Environmental Injustice, Health, Land, and Resistance**

Resources from Our Network on Health Equity and Related Issues

- **BioMed Central:** **Writing about health inequality: recommendations for accurate and impactful presentation of evidence**
- **World Health Organization:** **World Report on Social Determinants of Health Equity**

Thank You!

Health Equity Initiative's Newsletter and the ***Health Equity Blog*** are sponsored by a generous unrestricted grant from **Macy's Inc.**

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About Health Equity Initiative

Health Equity Initiative (HEI) is a volunteer nonprofit organization dedicated to building and sustaining a global community that engages across sectors and disciplines to advance health equity. By bringing together and enlisting the efforts of the public and private sectors, professions and communities that have both a stake and an influence on social determinants of health, HEI advocates for improving conditions and achieving equity in health for all. We focus on championing transformative change, supporting knowledge, engaging communities and leaders, and building capacity across sectors and disciplines to address barriers that prevent people from leading healthy and productive lives.

Health Equity Initiative
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Health Equity Initiative is a federally recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
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