



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Groundbreaking Multisectoral Membership Organization for Global Health Equity Launches in New York City**

**For Immediate release:** April 30, 2014, NEW YORK- Health Equity Initiative (HEI) today launches a multisectoral membership for global health equity. In response to Health Equity Initiative leaders' and supporters' requests, HEI has evolved into a membership-based organization that welcomes open collaboration between professionals from different sectors on health equity.

“Today, HEI calls professionals of all sectors to join us in demanding a social movement for change,” said Renata Schiavo, PhD, MA Founder and President, HEI. “By bridging the silos and building one community of leaders passionate about making progress toward health equity, we can create innovative solutions. A united approach ensures that health for all is possible.”

Through a culture of participation and volunteerism, the HEI community encourages members to engage in community action campaigns and other activities with like-minded organizations.

Benefits of membership will include:

- Up to 50% off classroom/online workshops on health equity strategies, trends and tools
- Discounts on annual subscriptions to peer-reviewed journals by Maney Publishing
- Leadership opportunities in HEI's Member Committees and Speakers Bureau
- Member-only events and online forums
- Networking with fellow members

Opportunities for professional development is another benefit of membership. The HEI team of program managers, health professionals and professors teach invaluable capacity building skills applicable to professionals in every sector and a background in health equity and its root causes. As a certified provider of capacity building and professional development workshops and brown bag talks, HEI has trained more than 240 professionals from different sectors and HEI is launching the organization on April 30, 2014 at an event sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services/Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health Region II, Maney Publishing, and the Office of Minority Health from 10:30 AM to Noon at the Jacob Javits Federal Building, 26 Federal Plaza, 6th Floor Conference Room.

# HEI Health Equity Initiative

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

The event is hosted by Renata Schiavo, PhD, Founder/President of HEI, and Gustavo D. Cruz, DMD, MPH, Oral health policy consultant; Adjunct Associate, Professor of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, New York University College of Dentistry; Technical Consultant, Pan American Health Organization & Chair, Advisory Council, Health Equity Initiative. Following the announcement, a panel of health equity experts will discuss “Why We Need Multisectoral Solutions for Health Equity”. The panel includes: Alyssa Sharkey, PhD, Health Specialist, UNICEF; Lenore Cooney, Chair, Cooney Waters Group & HEI Advisory Council Member; Marjorie Momplaisir-Ellis, MPH, Senior Program Director, CAMBA; Michelle S. Davis, PhD, Regional Health Administrator, DHHS/OASH Region II and HEI Advisory Council Member; and Skye Duncan, MSAUD, Office of NYC City Planning, Associate Urban Designer, Office of Chief Urban Designer, NYC Department of City Planning.

For more information about HEI, visit [www.healthequityinitiative.org](http://www.healthequityinitiative.org). Follow HEI @HlthEquityInit. Join HEI on LinkedIn. Like Us on Facebook.

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