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## *Become A Member*

Take action today and become an HEI member! In addition to the free resources available to everyone, HEI membership - whether for individuals or organizations - will give you immediate access to great [member benefits](#), as well as opportunities to connect with community leaders and professionals from multiple sectors and disciplines, which will help your work in support of health equity.



Here are **three good reasons** why you should become a member today:

- 1) Gain access to special rates on great resources and educational opportunities by HEI and its partners
- 2) Build your network and get professional or community support as you work on

advancing health equity in your profession and communities

3) Become a health equity champion and contribute to building a social movement for health equity

Don't wait! [Join](#) the fastest growing social movement for health equity!

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## *Announcement: Your Input is Needed on Strategies for Simplifying NIH's Grant Application Instructions*

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) seeks input on the restructuring of the NIH grant application instructions. The NIH invites comments from any interested party. Responses must be submitted electronically on the [submission website](#).

**Deadline:** September 25, 2015.

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### *In Our Members' Own Words...*

**Renee Walk, MPH**

**Product Manager, WEA Trust**

#### **Why did you join HEI?**

I learned about HEI through a business partner and fellow MPH graduate, and was immediately interested in the Initiative's mission to improve health disparities. It also seemed like a great opportunity to work with a variety of professionals across the country on a common cause, and to understand how people in different states and different professions address these complex issues.



#### **How does your work or area of interest help or may help advance health equity?**

Currently, I work for a not-for-profit insurance carrier in the State of Wisconsin. Being a not-for-profit carrier creates a great opportunity to really focus on health programs that return value to our members, rather than focusing on return to shareholders. We also only serve public sector workers (having been founded originally by the teachers' union), and in Wisconsin these are often lower-paying jobs. This means that we often have to consider socioeconomic factors when we design disease improvement. In addition, I am also a partner in a property management company, which primarily owns low-income

housing. This experience as much as anything has shown me that non-health professions can have a significant effect on health outcomes, and stakeholders in these areas should be included as much as possible when proposing policies to reduce health disparities.

**R.V. Rikard, Ph.D.**

**Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Media and Information,  
Michigan State University & Honorary Fellow, Deakin University, School of  
Health and Social Development, Faculty of Health**

**Why did you join HEI?**

Health equity, multidisciplinary, innovation, systems-level change, and communities are the key elements that make HEI unique and values that inspired me to become a member. HEI provides the opportunity to learn from and with other people who share a passionate belief that health equality is essential for all members of society. HEI is not a moment - HEI is a movement!



**How does your work or area of interest help or may help advance health equity?**

My research broadly focuses on "looking upstream" to identify the social determinates of health literacy disparities to then work with (not in) communities to collaboratively develop innovative, yet practical, approaches that increase equity in health outcomes. Currently, my research specifically focuses on the social impact of technology on health literacy; particularly, the connection between online health messages using social media/social network site and offline health behaviors. In addition to my day job - I am one of three co-hosts for the weekly Health Communication, Health Literacy & Social Science (#hchlitts) Tweet Chat (<http://hchlitts.net>) since November 2011. The Thursday night tweet chat focuses on a range of topics and guests related to health disparities/health equity, social justice, and our social world.

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*Save the Date!*

**Implementing Systems-Level Change For Health Equity:  
A Partnership Summit**

**When:**February 25-26, 2016

**Where:** New York, NY



Summit Allied Organizations (SAOs) to date include the [Center for the Study of Social Inequalities and Health](#) at [Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health](#) and [Albert Einstein College of Medicine](#).

A call for poster and registration information are coming soon to your inbox!

Click [here](#) for the full announcement! Click [here](#) to receive updates on the summit!

### **Monthly HEI Members and Team Call!**

Participate in our next monthly call for HEI members and team on

**Wednesday, September 16th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm (EST);**

**Tuesday October 20th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm (EST)**

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## *Online Workshops and Publications*

### **Online Workshops**

HEI's interactive online workshops are specifically designed to meet the needs of staff board members of a variety of U.S. and international organizations as well as community leaders and grassroots organizations.



[Visit our website](#) for access to **registration for upcoming live workshops** as well as **recorded workshops!**

### [Implementing a Social Determinants of Health Agenda: New Trends, Tools, and Strategies](#)

Thursday, September 17th, 2015 from 12:00PM- 2:00PM EST

Visit our website for access to registration for upcoming live workshops as well as recorded workshops!

**Remember:** [Members](#) receive up to 50% discount on HEI online workshops!

### **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

**Remember:** In addition, members receive 20% discount on annual subscriptions to six leading peer-reviewed publications by [Maney Publishing](#), which address different topics of interest as they apply to the work of our multisectoral and multidisciplinary community.

To learn more, [click here](#).



# Sports for Health Equity

## **Thinking about Back to School Activities?**

[Download our free resources](#) to raise awareness of health equity in your schools and communities!

*Sports for Health Equity is a national program to raise awareness of health disparities, and encourage community action and partnerships for health equity among schools, teens, families and their communities. The program focuses on sports as a community building activity that supports healthy lifestyles and*



*brings people of diverse backgrounds together. [Download our free resources](#) and share the [video](#) below on your social media! Sports for Health Equity is complemented by other free [resources](#) on our site, which are designed to help other organizations and communities to start a conversation on health equity among their stakeholders!*



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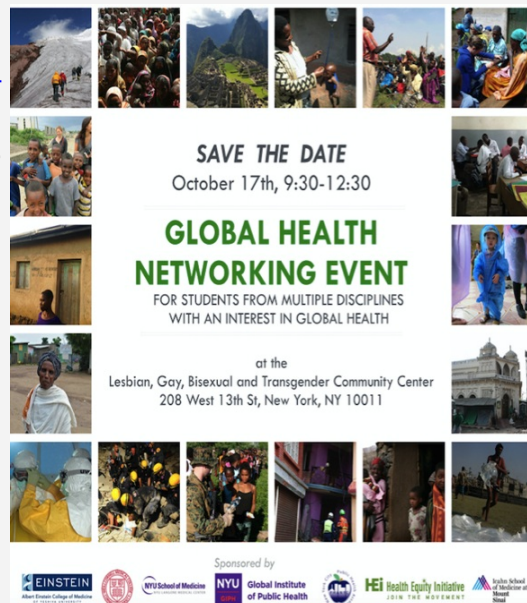
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## *Member Committee Updates*

### *Ad-hoc Program Committee*

Committee members: Upal Basu Roy, PhD, MS, MPH (co-chair), Carmelo Cruz Reyes,

Health Equity Initiative is co-sponsoring a global health networking event with [Albert Einstein College of Medicine](#). The event is scheduled for October 17 at the LGBT Community Center at 208 West 13th Street. It is open to 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 has invited and secured the participation of representatives from leading organizations such as Concern Worldwide, GBCHealth, Golin, and UNICEF, among others. RSVP is required. Registration for the event will soon be opened to students. Other co-sponsors include [Weill Cornell Medical College](#), [Public Health Association of New York \(PHANYC\)](#), and [Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai](#).




**SAVE THE DATE**  
October 17th, 9:30-12:30

**GLOBAL HEALTH NETWORKING EVENT**  
FOR STUDENTS FROM MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES WITH AN INTEREST IN GLOBAL HEALTH

at the  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center  
208 West 13th St, New York, NY 10011

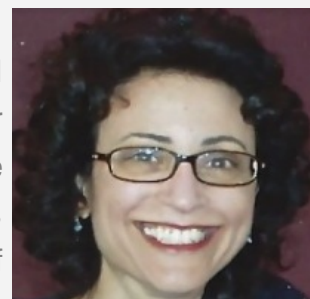
Sponsored by



## *Communication Member Committee*

Committee Members: Jane Tabone, MBA, MPH (interim chair), Michelle Kaufman (summer 2015 intern), Katie Beck (spring/summer 2015 intern)

A heartfelt thank you to HEI member Jane Tabone, MBA, MPH for serving as Interim Chair Communication Member Committee. Jane's dedication, vision, hard work, and unique background that combines public health and business credentials/experiences have greatly contributed to the work of the committee! Thanks, Jane!



**Become the New Communication Committee Chair!** As Jane's term is coming to an end on August 31, we ask all interested HEI members to step in to lead the communication committee! Below is a short description of the very important role of our member-driven Communication Member Committee. If you are interested (as we hope) in chairing this committee send an e-mail to [membership@theequityinitiative.org](mailto:membership@theequityinitiative.org) This is a great opportunity to gain and/or strengthen your communication and project management skills, and most importantly, to make sure our social movement in support of health equity continues to grow and be effective in bridging the silos between different professions, disciplines and communities.

### **About HEI Communication Member Committee**

The Communication Member Committee develops and implements strategies to increase HEI's visibility within multiple sectors. Manages HEI's social media and other



communication activities and resources. Publicizes specific events, programs, and activities. Works to expand the reach of Sports for Health Equity, HEI's signature program, among teens, their families, communities, and schools, and designs or implements other ongoing or future health equity awareness activities. An intern always supports the work of this committee as an integral team member. This semester, HEI summer 2015 intern Michelle Kaufman worked on managing our social media accounts as well as worked on this newsletter, among other projects.

## *Join Our Member Committees!*

HEI Member Committees are a great place to start networking. As a member-driven organization, you take ownership of direction and focus through the member committees and influence our organizational priorities! Your passion, commitment, and cumulative multisectoral and multidisciplinary experience is what makes HEI different. All committees are composed of volunteer members who agree to nurture and ignite conversation and engagement on health equity and work to develop activities and resources for all members and our broader community on one specific area. [Click here](#) to learn more about HEI member committees and get involved!

## *We Want to Feature Our Members' News!*

Are you a HEI member? If yes, please let us know about your recent news (e.g., new positions, publications, presentations, media appearances, or others), so we can consider them for inclusion in our upcoming newsletters! Please submit your news for our next Newsletter by completing this [Google form!](#)



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## *Resources*

### **Recent Publications by HEI Team and Members**

[Click here](#) to read more and if you are a member, tell us about your recent publications by filling out the [online form](#).

### **July 28 Webinar on Increasing Publications from Developing Nations**

Presented by the [Journal of Communication in Healthcare: Strategies, Media, and](#)

[Engagement in Global Health](#), the purpose of this July 28 webinar is to initiate a much-needed conversation on how we can increase publications from countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, so that their communication models, experiences, and results can inform interventions in other countries. HEI's own Founding President, Renata Schiavo, was one of the webinar's presenters, along with speakers from the World Health Organization and the Faculty of Public Health of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom. Dr. Schiavo is the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal. HEI members received a special invitation to attend the webinar. Thank you to all who were able to participate. If you missed the webinar, [click here to watch it!](#)

### **Closing the Gap on Healthcare Disparities**

Addressing health disparities in clinical settings is critical for several reasons. It's a human right issue and also an important strategy in improving quality of care and saving costs. Healthcare disparities refer to inequities in the access and use of care, quality of care, and costs, among others. Such disparities have a great impact on patient and population health outcomes. Below are links to a few resources that address this critical issue and were selected by our team:

[Improving the Health of the World Poorest People](#) - Population Service Bureau Policy Brief

[Issue Brief: Focus on Healthcare Disparities](#) - The Henry Kaiser Family Foundation

[Patient-Centered Care for Underserved Populations: Best Practices. A Case Study of Massachusetts General Hospital.](#) - Economic and Social Research Institute

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## *Shopping for birthdays or just for yourself?*



Support HEI's efforts to bridge silos and build ONE community for health equity! Give a gift that gives back to Health Equity Initiative at no extra cost to you by shopping on Amazon via Fundinco or Amazon Smiles!

- **Shop on Amazon via [Fundinco](#)** - 3% of your purchase amount will be donated to Health Equity Initiative
- **Shop on Amazon via [Amazon Smiles](#)** - 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchase will be donated to Health Equity Initiative

For other opportunities to support Health Equity Initiative's work, visit our [donate](#) page!

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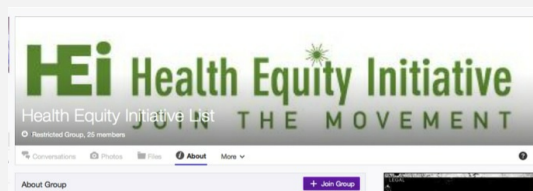
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## Join HEI Member List-Serv!

HEI recently launched a List-serv for updates and discussion regarding HEI's member activities! This group will give members and volunteers a chance to share relevant health

equity-related resources regarding their work and organizations to receive information on Health Equity Initiative's member activities and committees. Don't miss out and join by [clicking here!](#)



## Become a Partner!

Sponsoring Health Equity Initiative is an opportunity for your organization to expand its range! Our community is diverse and committed to working across sectors. We reach 10,000 people via our mailing list and social media. Basic sponsorship benefits include free organizational membership, your logo on our website and newsletter, three complementary individual memberships to donate to your partners and clients, and the opportunity to offer an online or in-person workshop.



We customize sponsorship opportunities to meet the needs of our partners.

Click [here](#) to learn more and become a partner today!

*Bridging Silos, Building ONE  
Community for Health Equity!*  
[www.healthequityinitiative.org](http://www.healthequityinitiative.org)

