Maryland Philanthropic Network

Public Health Advocacy for Health Equity

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Policy, Social Policy, and Advocacy

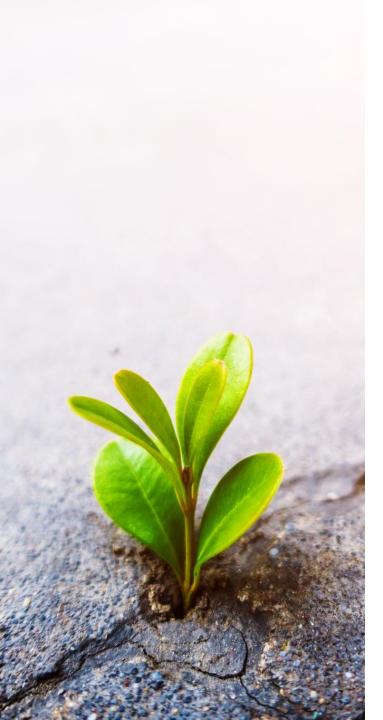
 Policy is a deliberate system of guidelines to inform decisions and achieve rational outcomes.

- Social policy is a set of intentional strategies that affect the well-being of members of a society through shaping the distribution of and access to goods and resources in that society.
- Advocacy is an activity by an individual or group that aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social institutions

Social Determinants of Health: Where we live, work, and play influences wellbeing

HEALTH INEQUITY results from

- the unequal distribution of power, income, goods, and services
- Inequities are systemic and structural – calls for action at appropriate levels



What COVID Revealed

- Weakness in public health infrastructure
- Inadequate understanding of the needed infrastructure
- Structural and socially determined nature of health inequity
- The groups most at risk due to the lack of infrastructure and the inequities
- The need for advocacy and social policy to build an equitable infrastructure



MSU Center for Urban Health Equity

Goals and Priority Areas

- **1. Enhance capability of communities** to address urban health disparities ...through supported community-based scholarship
- 2. Identify strengths and illuminate structural inequities to **inform** decision-making through data driven approaches
- **3.** Build knowledge and skills regarding health equity within the University and beyond
- 4. Educate and **disseminate new knowledge** from urban health equity research
- 5. Foster and facilitate coordination and collaboration of health equity efforts across the state

CUHE Structure

