



Xavier University of Louisiana  
College of Pharmacy's

## 11<sup>th</sup> Health Disparities Conference

Plenary 1: Health Care  
Community Systems and  
Collaborations that Affect  
Community Resilience

April 19-20, 2018

**“Ground-Level” Health Care Systems that Support  
Community Resilience**

Marsha Broussard, DrPH, MPH

Policy and Action for Community Health



# Community Health Vulnerabilities



- Racial Health and Healthcare Disparities
  - Low Birth Rates
  - Increasing Mortality Rates
  - High STIs and HIV/AIDs Incidence and Prevalence
  - Disparities in Chronic Diseases (CVD, Diabetes & Renal Failure, Cancer)
  - Infectious Disease Threats
  
- Social Factors that Increase Vulnerabilities
  - Mental Health and Community Trauma
  - Substance Abuse and Rise in Opioid Abuse
  - Climate Change and Natural Disasters
  - Community Violence

# + Social Determinants of Health

- **Neighborhood safety** and a sense of community
- **Income:** Living wage employment
- **Education:** High performing schools and teachers
- Affordable, safe and quality **housing**
- **Health care** services (Affordable insurance and/or accessible health care providers)
- Affordable and quality **childcare**
- Accessible, **quality food**
- Access to **reliable transportation**



# + Essential Elements of a Resilient System

- Community level, not individual level
- Scale
- High quality services, delivered with fidelity
- Reliable
- Irreplaceable

*“The rising tide lifts all boats”*

*J. F. Kennedy*





# Concepts and Programs that Support Community Resilience



- Community-informed health planning
- Health in all policies
- Patient navigator programs
- Maternal and child health programs
- School based health programs

*“No man is an island entire of itself. Everyman is a piece of the continent, of part of the main,”*

*John Donne, 17<sup>th</sup> Century Poet*

# + Community Health Planning

- Community Health Assessment (CHA) & Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP), led by state and local health departments
- Developed by the National Association of County and City Officials
- Elements Required for Success
  - Inclusivity
  - Cross Sector Participation
    - Business
    - Community
    - Health Sector
    - Social Support Agencies
  - Good Facilitation & Staff Support



# + Health in all Policies

- Consider integrating health implications across all governmental sectors and policies
  - Housing (**Red Lining**, **Rental Registry**)
  - Environmental (**Loose emissions standards**, **Smoking Ban**)
  - Transportation (**Paratransit Elements**, **Reliability**)
- Health equity and equity plans: Increasing access to social opportunity, combating racist policies (NYC, Portland, New Orleans)
- Results are both collaborative and reciprocal
  - Considering health implications can improve health and “improved health” promotes community resilience
- Multiple sector involvement increases impact
  - An affordable housing strategy that prioritizes young families and includes accessible health services and a built environment to promote physical activity.



# + Patient Navigator Programs

- Navigator Concept popularized in 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Evidenced-based
  - Harold Freeman of Harlem Hospital's Oncology Program
  - American Cancer, Susan Komen Foundation, Nat. Cancer Inst.
- Patient Navigator Outreach and Chronic Disease Prevention Act of 2005
  - \$25 Million allocated over 5 years to reduced health disparities
- Different program scopes
  - Hospital-based nurse navigator programs
  - Insurance navigators – Affordable Health Care Act
- United Health Care Demonstration project with Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Care3 Mobile App, Developed by David Williams, <http://care3.co>







# Maternal and Child Health Programs



- Healthy Start
- WIC
- Breast Feeding Initiatives
- Best Baby Zone
- Grady Program



# School Health Programs



- Comprehensive sexual health education
- Life skills and conflict resolution programs
- Positive behavioral support
- School Based Health Centers

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”*

*Nelson Mandela*



# Other Social Systems that Promote Resiliency



- Head Start
- Earned Income Tax Credit
- Ryan White Programs
- Para transit ride systems

*“If the foundation of your house is crumbling, you don’t say you can’t afford to fix it.”*

*Marian Wright Edelman, President, Children’s Defense Fund*



# More Attention Needed to these Areas



- Climate change, community education and engagement
- Integrated mental health and substance use and abuse
- Program evaluation

*“Faith is the first step, even when you don’t see the staircase”*

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*



## In Summary



- Race and racism is an undergirding factor that destroys community resiliency.
- The social ecological model provides a good framework for implementation of multi-sectorial strategies.
- Evaluation methods for cross sectorial collaborations. How do we make the case?
- Policy change is the most challenging level of this work, but has the greatest impact and payoff.