




Social Determinates of Health
 Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust
 and Institute for Alternative Futures Briefing



**Beyond Health Reform:
 Aligning Federal Policy with
 Good Health Policy**


Vision: Strong and healthy communities whose contributions are recognized by a society that fosters the health, well-being, and prosperity of all its members.

Mission: Improve the health of Hispanic communities and work with others to secure health for all.

- Represent all Hispanic groups.
- Dedicated to community-based solutions.
- No funds from tobacco or alcohol companies.

- **Largest network** of health and human service providers serving Hispanics.
- Members are **organizations** (community-based organizations, national organizations, providers, universities, for-profit corporations, and governments) and **individuals** (professionals, consumers, students, and retirees).
- Alliance community-based members provide services to over **15 million** Hispanic health consumers; national members provide services to **100 million** people.




**Beyond Health Reform:
 Key Areas to Align Federal Policy with Health**

- Good Food to Eat.
- Making Physical Activity a Part of Community Life.
- Clean Air to Breathe.
- Safe Water to Drink and Use.
- Understanding Health Determinants.



Weight gain among children linked to cost of fresh produce

- Elementary school children who live in metropolitan areas where **fruits and vegetables are expensive**, were **more likely to gain excess weight** than those children who live in areas where fruits and vegetables cost less.



Source: Strum R, Datar A. "Body mass index in elementary school children, metropolitan area food prices and food outlet density." Journal of the Institute of Public Health, September 2, 2005.

Percent of Adults Reporting No Leisure-Time Physical Activity

Race/Ethnicity	% reporting no leisure-time activity
White	20%
Asian American	22%
Native American	28%
African American	30%
Hispanic	36%

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Designing for Active Living Among Adults, Spring 2008.

Lack of Community Recreational Space Linked to Less Physical Activity

- According to CDC, creating, improving and promoting places to be physically active can result in a 25% increase in the number of residents who exercise at least three times per week.
- Hispanic neighborhoods are 8.6 times more likely and non-Hispanic black neighborhoods 3.3 times more likely than non-Hispanic white neighborhoods to lack recreational facilities.



Source: Moore et. al. Availability of Recreational Resources in Minority and Low Socio-economic Status Areas. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, January 2006.

Air Pollution: At home and on the Job

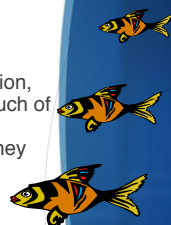
- 91.2% of Hispanics, 86% of African Americans, and 70.3% of whites live in urban settings, which are typically at higher risk for air pollution.
- A majority (71.2%) of Hispanics live in counties with high ozone concentrations, a risk factor for asthma.
- Mexican Americans have up to 3 times higher levels of herbicide exposure than non-Hispanic whites.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Third National Report on Human Exposure to environmental Chemicals, July 2005

Water pollution where Hispanics live...

- Over 1.5 million Hispanics actively participate in fishing for food, recreation, social, or family activity. However, much of the community is unaware of toxic chemical risks present in the water they fish or the fish they eat.
- EPA reports widespread mercury contamination in fish across the US. Fish consumption advisories have been issued by health departments in 43 states.



Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Participation and Expenditure Patterns of African-American, Hispanic, and Female Hunters and Anglers, May 2004.

Why are Hispanics experiencing increased rates of obesity and diabetes and yet have fewer deaths from heart disease than non-Hispanics?

--Elizabeth Nabel, NHLBI Director (10.12.06 Press Release)

Average life expectancy in years

	Males	Females
Non-Hispanic black	68.4	75.1
Non-Hispanic white	74.7	80.1
Hispanic	77.2	83.7
Puerto Ricans (Island)	71.2	80.1

Source: US Census Bureau. "Projected Life Expectancy at Birth by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1999-2100." *Population Projections* January 2000. Puerto Rico Data: Population Division of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, 2002. World Population Prospects: The 2000 Revision. Earth Trends Country Profiles.

"Valuing culture and community."



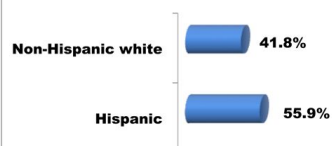
Hispanic Community Health Study

- Largest Hispanic health study.
 - \$ 61 million
 - 16,000 people
 - 6 years
- Goal: Identify prevalence of and risk factors for disease, disorders and other conditions in U.S. Hispanic population.



These findings... suggest that racial and ethnic minorities are as willing as non-Hispanic whites to participate in health research.

Consent rate of ten clinical intervention studies by Hispanic ethnicity.



Source: David Wendler, Raynard Kington, et. al. Are Racial and Ethnic Minorities Less Willing to Participate in Health Research? *PLOS Medicine*, December 2006.

"You measure what you value."



Community-based...



...Promising Practices

HEAN
Health and Environment Action Network



www.HEANaction.org

Annual Hispanic family physical activity and healthy lifestyle event



Address healthy lifestyles through positive messages that celebrate family health through physical activity and movement and incorporate elements of culture

Legislative Opportunities




National Alliance for Hispanic Health
www.hispanichealth.org

- **Good Food to Eat**
 - Tailoring food subsidies to healthy food goals.
 - Child and Adult Care Food Program standards.
 - WIC and Food Stamp use in Farmer's Markets.
 - Tax incentives for supermarkets in "food deserts".
- **Places to Play**
 - Targeting of stimulus to recreational space.
 - Link Community Development Block Grant to plan requirement for community recreational space.
 - Incorporate safe places to play into community oriented policing services.




National Alliance for Hispanic Health
www.hispanichealth.org


- **Clean Air and Safe Water**
 - Revamping clean air and water monitoring to include community-based monitoring.
 - Expand human health monitoring of EPA.
 - Support ATSDR program for linkages between city and state health and environmental departments.
- **Understanding Social Determinants**
 - Include Christensen amendment on disaggregation of data under health reform legislation.
 - Mandate annual compliance report from NIH on racial and ethnic inclusion in research.
 - Move from disparities to "best outcomes for all" model that recognizes positive role of culture and community in health outcomes.



Selected Resources for Community Health



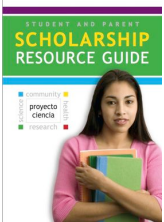
National Alliance for Hispanic Health
www.hispanichealth.org



National Library of Medicine (NLM)

National Alliance for Hispanic Health

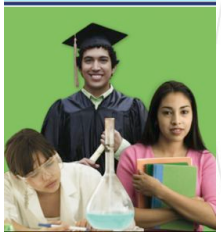
Friends of the NLM



STUDENT AND PARENT SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCE GUIDE

proyecto ciencia

Alliance/Merck Ciencia (Science) Hispanic Scholars Program
Training the next generation of Hispanic scientists



“...the next generation of Nobel Prize winners...”

Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos
Former U.S. Secretary of Education

Resources from the Alliance

Phone
Su Familia National Hispanic Family Health Helpline
(1-866-783-2645)

Web
www.hispanichealth.org

Text Message
SALUD or HEALTH to 30644

