

DISPARATE POPULATIONS: UNDERSTANDING KANSAS

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DEFINITIONS

- How do you define these?
 - Culture
 - Health Disparities



CULTURALLY COMPETENT CAPACITY BUILDING

- Community centered process (CHANGE Tool)
- Understanding historical realities
- Appreciation of the community's assets in its own cultural context



Embracing Cultural Competency (p.7)



CULTURALLY COMPETENT CAPACITY BUILDING (CONT.)

- Process & objectives should:
 - Enhance quality of life
 - Create equal access to necessary resources
 - Partner with the community to foster strategic, progressive social change

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CULTURALLY COMPETENT CAPACITY BUILDING (CONT.)

- Context – Understand historical & cultural realities that relate to the current situation
- Community – Using a process that stays centered in a group of people who face their own unique challenges & possibilities
- Change – altering conditions in ways that advance equity for people with health disparities or health disparity risk and communities of color

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CULTURALLY COMPETENT CAPACITY BUILDING (CONT.)

- There is no wide acceptance yet of cultural competency in capacity building for nonprofits generally.
- Institutional forms of racism and other institutional biases are more difficult to address than interpersonal relations.

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UNDERSTANDING HISTORICAL REALITIES

- Migration & upbringing experiences
- Length of time in the US
- Country & region of origin
- Religious affiliations
- Language abilities & geopolitical differences
- Political affiliations
- Celebrations
- Identify and use indigenous wisdom
- Broker knowledge & resources
- Build bridges across cultural identity groups
- Provide technically superior capacity-building support



KANSAS' POPULATIONS WITH SOME OF THE BIGGEST HEALTH DISPARITIES:

- American Indians
- LGBTQ
- Low-SES Population
- Migrant Workers (not just Hispanic)
- Military
- Rural Citizens
- Individuals with Disabilities
- List is not comprehensive, but rather very limited.



SMOKELESS TOBACCO USE

- Kansan Youth
- Drop in Smoking Tobacco Use
 - Percentage of Kansas High School Students Who Have Ever Tried Cigarette Smoking (even 1 or 2 puffs) (YRBS, 2005 & 2009)
 - 2005 – 51%
 - 2009 – 43.7%
- Laws against smoking in public places are inevitably causing an increase in smokeless tobacco use as the industry is pushing it through media as a means of convenience for smokers to receive their nicotine fix.
- Dual Addiction
- Best way to avoid this: anti-tobacco laws & policies, not just smoke-free laws and policies.



AMERICAN INDIANS

- Traditional Tobacco – spiritual & ceremonial purposes, belief that smoke provides a balance between the world of humans & spirits
- Commercial Tobacco Abuse – using cigarettes for ceremonial purposes leading to nicotine addiction
- American Indian or Alaska Native adults (27.2%) were more likely than white adults (20.9%), black adults (20.7%), and Asian adults (10.9%) to be current smokers. (CDC, 2010)
- American Indian women are the only group in the United States who smoke more cigarettes now than they did 20 years ago. (All Nations Breath of Life, 2011)



LGBTQ POPULATION

- Percentage of LGBTQ Individuals use tobacco – estimated between 24% and 35.6% (Tang, et al., 2004)
- Percentage of Adult Kansans Who are Current Smokers – 17.8% (BRFSS, 2009)



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

- **18.3%** of Kansas adults living with disabilities have been diagnosed with diabetes in 2009.
 - This is **3X higher** than those living without disabilities (6.1%).
- **65.6%** of Kansas adults living with disabilities do not participate in recommended amount of physical activity in 2009.
 - **47.9%** of Kansas adults living without do not participate in recommended amount of physical activity in 2009.
 - **17.7%** difference!

(Simpson, 2009 & BRFSS, 2009)



RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU:

- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) – <http://www.kdheks.gov/brfss/Expansion/index.html>
- Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) – Statewide data
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) – <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/Default.aspx>
- Kansas Information for Communities – <http://kic.kdhe.state.ks.us/kic/index.html>
- US Census – <http://www.census.gov>
- School Enrollment Figures
- State Tobacco Activities Tracking & Evaluation (STATE) System - <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/statesystem/Default/Default.aspx>

DEFINITIONS

- Culture is a variety or multiformity of human social structures, belief systems, and strategies for adapting to situations in different parts of the world.
- Health Disparities (also called healthcare inequality in some countries) refer to gaps in the quality of health and health care across racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and socioeconomic groups.

(Wikipedia, 2011)



WHICH QUESTION DO WE ASK?

- How can I eliminate MY privilege?
- NO
- How can I use my awareness of racism, privilege, and power to be more effective in health promotion and a catalyst for change?



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