

Health Equity Resources

Week of: 10.11.2013



Articles:

- **Geographic and Racial Variation in Teen Pregnancy Rates in Wisconsin.** Wisconsin Medical Journal. “Study found large racial and ethnic disparities in teen birth rates in Wisconsin. The rate of births to black teenagers was over 4 times that of white teenagers...The racial and ethnic disparities may be accounted for by differences in the underlying causes of teen births” [Read more](#)
- **Getting Older, Growing Poorer.** New York Times. “New Census Bureau data shows...from 2011 to 2012, the rate of extreme poverty rose by a statistically significant amount among those 65 and older, meaning that a growing number of them were living at or below 50 percent of the poverty line.” [Read more.](#)
- **Government Shutdown May Hit Poor Hard: Will States Ride to Rescue?** Christian Science Monitor. “Programs for the poor are among those likely to feel the early pinch of the government shutdown, because they depend on annual appropriations from Congress. States, which administer and help to fund these federal programs, are reluctant to identify their criteria for choosing which ones to keep funding and which to let languish. The bottom line, they say, will be cost.” [Read more](#)
- **Health Advocates Say Feds MIA on Social Determinants of Health.** HillTimes (Canada). “The more support that people can access, the less likely they’re going to need a doctor. It’s pretty straightforward. If you’re eating well, you’re socially connected, you’re feeling useful, and you have supports around mental health and addictions, then your physical health is going to improve and you’re going to need less medical care,” said Dr. Moloney, who is also the director of primary care services at Ottawa’s Centretown Community Health Centre. “You don’t have someone having to go to several different programs in different parts of a city to try to help support them around those needs.” [Read more](#)
- **Inequality Is At The Core Of High Health Care Spending: A View From The OECD.** Health Affairs. “It is commonly said that the US spends more than twice as much on health care as other developed countries, yet its outcomes are worse. The inference is that too much care is provided, to no good end...It is difficult not to connect the dots from inadequate social spending to excess poverty and income inequality to more chronic illness and higher health care spending.” [Read more](#)
- **Medicaid Expansion Increases Pap, Breast Exams. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.** “When states made more low-income women eligible for Medicaid family planning services, a significantly higher percentage of those women obtained potentially lifesaving Pap tests and breast exams, according to a study by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health & Society Scholar.” [Read more](#)

- **Miriam Carey, Obamacare and WIC: A Deadly War on Women of Color.** Salon. Though many see Miriam Carey's death as the tragic, but reasonable consequence of her choice to ram the White House gates with her car, she is actually just one more casualty in an ongoing, particularly vicious war on women. The temptation in this case is to read Carey's acts and her death as an anomaly. But her death cannot be understood outside of the broader set of policies governing the treatment of women and people of color in this country. [Read more](#)
- **New Census Bureau Data Show the Distribution of Uninsured Children.** Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. "This paper examines the new data on uninsured children. It also explains how the Affordable Care Act (ACA) can improve coverage, summarizes particular challenges for ACA implementation in Wisconsin, and outlines options for schools to help children get insurance and the health care they need to succeed in school." [Read more](#)
- **Rich People Just Care Less.** New York Times. "Since the 1970s, the gap between the rich and everyone else has skyrocketed. Income inequality is at its highest level in a century. This widening gulf between the haves and have-less troubles me, but not for the obvious reasons. Apart from the financial inequities, I fear the expansion of an entirely different gap, caused by the inability to see oneself in a less advantaged person's shoes. Reducing the economic gap may be impossible without also addressing the gap in empathy." [Read more.](#)
- **The Geographic Inequality of Death Row (INFOGRAPHIC).** Huffington Post. "October 10 marked the 11th World Day Against the Death Penalty, and the United States remains one of the top five countries in the world for executing its citizens — along with China, Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, according to Amnesty International. The 43 executions we carried out last year happened in just nine states; 15 of them were in Texas." [Read more](#)
- **US Women are Dying Younger Than Their Mothers, And No One Knows Why.** The Atlantic. "Research from the UW Madison found that in nearly half of U.S. counties, female mortality rates actually increased between 1992 and 2006, compared to just 3 percent of counties that saw male mortality increase over the same period...While advancements in medicine and technology have prolonged U.S. life expectancy and decreased premature deaths overall, women in parts of the country have been left behind, and in some cases, they are dying younger than they were a generation before. The worst part is no one knows why." [Read more](#)
- **Where Even the Middle Class Can't Afford to Live Anymore.** The Atlantic. "The median income in metro San Francisco is about 60 percent higher than it is in Akron. But the median for-sale housing price per square foot today is about 700 percent higher. The gulf between those two numbers means that the most expensive U.S. cities aren't just unaffordable for the average American middle-class family; they're unaffordable to the relatively well-off middle class by local standards, too." [Read more](#)
- **Wide Disparities in the Income and Assets of People on Medicare by Race and Ethnicity: Now and in the Future.** Kaiser Family Foundation. "One key finding of report: Half of all Medicare beneficiaries had annual incomes below \$22,500 in 2012; median income was considerably lower among black and Hispanic Medicare beneficiaries than among white beneficiaries." [Read more](#)

- **40 Percent of Americans Say Their Neighborhoods Are Unwalkable.** The Atlantic. “Seventy-nine percent of Americans believe they should walk more, but forty percent say they do not do so because their neighborhoods do not have nearby services, shops, schools and work.” [Read more](#)

Tools/Websites:

- **Food Day 2013:** Food Day is a nationwide celebration and a movement for healthy, affordable, and sustainable food. [More information here.](#)

Webinars/Videos:

- **Communicating About Race, Equity and the Economy.** Policy Link. October 15th 12:30-1:30pm. “To build an All-In Nation, advocates and policymakers must talk squarely about how and why racial inequities hinder economic growth and development for everyone. But how can we communicate effectively about race and the economy? On this webinar, some of the foremost experts on communicating about race, equity, and economic opportunity will share tips and strategies.” [Register here](#)
- **Food Policy 101: Expanding Health Food Access on Food Day 2013.** Policy Link. October 24th, 2013 1-2pm CST. “In honor of Food Day, the Healthy Food Access Portal is holding a food policy webinar which will bring together community leaders and activists from throughout the country to share strategies for improving access to healthy foods. Webinar speakers will discuss the best way to harness the power of community to create policy change at the local, state, and federal levels. The webinar will address a range of topics including why healthy food access is important, the role that food policy councils, community leaders, and local government can play in making real policy change, and how to engage community to improve food access and quality. [Join us](#) on Food Day 2013 to grow healthy food access efforts in our communities.
- **Intimate Partner Violence as a Public Health Issue: Violence Against Women Act and Other Legal Protections for Immigrant and LGBT Communities.** Public Health Law Webinar Series. Thursday, October 17th, 12pm-1pm. “Intimate partner violence impacts millions of individuals across the United States, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion or education. With the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Congress has the opportunity to strengthen services for immigrants and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) victims. This webinar will address the importance of viewing intimate partner violence as a public health issue and discuss how VAWA and other legal remedies are used to help vulnerable populations such as immigrants and LGBT individuals.” [Register here](#)
- **What Does Your Life Expectancy Have to Do with Your Zipcode? Everything.** Upworthy. “See how this amazing teacher explains the harsh reality his students face every day.” [Watch here](#)

Conferences/Talks:

- **Diversity and Educational Achievement: A Wisconsin Agenda.** Madison—(Union South). October 21st and 22nd—9-4:30pm. Free. “Setting precedent as a two-day conference for educators, students and community leaders across Wisconsin, the Diversity Forum will feature keynotes by

national thought-leaders as well as discussions regarding our own campus-wide diversity efforts in breakout and workshops.” [Register here](#)

- **Drugs, Guns, and US Policies in Mexico: Lessons from Mexican Human Rights Organization Comité Cerezo.** Witness for Peace.org. Tuesday, October 15th 12pm. Join us for Francisco Cerezo's speaking tour! Francisco will share the story of his struggle against increasing violence, political persecution, and human rights violations in Mexico. [More here](#)
- **Havens Center Visiting Scholars Program. Liberation Studies North: Getting the US Up to Speed.** Multiple lectures October 15, 16 and 17th. Roderick Watts—City University of New York. Mr. Watts is currently working on a three-year evaluation of the National Rites of Passage Institute which disseminates African-centered interventions for Black youth and he is currently the principal investigator for a four-year international study of youth organizing. [More here](#)
- **Midwest Knowledge Mobilization Network.** Madison. October 18th. Free. Midwest Knowledge Mobilization Network (MKMN) is a regional (roughly a day's drive from Chicago) community of practice that provides guidance for practitioners of engaged scholarship & intended for those interested in encouraging stronger community-campus engagement. [More here](#)

From National Association of Chronic Disease Directors Health Equity Council Resources:



- Some “out of the box” suggestions for getting action on the social determinants of health <http://blogs.crikey.com.au/croakey/2013/09/22/some-out-of-the-box-suggestions-for-getting-action-on-the-social-determinants-of-health/>
- Millions of poor left uncovered by health care law. http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/03/health/millions-of-poor-are-left-uncovered-by-health-law.html?hp&_r=0
- Assessment and priorities for health & well-being in native Hawaiians & other Pacific peoples. <http://blog.hawaii.edu/uhmednow/files/2013/09/AP-Hlth-REPORT-2013.pdf>
- The Center for Housing Policy releases a new literature review today by Janet Viveiros and former Center researcher Rebecca Cohen covering research into public opinions on housing affordability issues and how to best communicate around them. The new paper, [Building Support for Affordable Homeownership and Rental Choices: A Summary of Research Findings on Public Opinion and Messaging on Affordable Housing](#), offers housing advocates and practitioners the latest polling data and concepts on how to effectively communicate about housing affordability issues with the public and policymakers. It is the latest report in the Center's *Insights from Housing Policy Research* series.
- On October 1, 2013 the Public Health Institute, along with the California Department of Public Health and the American Public Health Association, released a comprehensive new tool to help all sectors strengthen their capacity to address health and equity: [Health in All Policies: A Guide](#)

[for State and Local Governments.](#)

- "Webinar on Webinars" October 18th - find out why a good webinar may be more like talk radio than anything else. (\$125) <http://www.thegoodmancenter.com/workshops/the-webinar-on-webinars/>
- Excellent (high production values) new brief video that frames fast food/big food and childhood obesity in a way that I think is very helpful from Anna Lappé (Daughter of Frances Moore Lappé): <http://youtu.be/PWOcP-bXuO8>