



Articles:

- **Black Preschoolers Face an Epidemic of Suspensions.** Think Progress. 3/21/2014. “Across all grades, black students suffer suspensions or expulsions at three times the rate of their white counterparts. The rate of suspension has doubled since the 1970s as a growth in ‘zero tolerance’ policies has gripped school districts around the U.S. But studies show that the policy has serious negative implications; students who are suspended, even once, are significantly more likely to drop out of school.” [Read more](#)
- **Growing Evidence that Patients Need an Affordable, Stable Home to be Healthy.** Minnesota Public Radio. 2/4/2014. “Indeed, a growing body of research indicates a strong link between health and housing. If patients' rent is too high, they might avoid spending money on medications to treat diabetes and other diseases. Frequent moves also can lead to or deepen mental health problems. Studies show that without stable homes people are sick more often... There's more undiagnosed illness and people are more likely to seek care in emergency rooms.” [Read more](#)
- **Hispanics Struggle to Graduate: An Issue of School Choice?** National Public Radio. 3/3/2014. “According to a report by the Pew Research Center, only 56 percent of young Hispanic students go to four-year schools — while, for non-Hispanic whites, the same figure is 72 percent. For blacks and for Asian-Americans, those numbers stand at 66 and 79 percent, respectively. ‘Fact of the matter is, students who go to community college are much less likely to catch the prize. They will be less likely to complete, on average, if they start at a two-year college rather than a four-year school.’” [Read more](#)
- **How One Milwaukee Zip Code Explains America’s Mass Incarceration Problem.** Think Progress. 3/20/2014. “Wisconsin, which has the highest percentage of incarcerated black men among all 50 states, now spends more on prisons than education. By age 30-34, only 38 percent of men in the 53206 zip code have not spent time in an adult state correctional facility, according to a 2007 study on the area by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Advocates and policymakers are “miles apart” on reforms to sentencing and reducing barriers to employment, housing and education...cripple convicts for the rest of their lives.” [Read more](#)
- **How One Piece of Obama’s Budget Could Help the Poor in Every State.** Washington Post. 3/19/2014. “One proposal in President Obama’s budget could double the effect of low-income assistance in 15 states and boost it in many more, according to a new analysis. And economists on both sides of the aisle support it. It is the Earned Income Tax Credit, which eases the tax burden on the poor, and Gates argues that expanding it would more clearly serve low-income Americans than a minimum wage hike.” [Read more](#)
- **Income Gap, Meet the Longevity Gap.** New York Times. 3/15/2014. “ ‘Poverty is a thief... it not only diminishes a person’s life chances, it steals years from one’s life.’ The link between income and longevity has been clearly established. Poor people are likelier to smoke. They have less access to the health care system. They tend to weigh more. And their bodies suffer the

debilitating effects of more intense and more constant stress. Everywhere, and across time, the poor tend to live shorter lives than the rich, whether researchers compare the Bangladeshis with the Dutch or minimum-wage workers with millionaires. But is widening income inequality behind the divergence in longevity over the last three decades?" [Read more](#)

- **Income Inequality: A Search for Consequences.** New York Times. 3/25/2014. "One of the plausible consequences of rising inequality is that it allows the 1 percent to take control of the political system, purchasing the power needed to maintain the status quo. If that is the case — and there is plenty of suggestive evidence of this — the widening of the income gap would prove irreversible." [Read more](#)
- **It Saves Millions to Simply Give Homeless People a Place to Live.** Think Progress. 3/24/2014. "It is cheaper to give homeless people a home than it is to leave them on the streets. That's not just the opinion of advocates working to end homelessness, nor is it the opinion of homeless people themselves. It is a fact that has been borne out by studies across the country, from Florida to Colorado and beyond. In the first year alone, researchers found that Moore Place saved taxpayers \$1.8 million. These savings comes from improvements in two primary areas: health care and incarceration." [Read more](#)
- **Liberty, Equality, Efficiency.** New York Times. 3/9/2014. "Low-income children are much less likely to complete college than their affluent counterparts, with the gap widening rapidly. And this isn't just bad for those unlucky enough to be born to the wrong parents; it represents a huge and growing waste of human potential — a waste that surely acts as a powerful if invisible drag on economic growth. Now, I don't want to claim that addressing income inequality would help everyone. The very affluent would lose more from higher taxes than they gained from better economic growth. But it's pretty clear that taking on inequality would be good, not just for the poor, but for the middle class." [Read more](#)
- **Paul Ryan's Unfortunate Poverty Report.** MSNBC: Rachel Maddow Blog. 3/4/2014. "House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) has been pretty aggressive in recent months about leaking word of his recent policy focus [on poverty](#). And so, it didn't come as much of a surprise when Ryan yesterday issued a 204-page [report](#), called "The War on Poverty: 50 Years Later," condemning a variety of federal efforts to reduce poverty in the United States. It's apparently intended to serve as a precursor to the congressman's next budget blueprint, which, predictably, will seek more cuts to Medicaid, Head Start, and food stamps." [Read more here](#)
- **Rich Will Live Life to the Full 20 Years Longer Than Poor, Official Figures Show.** The Telegraph. 3/15/2014. "Children growing up in the richest areas of Britain can expect to live a full, active life for as much as 20 years longer than their counterparts in the poorest neighbourhoods, an official analysis shows. Those from more well-off backgrounds are forecast not only to live longer overall but to enjoy good health for a much larger proportion of their lives. Although it has long been recognised that there is gap between rich and poor in terms of life expectancy, the divide is more than twice as wide when viewed through health expectations." [Read more](#)
- **The Business of the Minimum Wage.** New York Times. 3/2/2014. "The economics of the minimum wage are complicated, and it's far from obvious what an increase would accomplish. If a higher minimum wage were the only anti-poverty initiative available, I would support it...But we could do so much better if we were willing to spend some money. A more generous earned-



income tax credit would provide more support for the working poor and would be pro-business at the same time. And pre-kindergarten education, which the president proposes to make universal, has been shown in rigorous studies to strengthen families and reduce poverty and crime. Why settle for half-measures when such truly first-rate policies are well understood and ready to go?" [Read more](#)

- **The Cities Where Even 3 Minimum Wage Jobs Won't Pay the Rent.** The Atlantic. 3/26/2014. "In high-rent metros like New York, Washington, San Francisco, and L.A., even three minimum wage jobs aren't enough to afford a market-rate two-bedroom apartment." [See map and read more](#)
- **The Most and Least Healthy Counties in America: How College Education, Housing and Transit Affect the Health Status of Americans.** The Atlantic. 3/26/2014. "Are the social determinants of health getting any better? [New County Health Rankings] paint a mixed picture. Rates of uninsurance and unemployment have decreased steadily in recent years and obesity seems to have flatlined. However, the proportion of children living in poverty climbed to 23 percent in 2012, from 18 percent in 2007." [Read more](#)
- **The Root Causes Behind Many Health Problems May Surprise You.** National Journal. 3/13/2014. "Paula Braveman directs the Center on Social Disparities in Health at the University of California (San Francisco) and writes prolifically on the links between class, race, and health. She spoke recently to *National Journal* about the complex relationships among opportunity, biology, personal responsibility, and the way Americans live and die. Edited excerpts [here.](#)"
- **The US Cities Where the Poor are Most Segregated From Everyone Else.** The Atlantic. 3/24/2014. "Less advantaged communities suffer not just from a lack of economic resources but from everything from higher crime and drop-out rates to higher rates of infant mortality and chronic disease. The map here charts the extent of the segregation of the poor across U.S. metros...Poverty is not just the absence of money. It is geographically concentrated and it brings with it a host of troubling "neighborhood effects." '...stigmatization heaped on poor neighborhoods and the grinding poverty of its residents are corrosive, leading to ... 'moral cynicism' and alienation from key institutions, setting up a cycle of decline.' [furthermore] 'neighborhood inequality is multigenerational, something that is passed down from parents to children in the same way that genetic background and financial wealth are transmitted across generations.'" [Read more](#)
- **What Happens When the Government Tries to Help Poor People Move to Better Neighborhoods?** Washington Post. 3/24/2014. "We know that where families live matters, and that neighborhood context can explain some of the difference in life outcomes between a black child and a white child who come from otherwise identical family backgrounds. A child without access to a good school grows up to poor job prospects and lower wages, then as she becomes a parent, she has fewer resources to move her child out of the same neighborhood with high poverty rates, high crime and little opportunity. Systemic disadvantage accumulates across time

in what NYU sociologist Patrick Sharkey calls the ‘inherited ghetto.’ It’s a place that’s extremely difficult to exit, and where inequality perpetually reproduces itself.” [Read more](#)

- **What Makes a Healthy Community?** LA Times. 3/9/2014. “What makes a community healthy? Poverty and wealth are part of the answer. How much schooling people have, what they eat and whether they smoke also play a role. But so do decisions by doctors, hospitals, business leaders and elected officials about what local health systems should do.” [Read more](#)
- **14 Disturbing Stats About Racial Inequality in American Public Schools.** The Nation. 3/21/2014. “[A recent report by the Dept of Education] found that black, Latino and Native American students have less access to advanced math and science courses and are more likely to be taught by first-year instructors than white students. Black and Native American students are also suspended and expelled at disproportionate rates. The Education Department released four papers with the data, analyzing inequality in school discipline, early learning, college readiness and teacher equity. Here’s a breakdown of some of the key findings, taken straight from those papers.”

Policy, Reports & Tools:

- **Are the Long-Term Unemployed on the Margins of the Labor Market?** Brookings Papers on Economic Activity. Spring 2014. “Even after finding another job, reemployment does not fully reset the clock for the long-term unemployed, who are frequently jobless again soon after they gain reemployment: only 11 percent of those who were long-term unemployed in a given month returned to steady, full-time employment a year later.” [Read more here](#)
- **Expanding the Federal EITC: What is Being Proposed (CHART)?** Tax Credits for Working Families. 3/14/2014. “The President has proposed an expansion of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for workers without custodial children. There are also three bills pending in Congress with similar proposals. We have just posted a chart that spells out exactly what is in each of these proposals.” [See chart here](#)
- **Fostering Upward Economic Mobility in the United States.** AEI Economic Studies. March 2014. “In this paper, we review the literature on the state of intergenerational mobility in America. Most studies find that a parent’s level of income is a significant determinant in a child’s income level. The causes for persistence identified by the literature include (1) segregation, (2) income inequality labor market challenges (3) welfare programs, (4) education, and (5) family structure. We provide policy proposals in each of these areas.” [Read more](#)
- **Just the Facts: Earned Income Tax Credit in California.** Public Policy Institute. March 2014. [See here](#)
- **Minnesota’s Tomorrow: Equity is the Superior Growth Model.** PolicyLink & PERE. 2014. “In the face of rising diversity and growing inequality, Minnesota needs to implement a new growth model. This model must be driven by equity—just and fair inclusion into a society in which everyone can participate and prosper. This report aims to spark action by presenting an equitable growth policy agenda focused on growing good jobs, preparing workers for the jobs of tomorrow, and dismantling racial barriers while expanding economic opportunities.” [Read more](#)
- **Our American Story: Personal Stories on the War on Poverty’s Legacy.** Half in Ten Campaign. 2014. “Our American Story wanted to give voice to the millions of Americans whose



lives have been transformed by programs such as nutrition assistance, early education, job training, and other programs that have their roots in the War on Poverty. Many Americans across the country have shared their personal histories with us...This booklet showcases merely 30 of the contributions submitted by parents, children, and service providers who have struggled or are struggling with poverty; they are our neighbors, our relatives, and our teachers.” [See here](#)

- **Strengthening the EITC for Childless Workers Would Promote Work and Reduce Poverty.** Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. 3/20/2014. “The President’s 2015 budget would substantially strengthen the EITC for childless workers. All would lower the eligibility age to 21 and raise the maximum credit and would also phase in the in the credit more rapidly. By making more childless workers eligible for the EITC — including those working full time at the minimum wage — and boosting the credit for workers currently eligible, these measures hold strong promise of increasing employment and reducing poverty.” [Read more](#)
- **Universal Credit: A Primer: Understand the United Kingdom’s New Welfare System and It’s Implications for the United States.** Center for American Progress. 3/17/2014. “The United Kingdom is currently in the process of implementing the Universal Credit, a major overhaul of its social safety net. It is being rolled out in four geographic areas, with six additional pilot sites expected between October 2013 and spring 2014.¹ Meanwhile, some policymakers in the United States are already calling the Universal Credit a success and advocating it as a model for reform. This issue brief provides a concise explanation of the Universal Credit, including its stated goals and the various concerns raised in the United Kingdom about its rollout, barriers, and effectiveness.” [Read more](#)
- **Who Are the Long-term Unemployed and What Happens to Them? (INFOGRAPHIC).** Brookings Institute. 3/20/2014. “Even in good times, the long-term unemployed are on the margins of the labor market, with diminished job prospects and high labor force withdrawal rates. Even after finding another job, reemployment does not fully reset the clock for the long-term unemployed...Only 11 percent of those who were long-term unemployed in a given month returned to steady, full-time employment a year later.” [See here](#)
- **Wisconsin policy database.** Spotlight on Poverty. 2014. “Below is a list of reports about poverty and opportunity in the state.” [See policies](#)
- **Women’s Leadership: What’s True, What’s False, and Why it Matters.** Center for American Progress. March 2014. “Fully integrating women into a nation’s economic life is essential for a society to flourish. That is a message that our country, and other rich nations, have consistently sent to developing nations around the world.² And yet, here at home, we have somehow managed not to heed it.” [Read more](#)

Research & Papers:

- **Finding the Role of Healthcare in Population Health.** JAMA. 2/26/2014. “Health systems have a particular responsibility to improve meaningful health outcomes for those under their care

and for society at large. To meet this responsibility, they will need to (1) take additional responsibility for the health of the patient populations under their care, (2) create and expand partnerships with other entities with the potential to influence health, and (3) respond to societal demands for equity and value.” [Read more here](#)

- **Patient-Centered Community Health Worker Intervention to Improve Posthospital Outcomes: A Randomized Clinical Trial.** JAMA. 2/10/2014. “Socioeconomic and behavioral factors can negatively influence posthospital outcomes among patients of low socioeconomic status (SES). Traditional hospital personnel often lack the time, skills, and community linkages required to address these factors. To determine whether a tailored community health worker (CHW) intervention would improve posthospital outcomes among low-SES patients, this study was conducted. Patient-centered CHW intervention improves access to primary care and quality of discharge while controlling recurrent readmissions in a high-risk population.” [Read more](#)
- **Reaching the hard-to-reach: a systematic review of strategies for improving health and medical research with socially disadvantaged groups.** BMC Medical Research Methodology. March 2014. “This study aims to review the literature regarding the barriers to sampling, recruitment, participation, and retention of members of socioeconomically disadvantaged groups in health research and strategies for increasing the amount of health research conducted with socially disadvantaged groups.” [Read more](#)
- **Social Determinants of Health: From Bench to Bedside.** JAMA. 2/10/2014. “Poverty is misery. It saps nutrients, because the poor may trade sustenance for cheap calories to stave off hunger. It precludes restorative sleep, given the demands of staying alive in the elements of the streets, the noisy crowded quarters, or the grueling hours of a second job. Poverty challenges the most basic levels of safety, security, hygiene, mental health, and the overall well-being of the lives of the almost 50 million Americans and billions worldwide in its grasp.” [Read more](#)
- **Structural Competency: Theorizing a New Medical Engagement With Stigma and Inequality.** Social Science and Medicine. Feb 2014. “This paper describes a shift in medical education away from pedagogic approaches to stigma and inequalities that emphasize cross-cultural understandings of individual patients, toward attention to forces that influence health outcomes at levels above individual interactions. It reviews existing structural approaches to stigma and health inequalities developed outside of medicine, and proposes changes to U.S. medical education that will infuse clinical training with a structural focus.” [Read more](#)

Websites:

- **Community Commons. New data→Multi-family assisted housing.** [See here](#)
- **County Health Rankings: 2014 Data Released.** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and UW Population Health Institute. “For the fifth year in a row, counties can see a snapshot of how healthy their residents are, and look at data across 29 factors that are linked to health. This year’s data includes new measure: children in poverty, college attendance, physical inactivity, smoking and preventable hospital stays.” [See here](#)
- **Practical Playbook—Public Health. Primary Care. Together.** Duke Department of Community and Family Medicine, Centers for Disease Control, de Beaumont Foundation. “The Practical Playbook is a stepping stone in the next transformation of health, in which primary care and public health groups collaborate to achieve population health improvement and



reduced health care costs. It supports increased collaborations between primary care and public health groups by guiding users through the stages of integrated population health improvement.” [See website here](#)

- **Screening for Poverty Should be Included in the Medical Curriculum.** KevinMD Blog. 3/15/2014. “Low socioeconomic status (SES) is a risk factor for a multitude of medical conditions including cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, cancer, and mental illness. In medical training, learners are educated on SES and poverty as significant predictors of health, but there is little evidence to suggest that students are adequately trained to meet the unique health needs of people living in poverty...Screening and interventions for poverty should be included in the medical curriculum.” [Read more](#)
- **Where Income Is Higher, Life Spans Are Longer (INFOGRAPHIC).** New York Times. 3/15/2014. “As incomes have diverged between the country’s richest counties, like Fairfax County, Va., and its poorest ones, like McDowell County, W.Va., so have the life expectancies of their residents.” [See here](#)
- **Wisconsin Connections. UW Extension.** “Wisconsin Connections is an educational series intended to assist families wanting to connect to state and federal support programs. A number of state and federal assistance programs are available to promote family economic well-being. These programs are generally targeted to households with limited incomes to assist with child care and child support, acquiring food and health care, and home energy.” [See here](#)

Webinars, Recordings & Videos:

- **A Practitioners Guide for Advancing Health Equity: Maximizing Local Strategies to Advance Health Equity.** CDC. April 2nd, 1-2:30pm CST. “This Webinar will provide participants with an overview of the Practitioner’s Health Equity Guide and will highlight community examples of health equity integration in tobacco-free living and healthy eating strategies. These presentations are designed to ignite ideas on how to effectively advance and sustain health equity efforts and improve health outcomes.” [Register here](#)
- **Brain Hero (VIDEO).** Center on the Developing Child—Harvard. “The three-minute video depicts how actions by a range of people in the family and community can affect a child’s development. The video adapts the visual sensibility of interactive game models to a video format and portrays how actions taken by parents, teachers, policymakers, and others can influence life outcomes for both the child and the surrounding community.” [Watch here](#)
- **Doctors Need to be Political Advocates for Patients, Expert Says. Vanderbilt University. 3/11/2014.** “Doctors and other health care workers of the future need to be political advocates as well as personal advisers. If we really do believe – and I think the evidence is strong – that people’s morbidity and mortality is linked to their zip code as much as their genetic code – then doctors need to be aware of how social factors can make people sick and kill them...Doctors

need to be advocates for improving not just biological conditions, but also social ones.” [Watch video](#)

- **Head Start Program Uses Brain Science to Help Kids Heal.** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. 3/20/2014. “Watch a new video documenting how Head Start Trauma Smart works. Hear some of the stories of kids who have been exposed to traumatic events that are almost unimaginable and of the caring adults who are helping them heal.” [Watch here](#)
- **Wellbeing: Mayors Challenge Finalist Video.** Santa Monica California. Feb 2013. “This video is part of Santa Monica's entry in the Mayors Challenge Fan Favorite Selection, a partnership between The Huffington Post and Bloomberg Philanthropies that allows readers to vote on their favorite idea among the 20 Mayors Challenge finalists.” [Watch here](#)
- **6 Surprising Facts About the Minimum Wage.** Center for American Progress. 3/26/2014. [Watch video here](#)

Conferences & Presentations:

- **Health Impact Project: 2014 Call for Proposals.** Due April 2, 2014. “The Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and The Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew), promotes the use of Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) and related approaches to help policy-makers in a wide range of fields incorporate health considerations into new policies, programs, plans, and projects, and make decisions that reduce unnecessary health risks, improve health, and decrease costs. This call for proposals (CFP) supports two types of initiatives.” [See here](#)
- **In the Interest of Others: Organizations and Social Activism.** Institute for Research on Poverty, La Follette School of Public Affairs, and UW Madison Department of Political Science. April 11th, 2014. 12:12-1:30pm. UW Madison Campus Wisconsin Idea Room, 159 Education Building on Bascom Hall. Free. [More information here](#)
- **More Than Skin Deep: Uprooting White Privilege and White Supremacy One Cell at a Time—A Three Day Institute.** Aug 1-3, 2014. Minneapolis, MN. “This three-day institute is for White people who already have an understanding of Race, Racism and particularly Whiteness (RRW), and who want to learn more about how to dismantle Whiteness (White Privilege and White Supremacy) through embodiment work, education, visioning and practical action.” [Register here](#)
- **National Public Health Week—**April 7-13, 2014. [Information here](#)
- **OutReach & Willma's Fund Conference on LGBT Homelessness.** April 8th, 9-4pm. Madison, WI. “This full day conference will explore the special challenges that LGBT homeless people face, and work toward solutions to those challenges.” [Register here](#)
- **Safe Schools, Safe Communities: Wisconsin Statewide Conference on LGBT Youth.** April 11th 8:30-4:15 Kenosha, WI. GSAFE and Diverse and Resilient. “Anyone interested in developing the resiliency, safety, and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth should attend this conference. This year’s conference will focus on what adults



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and youth leaders can do to build school, family, and community support for LGBT youth in our state while nurturing the inner strength and resiliency of our youth.” [Register here](#)

- **Unemployment and Inequality: A Path Forward.** Madison Institute. Friday April 4th 7:30-9pm. UW Campus, 455 N. Park Street—The Humanities Building, Room 2650. Free. “Dean Baker is co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, DC. He is frequently cited in economics reporting in major media outlets and writes a weekly column for the [Guardian Unlimited](#) (UK), the [Huffington Post](#), [TruthOut](#), and his blog, [Beat the Press](#), features commentary on economic reporting.” [See more here](#)
- **Wisconsin Public Health Association Annual Meeting:** Navigating Change Through Social Innovation. May 13-15, 2014. Hyatt Regency, Milwaukee. [More here](#)