

Eliminating Health Disparities

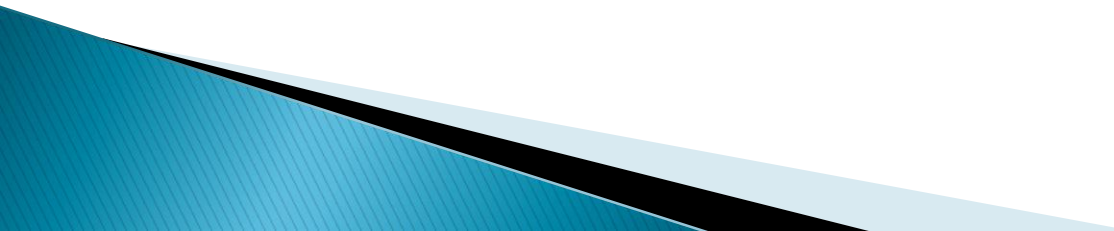
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- ▶ We have a responsibility as a state to protect our most vulnerable citizens: our children, seniors, people with disabilities. That is our moral obligation. But there is an economic justification too – we all pay when the basic needs of our citizens are unmet.

– John Lynch, American football player



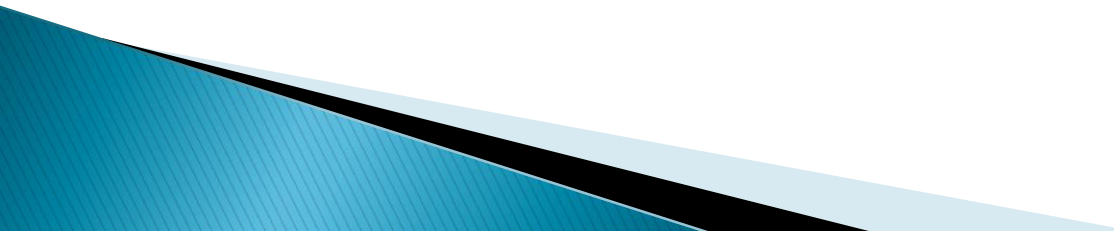
Behavioral Objectives

- ▶ Students will be able to define disparities and be able to identify some of the disparities Healthy People 2020 have identified by the end of this conference
 - ▶ Students will be able to identify ways to help to decrease disparities in their local community by the end of this conference
 - ▶ Students will be able to identify vulnerable populations that are at risk for having health disparities by the end of this conference
 - ▶ Students will be able to show understanding of how community nurses can help/deal with disparities by stating the community nurse's role in eliminating health disparities by the end of this conference
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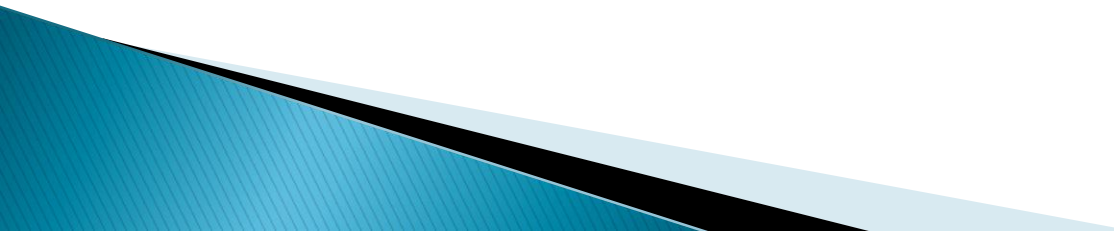
What are Health Disparities?

- ▶ Defined by the National Institute of Health as “differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States.”

Vulnerable & Underserved Populations

- ▶ Vulnerable Populations
 - ▶ Underserved Populations
 - ▶ Difference between the two
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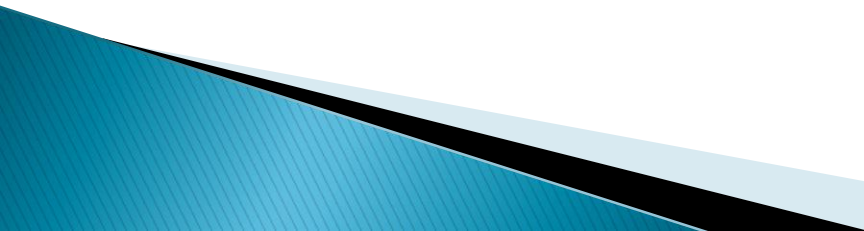
Underserved Population Groups

- ▶ Racial and ethnic minority groups
 - ▶ Low-income groups
 - ▶ Women
 - ▶ Children – under the age of 18.
 - ▶ Elderly – over the age of 65.
 - ▶ Residents of rural areas
 - ▶ Individuals with special care needs including individuals with disabilities and individuals who need chronic or end of life care.
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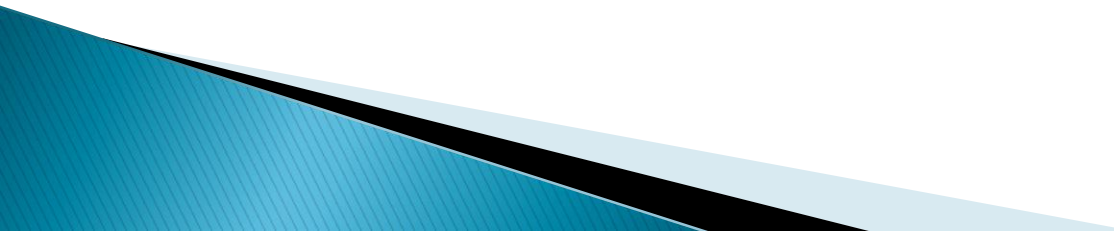
Determinants of Health

- ▶ Factors that influence an individual's or population's health
 - Health and health services
 - Socioeconomic status
 - Physical environment
 - Discrimination
 - Racism
 - Literacy levels
 - Legislative policies

Health Personnel Issues

- ▶ Health professional shortage areas (HPSAs), medically underserved areas (MUAs), and medically underserved populations (MUPs) is a part of the system that establishes a designation that becomes the focus of federal assistance.
 - ▶ Primary care HPSAs
 - ▶ Dental HPSAs
 - ▶ Mental Health HPSAs
 - ▶ MUAs
 - ▶ MUPs
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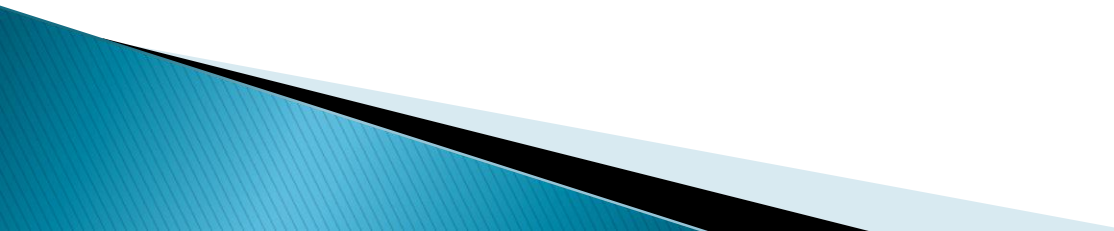
Health Care Access

- ▶ Definition of health care access
 - ▶ Obtaining health care
 - ▶ How health care access is measured
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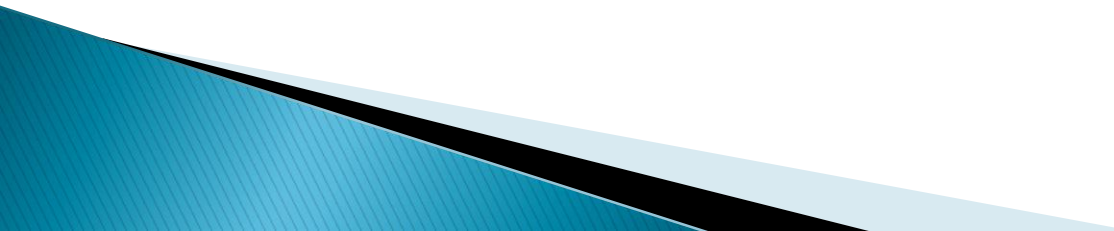
Facilitating / Barriers to Health Care

- ▶ Health Insurance
 - ▶ Primary Care Providers
 - ▶ Patient perceptions of needs
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Racial and Ethnic Minorities

- ▶ In 2008, approximately 33% (100 million persons) identified themselves as belonging to a racial or minority population.
 - ▶ Racial and ethnic minorities are more likely to be poor.
 - ▶ Hispanics, Blacks, and some Asian subgroups are less likely than non-Hispanic Whites to have a high school education.
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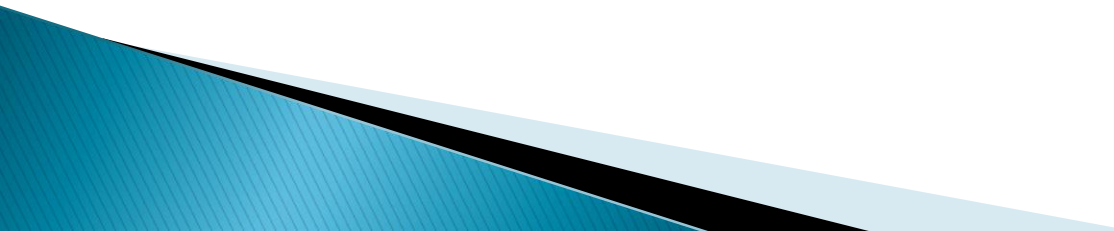
Low Income Groups

- ▶ Individuals that live in families whose income falls below specific poverty thresholds.
 - ▶ Poverty varies depending on race and ethnicity.
 - ▶ People with low income generally have worse experiences with health and health care.
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Rural Area Residents

- ▶ A rural area is defined as population of people that live outside an urban area. An urban area is considered to be all persons living in urban areas and in places (cities, towns, villages) with a population of 2,500 or more outside of urban areas are considered the urban population.
- ▶ Individuals who live in a rural area must fight social inequalities and health disparities.
- ▶ 1 in 5 Americans live in a rural area.
- ▶ Residents in rural areas are more likely to be:
 - Older
 - Poor
 - Be in fair/poor health
 - Have chronic conditions

Rural Areas

- ▶ 2,000 rural hospitals throughout the country
 - ▶ Many rural residents need transportation assistance or must travel longer distances to reach health care delivery sites.
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Individuals with Disabilities or Special Health Care Needs

- ▶ This group includes:
 - Individuals with disabilities
 - Individuals who use nursing home, home health care, or end of life health care
 - Children with special health care needs
 - Mentally ill individuals

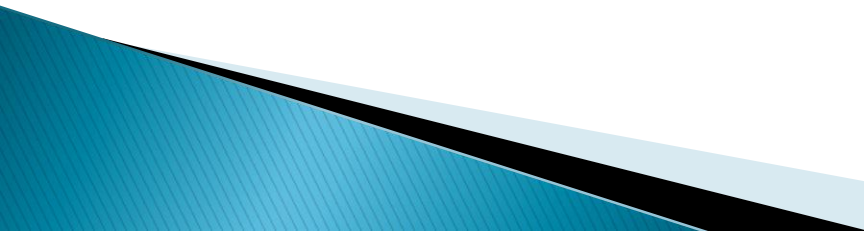
Occupational and Environmental Health Problems

- ▶ Farmers
 - ▶ USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
 - ▶ Families and Farms
 - ▶ Community and Public Health Nurses
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Healthy People 2020

- ▶ Health equity
- ▶ Health disparity

Healthy People 2020

- ▶ In 2008, approximately 33 percent, or more than 100 million persons, identified themselves as belonging to a racial or ethnic minority population.
 - ▶ In 2008, 51 percent, or 154 million, were women.
 - ▶ In 2008, approximately 12 percent, or 36 million people not living in nursing homes or other residential care facilities, had a disability.
 - ▶ In 2008, an estimated 70.5 million persons lived in rural areas (23 percent of the population), while roughly 233.5 million lived in urban areas (77 percent).
 - ▶ In 2002, an estimated 4 percent of the U.S. population aged 18 to 44 years identified themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender
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Goals of Healthy People

- ▶ Healthy People has had goals in the past two decades to focus on disparities.
 - ▶ Healthy People 2000
 - ▶ Healthy People 2010
 - ▶ Healthy People 2020
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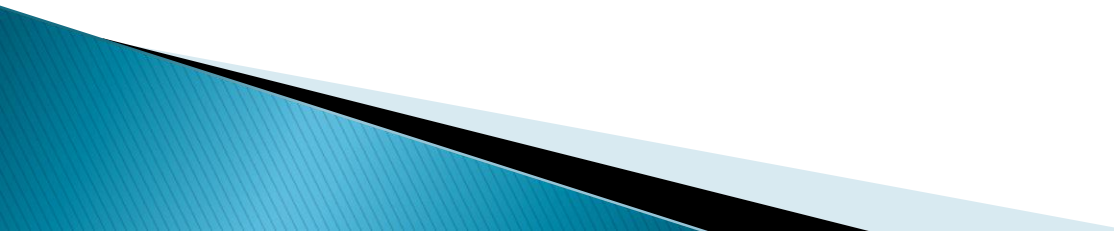
What can we do?



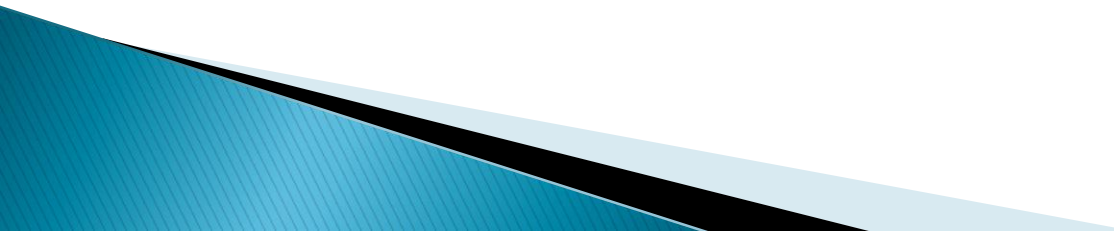
Office of the Surgeon General

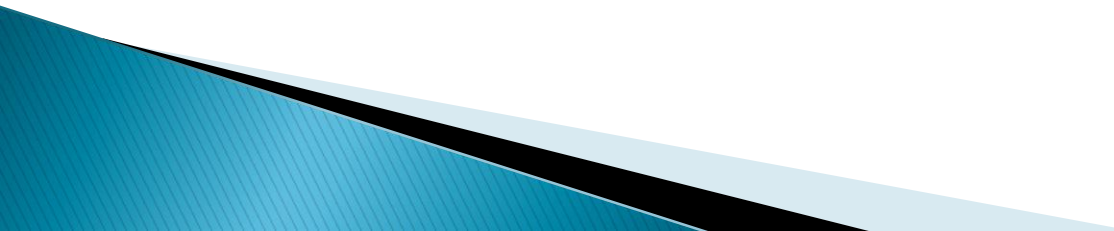
- ▶ Priority and why?
- ▶ Solving/Addressing this Priority
- ▶ How is the office of the surgeon general helping?

Addressing Health Care Disparities

- ▶ Raising public and provider awareness of disparities in care
 - ▶ Expanding health insurance coverage
 - ▶ Improving the capacity and number of providers in underserved communities
 - ▶ Increasing the knowledge base on causes and interventions to reduce disparities
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Eliminating Health Disparities

- ▶ The Department of Health and Human Services is urged to enhance the quality, reliability, and completeness of its data collection and integration on racial, ethnic, and linguistic subpopulations in the United States and U.S. territories.
 - ▶ How?
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- ▶ HHS is urged to increase and strengthen the capacity of its health statistics infrastructure to analyze, report, and disseminate data on the various ethnic, racial, and linguistic subpopulations in the United States and territories.
 - ▶ How?
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Conclusion

- ▶ It is going to take a long time to completely eliminate health disparities.
- ▶ The U.S. is working eliminate the number of health disparities.

Critical Thinking...

- ▶ What do you think is a good way to eliminate health disparities?

- ▶ What are the different types of health disparities? What type of populations are most at risk of health disparities?
 - ▶ What are the characteristics of people who live in rural areas?
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