

Addressing Disparities and Disproportionality in Systems Serving Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

August 14, 2015

Web-based Learning & Reflection Forum Description

When compared to non-Hispanic Whites, members of other racial and ethnic groups continue to be adversely impacted by health *and* health care disparities. Since 1999, these disparities have been well documented in annual reports to Congress, mandated by P.L. 106-129, submitted by the Agency for Healthcare Research Quality.^{1,2} While there is substantial evidence about health *and* health care disparities among identified racial and ethnic groups, there is little in this literature that examines health disparities at the intersection of race, ethnicity, and disability.³⁻⁶ Conversely, there is a wealth of evidence about the overrepresentation or disproportionality of students primarily African American and most recently Latino in special education⁷⁻⁹ and children and youth with disabilities (across racial and ethnic groups) are disproportionately placed in this nation's juvenile justice system.¹⁰ This forum will explore contributing factors to disparities and disproportionality and what three organizations are doing at the policy and practice levels to mitigate them.

Forum Objectives

Participants will:

1. Define and differentiate between health and health care disparities.
2. Define disproportionality and overrepresentation.
3. Cite the impact of disparities and disproportionality on individuals with disabilities and their families.
4. List three approaches to combat or mitigate health/health care disparities and disproportionality in education and juvenile justice.
5. Reflect on the role of leadership in bringing about change.

SELECTED REFERENCES

- ¹ Overview National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report. Retrieved on 8/4/15 from <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqdr/nhqdr14/index.html>
- ² 2014 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; May 2015. AHRQ Pub. No. 15-0007. Retrieved on 8/4/15 from <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqdr/nhqdr14/2014nhqdr.pdf>
- ³ Horner-Johnson, W., Fujiura, G. & Goode, T. (Eds.) Healthcare at the Intersection of Disability, Race, and Ethnicity. *Medical Care* October 2014, Volume 52, Issue 10, Supplement 3. <http://journals.lww.com/ww-medicalcare/toc/2014/10001>
- ⁴ Peterson-Besse, J. J., Horner-Johnson, W., Walsh, E., Goode, T., & Wheeler, B. Barriers to Health Care Access at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Disability: A Scoping Review of the Literature. *Medical Care*, October 2014, Volume 52, Issue 10, S51-S63. [http://journals.lww.com/ww-medicalcare/Fulltext/2014/10001/Barriers to Health Care Among People With.10.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/ww-medicalcare/Fulltext/2014/10001/Barriers_to_Health_Care_Among_People_With.10.aspx)
- ⁵ Goode, T., Carter-Pokras, O., Horner-Johnson, W., & Yee, Silvia. Parallel tracks: reflections on the need for collaborative health disparities research on race/ethnicity and disability. *Medical Care* October 2014, Volume 52, Issue 10, S3-S8. [http://journals.lww.com/ww-medicalcare/Fulltext/2014/10001/Parallel Tracks Reflections on the Need for.4.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/ww-medicalcare/Fulltext/2014/10001/Parallel_Tracks_Reflections_on_the_Need_for.4.aspx)
- ⁶ Jones CP. Systems of Power, Axes of Inequity: Parallels, Intersections, Braiding the Strands. *Med Care*.2014;52Suppl 3S71–S75.
- ⁷ Harry, B. & Klingner, J. (2014). *Why are so many minority students in special education: Understanding race and disability in school* (2nd ed.). New York: Teachers College Press.
- ⁸ Cartledge, G. & Dukes, C. (2009). Disproportionality of African American children in special education: Definitions and dimensions. In L.C. Tillman (Ed.), *The Sage handbook of African American education*. (pp 383-398). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- ⁹ Blanchett, W.J. Disproportionate Representation of African American Students in Special Education: Acknowledging the Role of White Privilege and Racism. *Educational Researcher*, 2006 35:24. <http://edlrs710-fall2010.wikispaces.com/file/view/overrepresentation+of+AA+in+sped.pdf>
- ¹⁰ National Disability Rights Network (2015). Orphanages, Training Schools, Reform Schools, and Now This? Recommendations to Prevent the Disproportionate Placement of Inadequate Treatment of Children with Disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System. Retrieved on 8/4/15 from <http://www.ndrn.org/en/component/content/article/24-hompagestories/258-crisis-in-the-juvenile-justice-system.html>

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Klingner, J. K., Artiles, A. J., Kozleski, E., Harry, B., Zion, S., Tate, W., Durán, G. Z., & Riley, D. (2005). Addressing the disproportionate representation of culturally and linguistically diverse students in special education through culturally responsive educational systems. *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, 13(38). Retrieved on 8/13/15 from <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ846743.pdf>

Krahn, G. , Walker, D., Correa-DeAraujo. Persons with disabilities as an unrecognized health disparity population. *Am J Public Health*. 2015 Apr;105 Suppl 2:S198-206. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2014.302182. Epub 2015 Feb 17. Retrieved on 8/13/15 from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.gov/pubmed/25689212>

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