SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Wildfire June 29, 2021

Serena Unrein, Arizona Partnership for Healthy Communities



Arizona Partnership for Healthy Communities

What do we do?

- Convene partners from across sectors to talk about what allows for health & well-being
- Build capacity for community-driven solutions to improve health





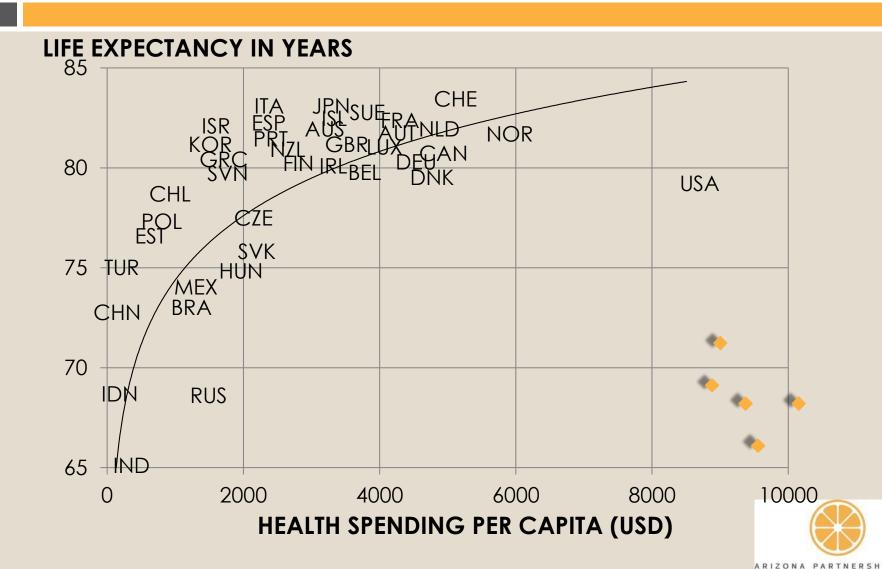
What is "health"?

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."

Preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organization, June 1946



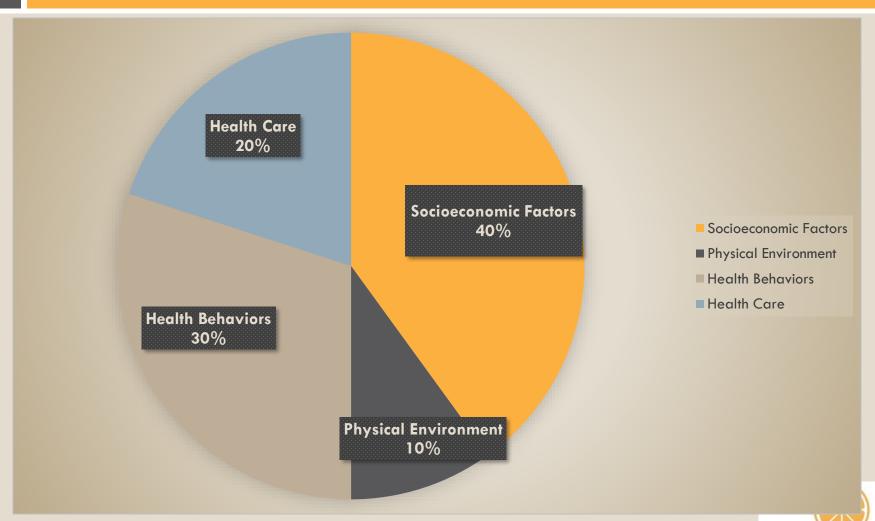
Life Expectancy vs. Health Spending



HEALTHY COMMUNITI

HEALTH ZARE

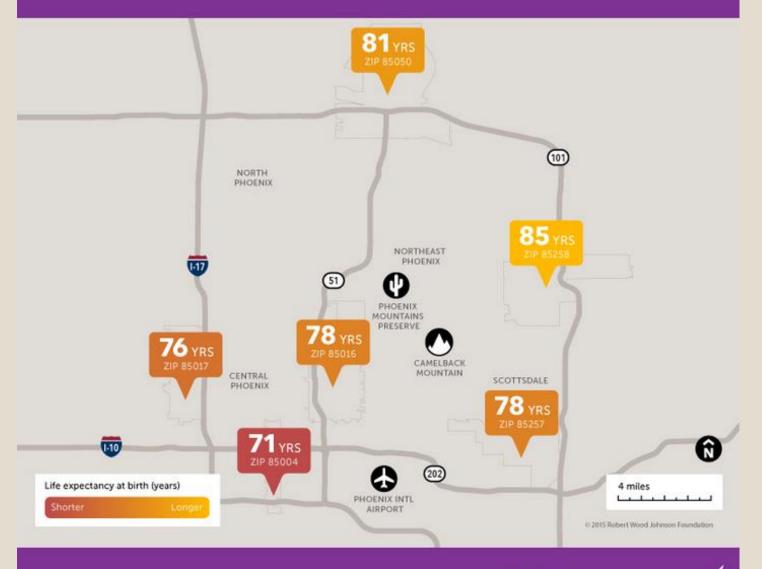
What influences our health



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

#CloseHealthGaps

Short Distances to Large Gaps in Health

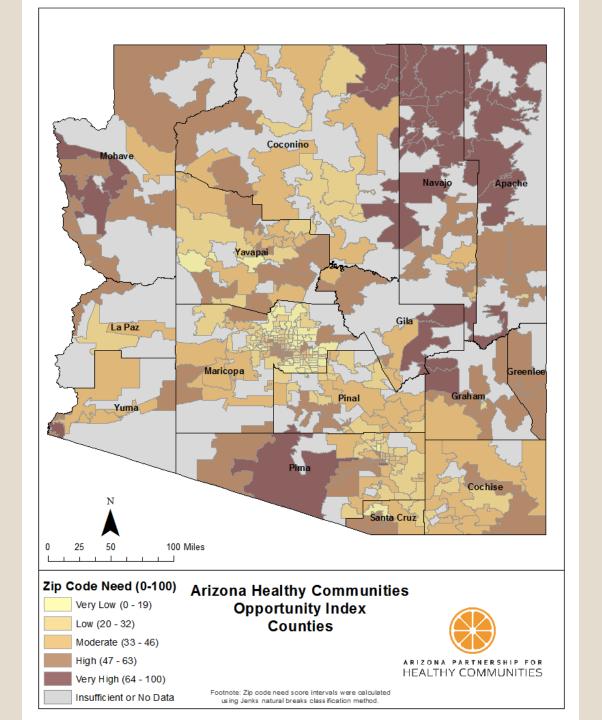








OUR ZIP CODE IS MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR HEALTH THAN OUR GENETIC CODE.



THE CHOICES YOU MAKE DEPEND ON THE CHOICES YOU HAVE.

Health equity

- COVID exposed inequities that already existed
 - Now is an opportunity to rebuild, reimagine
- Historical policies
 - Redlining
 - Access to opportunity
- Systemic racism
 - Health care system that treats people differently
 - Disparities, disproportionate impact



Health Occurs Where You Live





Intersection of Housing & Health

- Our dwelling is at the very core of healthy lives.
- Why? We spend
 2/3 of our time in our homes.
- Home is the base of our life-physical, social, spiritual

PLACE MATTERS

The Arizona Partnership for Healthy Communities "Place Matters" series identifies how factors outside of health care impact health, identifies successful evidence-based practices for improving health outcomes, and demonstrates evidence of cost savings in healthy communities work. This piece in the series examines the connections between housing and health.





Families who have trouble paying for housing are 84% more likely to delay necessary medical care and 116% more likely to postpone purchasing needed medications.

Only 1 out of every 4 extremely low income renters can find an affordable apartment in Arizona.





Health care costs for treating diseases caused by obesity are estimated at approximately \$100 billion. Investment in prevention - including housing and healthy communities - reduces overall health care costs.

Residents of the most walkable communities within the county are more likely to meet the U.S. Surgeon General recommended 30 minutes per day of moderate activity.



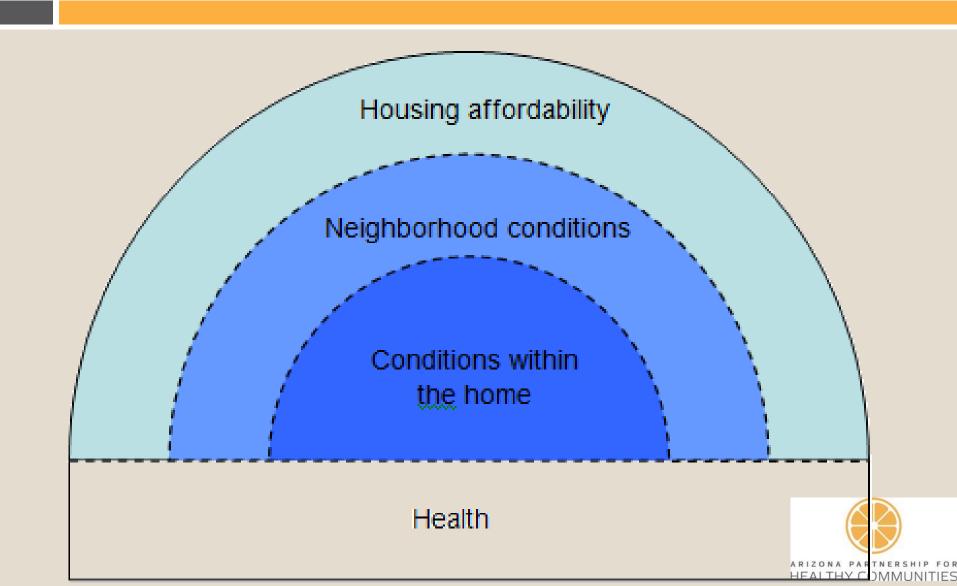


Seniors in supportive housing are half as likely to enter nursing homes as seniors in buildings without supportive services

A Housing First program in Seattle serving homeless individuals with severe alcohol problems showed a health care costs savings of \$42,964 per person per year. This more than offsets the \$13,440 per person costs of housing and services provided to program participants.



How Housing Affects Health



Housing Affordability/Instability

 Only 1 out of every 4 extremely lowincome renters can find an affordable apartment in AZ





Neighborhood Conditions

- Safety
- Transportation
- Access to healthy foods
- Access to employment opportunities
- Schools



Physical Condition of Home

- Lead exposure
- Cold and heat exposure
- Accessibility and accommodations
- Substandard conditions: water, ventilation, pests, mold, allergens
- Radon, asbestos, tobacco smoke
- Structural factors leading to injuries





Housing Inequity = Health Inequity

Poor quality housing

Poor neighborhood conditions



Paying too much for rent



Poor health outcomes



Climate Issue or Health Issue?

- Extreme heat
- Air quality
- Climate that supports growing fresh food
- Transportation options such as walking, biking, access to public transportation
- Amount of trees & shade
- Amount of parks & green spaces

Adjacencies vs. externalities



Healthy Climate, Healthy Communities

- Same communities often feel disproportionate impacts to both climate change & lack of social supports
- Solutions that are good for climate are also good for health and vice versa





For example: Energy/Cooling

- High heat days:
 - Higher utility bills → utility shut-offs →
 adverse health impacts
- Issues are not isolated
- Warmer future means more energy demand, energy costs will go up
 - Higher utility bills
 - Threats to energy production and reliability
 - Increased heat stress



The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Climate Solutions

How America's hottest city will survive climate change

In Edison-Eastlake, where Ortiz lives, the summertime average temperature is 105 degrees. Most residents are people of color, a legacy of discriminatory housing practices known as redlining. And the majority of people live in public housing built more than 50 years ago – concrete structures that trap heat, which can overwhelm aging air-conditioning systems.

At night, it's as much as <u>10 degrees hotter</u> in Edison-Eastlake than in wealthier communities. Just over 5 percent of the neighborhood has trees, making it one of the most barren and sunbaked communities in Maricopa County.

Sustainable, Healthy Communities

- Goal is for all people to thrive
- How do we do that?
 - Collaborate across sectors
 - Focus on equity
 - Support communitydriven solutions



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