

Health Equity Conference

Advancing the Public Health through Community Engagement and Communication
September 22-23, 2011

Greater Richmond Convention Center

www.vapha.org

SAVE THE DATE



Research has documented striking disparities in the life expectancy and mortality of those living in the United States, with **Asian females outliving black males by 17.6 years** on average in 2010. In Virginia, 10.2% of the total population and **13.8% of children** (250,000 total children) **lived below the Federal Poverty Level** in 2008 and, while African Americans make up just 19% of the Virginia population, **African American children account for 47% of the children living in poverty in Virginia**. Ample evidence demonstrates that some subgroups in the United States are more likely to experience death and diseases, such as HIV and cancer. Despite efforts to reduce health inequities, research indicates widening socioeconomic disparities and continuing gaps.

Join us for a conference that will feature nationally renowned speakers with presentations that will address relevant issues facing underserved populations in Virginia, as well as national and global health disparities, how disparities are defined and measured, strategies for the reduction of disparities, and current policy and advocacy issues.

Target Audience

Public health workers, legislators, policy makers, city and county managers/planners, non-profit representatives, health care professionals, community and housing representatives, social workers, transportation planners, geographers, parks and recreation staff, educators, including faculty and students, and faith communities.

Conference Purpose

The conference will serve as a forum to discuss practices and policies to strengthen communities and address the root social, political and economic causes of inequities in health in Virginia.

Conference Objectives

This program will help participants increase awareness and identify needs surrounding health disparities, and evaluate the effectiveness of current practices, in order to improve the capacity of the public health workforce to address health equity. Participants will:

- Learn about health inequities and their root causes and some of the effective methods being developed at the local level to address them
- Discuss how place can affect health and what we can do to begin mitigating negative impacts and transforming neighborhoods
- Discuss how health equity measures can be used to help improve health at the local level
- Learn how to communicate more effectively across cultures
- Understand and apply specific tools that can aid in addressing inequities in the neighborhood environment, including community-based participatory approach; coalition-building; and health impact assessments.



Conference Partners:

• Virginia Public Health Association • Virginia Department of Health (Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, Division of Child and Family Health, Division of Disease Prevention, Health Informatics & Integrated Surveillance Systems, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity & Food Programs) • Commonwealth Public Health Training Center • Eastern Virginia Medical School/Old Dominion University Graduate Program in Public Health • George Mason University Masters of Public Health Program • Graduate Medical Education Consortium and Area Health Education Center at UVA-Wise • Institute for Public Health Innovation • Northern Virginia Health Foundation • Patient Advocate Foundation • University of Virginia Masters of Public Health Program • VCU Center on Human Needs • Virginia Rural Health Association • Virginia Tech Public Health Program

The Virginia Public Health Association
Connecting the Voices of Public Health in Virginia