

Media Engagement: **Essential for Improving** Population Health and **Enhancing Nurses** Contributions to Health Reform

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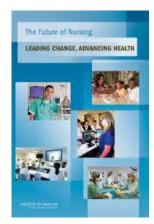


**Building capacity to better address** population health

### 2010



- · ACA improved access to health care coverage.
- · Understood that meeting demands for care and the care delivered were issues that needed to be addressed.





## Future of Nursing 2010: Key messages

Improve access to care

Foster interprofessional care

Promote nursing leadership

Transform nursing education

Increase diversity in education

Collect workforce data

### Future of Nursing: Drivers

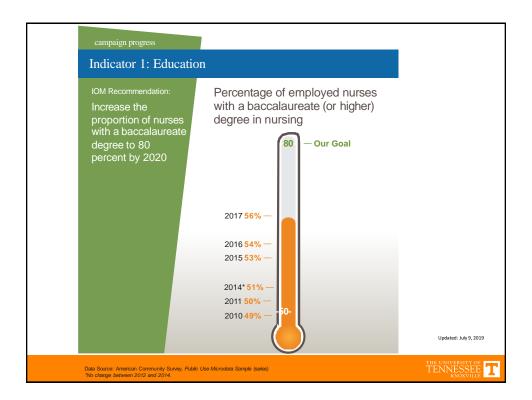
- Aging
- Increased diversity
- Complex evolving health care system

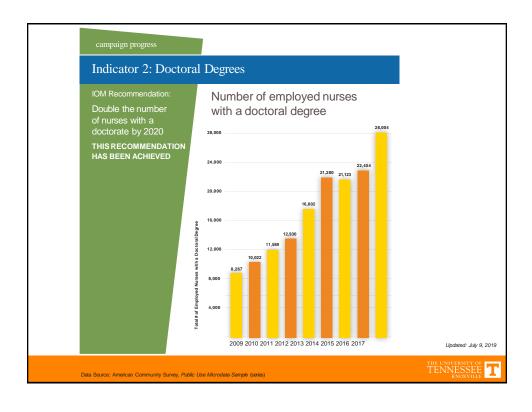




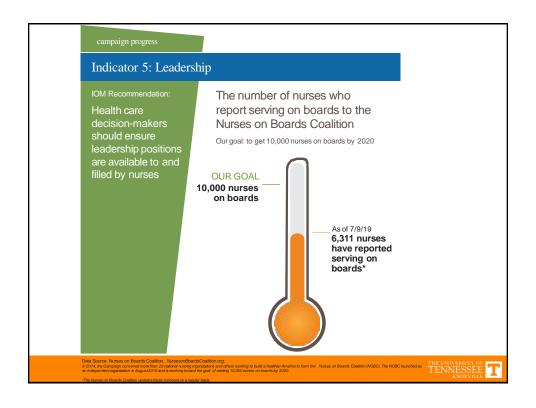












# Making population health a priority

### What is a population?

Collection of individuals who have one or more personal or environmental characteristics in common



(Williams & Highriter, 1978)





### What is health?



"A state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity"

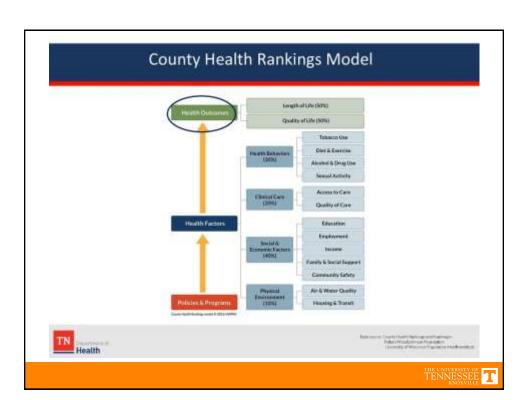
(World Health Organization)

# Health is more than health care and personal choices.



To measurably improve health status and reduce inequities, we must address social determinants of health.

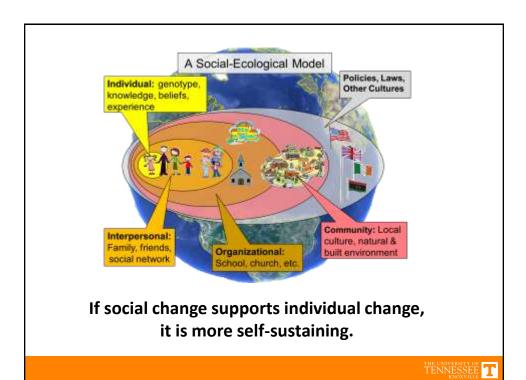
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Improving health requires a broad-based cross-sectoral view and collaboration.





### **Key ideas**

- Factors at multiple levels affect human behavior
- Essential to understand and address barriers and constraints to behavior change at multiple levels
- Unrealistic to expect individuals to change behavior if barriers at higher levels are insurmountable

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### What is population health?

"The health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group"

(Kindig, 2007; Kindig & Stoddart, 2003).

"An approach to health that aims to improve the health of an entire population and to reduce health inequities among population groups. In order to reach the objectives, it looks at and acts upon the broad range of factors and conditions that have a strong influence on our health"

(Population Health Agency of Canada).



### **Population health foci:**

Wellness, prevention and health promotion Upstream causes of health problems Social determinants of health Community conditions All people Partnerships between health and other sectors



### Population health-based practice: **Key characteristics**

- Focused on entire population
- Grounded in an assessment of the population's health status
- Considers broad determinants of health
- Emphasizes all level of prevention
- Intervenes with communities, systems, individuals, and families

Source: Minnesota Department of Health, 2003

### Population health-based practice: Goals

Provide evidence-based care to targeted groups of people with similar needs in order to improve outcomes and reduce disparities.





### **Health disparities**

### What is a disparity?

### disparity

n.

pl. disparities

- 1. inequality or difference, as in rank, amount, quality, etc.
- 2. unlikeness; incongruity



### What are health disparities?

- Differential outcomes in health and health care according to:
  - o Race
  - Ethnicity
  - Personal attributes –age, sex, gender
  - Socioeconomic status
  - Educational level
  - Geographic location
- Disproportionate burden of poor health status and premature mortality



### **Building an understanding**

The common denominator of various definitions of health disparities is differences...

### Population differences in:

- Environmental exposures
- · Health care access, utilization or quality
- · Health status
- · Health outcomes
- Other



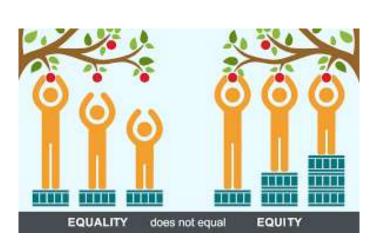
### Social justice



- The concept of health disparity has also taken on the implication of injustice.
- Whitehead (1991) defines a health disparity as: "differences in health which are not only unnecessary and avoidable, but, in addition, are considered unfair and unjust"







Allies for Reaching Community Health Equity

# Principles health equity Focus on needs marginalized people Create fair social environment Recognize intersection of issues Value all human life Promote authentic relationships Leverage community power Work with & in community Allies for Reaching Community Health Equity

# Social determinants of health (SDOH)

- One group of factors that shape population health
- Affect whole population, not just poorest and most vulnerable

SDOH positively influence health in certain populations and cause harm in others

(Green & Zook, 2019)

### **Embracing a population health** perspective

- Words matter
- Nursing actions and goals must be congruent
- · Not business as usual
- Population health care is in addition to long-established care of individuals, groups, and communities







### SDOH

Upstream social factors that shape population health (Green & Zook, 2019)



### Social needs

Downstream manifestation of the impact of SDOH



### Social risk factors

"Specific adverse social conditions associated with poor health" (Alderwick, 2019; WHO)



Using media to enhance efforts to improve population health



# New ways for new challenges



We need to get out of our silos.



Media is a powerful and poorly utilized tool.



### Woodhull studies (1997 & 2018)

Nurses	1997	2018
% quotes newspapers	4%	2%
% quotes weekly & industry pubs	1%	
% mentioned in article	14%	13%
% identified in photographs	0%	4%

Nurses wholly absent from many stories despite relevancy of nursing perspective to topic.

Mason DJ, Nixon L, Glickstein B, Han S, Westphaln K, Carter L. (2018).





### Woodhull studies (1997 & 2018)

10 journalists interviewed; key findings:

- Infrequently reach-out to nurses & other people not in position of authority
- Asserted they have to justify using nurses
- Journalists confused about what nurses do
- Nurses not viewed as experts or key leaders
- Nurses not promoted as subjects or sources

Mason, D.J., Glickstein, B., and Westphaln, K. (2018).

### How can media be used to advance population health?

- Educate stakeholders
- Network with current and future collaborators
- Advocate for change





### **Questions?**



References available upon request.



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