Health Disparities in Kansas

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Why wasn’t Julie in her first grade class today?

Julie had an asthma attack this morning.

Why? Black mold in her house irritates her asthma.

Why? Leaky plumbing and structural decay let water intrude into the house’s walls.

Why? Julie’s family could not afford repairs.

Why? Her father is unemployed.

Why? Because he was hurt at his construction job, has little formal education and cannot find another job.
Social Determinants of Health

...the environmental conditions that affect health and quality of life
Social Gradient in Health

Kansas Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 by Race (2013)

- Black or African American: 18.2
- Hispanic or Latino: 7.2
- Non-Hispanic White: 5.1

Source: Kids Count Data Center
Kansas Infant Mortality

Figure B. Five Year Average Infant Mortality Rate By Population Group of Mother
Kansas, 1995-2014

Source: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Infant Mortality, Kansas 2014 Research Brief
The County Health Rankings model of health

- Factors include health behaviors, access to and quality of care, socio-economic indicators, and aspects of the physical environment.

- Outcomes include length and quality of life.
How does health policy impact disparities?

In Kansas, many areas with high socioeconomic need also have relatively high uninsured rates.
Or high rates of Medicaid Coverage already

Source: Kansas Health Institute (KHI) analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau’s Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2013.
How does health policy impact disparities?

Medicaid: Limited to specific low income groups
- 0% FPL Childless adults
- 33% FPL in Kansas
- 100% FPL

No Coverage

Marketplace Subsidies
- 400% FPL

SOURCE: The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, Kaiser Family Foundation.
Disparities in the Medicaid Gap

Figure 13. All Kansans: Likelihood of Being Uninsured by Poverty Category, 2013

- Less than 100% FPL: 27.3%
- 100% to 199% FPL: 20.9%
- 200% to 299% FPL: 13.0%
- 300% to 399% FPL: 7.1%
- 400% FPL or more: 3.5%

ALL KANSANS: 12.3%

Source: KHI estimates are based on the 2013 Year American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample.

Figure 15. All Kansans: Likelihood of Being Uninsured by Race/Ethnicity, 2013

- White, Non-Hispanic: 9.6%
- Hispanic, Any Race: 26.8%
- Black or African American, Non-Hispanic: 17.9%
- Other/Multiple Races, Non-Hispanic: 14.5%
- ALL KANSANS: 12.3%

Source: KHI estimates are based on the 2013 Year American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample.
Health Equality vs. Equity

“...Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices....”
Healthy People 2020