

# COMMUNITIES IN ACTION: PATHWAYS TO HEALTH EQUITY

**Health** is a product of multiple determinants. Social, economic, environmental, and structural factors—and their unequal distribution—matter more than health care alone in shaping the inequities in health that lead to unfair and avoidable differences in health outcomes in our country.

In the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report *Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity*, an ad hoc, expert committee highlights promising community-based solutions to advance health equity. The committee created the conceptual model below to depict the context of structural inequities, socioeconomic and political drivers, and the determinants of health in which health inequities and community-driven solutions exist.

Community-driven solutions that target the 9 determinants of health listed in the model (e.g., education, transportation) likely share three key elements: making health equity a shared vision and value, fostering multi-sector collaboration, and increasing community capacity to shape outcomes. “Healthier, more equitable communities in which individuals and families live, learn, work, and play” appears at the center of the diagram as the outcome of the community-driven solutions.



To see our resources on health equity, please visit  
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