



PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION:
Pathways to Health Equity

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Purpose

The summit will convene a diversity of stakeholders and offer opportunity to learn together and foster collaborations and a strategic framework for tackling both the systems and social determinants impacting health outcomes for all New Mexicans.

The Objectives of the Summit are to:

1. Energize a collective vision and collective action that draw from lessons learned and best practices from diverse communities across New Mexico.
2. Establish trust based on listening to community partners through their stories and collective mapping of historical injustices.
3. Produce actionable items for partners and scheduled commitments for follow-up to collective practice, process, action, innovation, and systems and policy outcomes.
4. Align health equity solutions with strategic actions, policy priorities and resources.
5. Produce an Equity Manifesto that embodies collective input from the summit.

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For more information about this event, as well as UNM Health Sciences & UNM Health's commitment to health equity, go to our website <https://hsc.unm.edu/health-equity/summit.html>



Why now?

The Health Equity Summit comes at a critical moment. Long-term structural inequities have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic placing additional hardship and burdens on communities of color and rural and under-resourced populations in New Mexico. Racial and ethnic minority populations are more likely to contract COVID-19, be hospitalized and die, and in some cases, are less likely to be tested and vaccinated. Food insecurity, poverty, discrimination, racism, lack of access to health care, unemployment, geographic isolation, overcrowded multi-family units, inadequate water and basic sanitation are among the social determinants impacting the health of New Mexico's communities.

Additionally, the history of colonization in New Mexico and the resultant historical traumas create complexities that must be acknowledged as a starting place as we embark on this process to understand health and equity in our communities of color. Since intersectoral and community efforts have made a difference, the Health Equity Summit will provide a time to connect and collaborate on strategic actions to advance community health, well-being, and equity for all New Mexicans.

Definition of Health Equity

The summit is using a working definition of Health Equity that embraces the principle that all people have fair/just access to resources and conditions for health and well-being with a deep understanding of the historical context of oppression, power suppression, and intergenerational impacts on communities. *However, the summit will also recognize community centered definitions and related health equity solutions.*

Health Equity stands for the principle that all people have fair/just access to resources and conditions for health and well-being. Equity assures just and fair inclusion into a society in which all people can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. Health equity is the goal that motivates actions to eliminate disparities in health between groups of people who are economically or socially worse-off and their better-off counterparts including:

- racial/ethnic or socioeconomic groups
- disability status
- sexual orientation & gender
- identity
- citizenship
- rural/frontier

Equity recognizes unfair and avoidable conditions, with deep understanding of the historical context of oppression, power suppression, and intergenerational impacts on communities. Equity calls for actions that ensure systematic fair treatment of people of all races, resulting in opportunities and outcomes for all people. A Health Equity approach includes Black, Indigenous, Latinx and other People of Color lives as a model for change and collaborative actions that challenge structural racism and other intersecting oppressive systems.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR OUR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

We would like to recognize our collaborative partners who have supported Health Equity initiatives over the course of this project: UNM Health Sciences Center for Native American Health; UNM Health Extension Regional Offices (HEROs); New Mexico Department of Health; National Latino Behavioral Health Association; New Mexico Black Leadership Council; and New Mexico Public Health Association.



Getting Ready for Equity: Engaging Widely with Communities & Diverse Stakeholders

From October 2021 to July 2022, the Health Sciences Center engaged with over 200 community partners and diverse stakeholders statewide through a pre-planning committee, place-based health equity conversations and a Summit Design team. This process was critical in assuring wide engagement in getting people “ready” to lead for equity and to assure diversity and inclusion in the statewide Health Equity Summit.

The purpose of the Health Equity Conversations was to create a meaningful opportunity for diverse stakeholders to connect to “why” equity matters to them, to collectively define what equity means and looks like in their local context and to set actionable goals for achieving health equity.

Equity Conversation had between 30 to 40 participants comprised of diverse stakeholders from the private and nonprofit sectors such as health councils, health systems, community health centers, Indian Health Service and 638 agencies, government (local, tribal, state, federal), University and Education Sector, philanthropic organizations and coalitions.

Key priorities expressed in the equity conversations and discussed by statewide partners informed the topics for the Health Equity Summit and are featured in the Health Equity Action Labs (HEAL). Additionally, the Health Equity Action Labs feature “solutions” and “best practices” that come from within communities in New Mexico. Using the **Action Lab** method, the summit supports inclusive conversations that bring together diverse stakeholders to develop action strategies in pursuit of equity and community improvement in three core areas: Narrative change, Systems and Policies. The model was built using human-centered design principles, which puts the people most affected by the inequities, or the problems in a system, at the center of designing new solutions.

For more information about the Health Equity Conversations go to our website
<https://hsc.unm.edu/health-equity/conversations.html>



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Noon | Check-in, Refreshments & Networking

Equity Manifesto Near Conference Registration (Outside Sandia Ballroom)

Please respond to the following question: What promise can you fulfill to assure that future generations inherit all they need to live healthy, in well-being and have equitable access to resources? Write your response on a note card and post outside on the community board or upload to the conference app.

1 P.M. | Welcome - Opening Circle & Water Blessing Sandia Ballroom

Sponsored by Western Sky Community Care

Opening Remarks Douglas Ziedonis, MD

Introductions & Roundtable Ice-Breaker Dr. Wanda Cody Padilla, M.Ed, DPA

Overview of Summit - A Path Forward for Achieving Health Equity

Lisa Cacari Stone, PhD

2:15 P.M. | Plenary Session: Intercultural Stories on Racial Injustices and Health Inequities*

Sandia Ballroom | Moderators: Regis Pecos, MS and Nelsy Dominguez, MSW

Story Tellers: Hazel James Tohe, Cathryn McGill, MS, Raymond Sanchez, MA and Anabel Canchola, BS

The opening Plenary Session will be comprised of a moderator and a panel of five intercultural leaders from New Mexico who have been life-long health equity and racial justice champions. These leaders represent a diversity of perspectives from the 5 regions of the state: East, West, North, South and Central.

3:15 P.M. | Break

3:30 - 4:45 P.M. | Health Equity Action Labs - Round A*

Action Lab 1 | Behavioral Health Moderators: Fred Sandoval, MPA and

Bryce Pettinger, LISW

Behavioral health equity is the right to access high-quality and affordable health care services and supports for all populations including intersectional communities of color living in rural and urban areas, LGBTQI, persons living with disabilities and immigrants. Over 60% of New Mexico's populations are comprised of people of color which calls for transformational change in the behavioral health care systems in-order to meet the needs of diverse populations. With the passage of the new 988 number for suicide prevention and mental health crises, there is an opportunity to create a continuum of crisis care with adequate funding that ensures mental health responses to mental health crises and prioritizes equity, particularly for Black, indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) communities. This lab focuses on culturally responsive care that integrates community-based approaches to achieving behavioral health equity.

*Credited Sessions

Action Lab 2 | Community Health Workers Moderators: Anabel Canchola, BS and Roberto Martinez, PhD

Community Health Workers (community health representatives, promotores de salud) play a pivotal role in helping communities connect to essential health services and social resources needed for health and well-being. The federal government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, both of which provided a variety of funding channels to support Community Health Worker (CHW) programs and the direct hiring of CHW's. This lab features targeted actions taken by CHW's at different stages of the COVID-19 pandemic which accelerated testing and vaccine equity.

Action Lab 3 | Youth Leadership Moderator: Justin Garoutte, MPH

Civic engagement improves the health of communities most impacted by health inequities by increasing agency and social cohesion and may also improve the community conditions that influence population health. Strengthening civic engagement and building political power from “within: New Mexico’s communities are dependent on the leadership capacities of the next generation. This lab features model youth-led/youth-centered leadership programs for advancing racial and health equity.

Action Lab 4 | Language Access Moderators: Leigh Caswell, MPH and Francisco Ronquillo, PA

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibits “any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance” from discriminating based on national origin, which the U.S. Supreme Court has interpreted to include discrimination based on language. Additionally, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) expands requirements and offers opportunities for further improvement of language access. The provision of accessible and meaningful language services to individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) is a key component of health equity. For many New Mexicans, language barriers such as inadequate language services remain obstacles to accessing preventative services, treatment, quality communications with providers and avoidance of adverse events. This lab showcases language access solutions that align with The ACA and Title VI.



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4:45 P.M. | Wrap-up & Evaluation of Day 1

6 P.M. | **Networking Reception (Appetizers & Refreshments)**

Atrium | Host: Fred Sandoval, MPA

7 P.M. | **Ignite for Equity: Digital Policy Stories** Moderator: Lisa Cacari Stone, PhD

Participants will have a chance to view four 5-minute Digital Policy Stories followed by a moderated session with the “story creators.” See www.equitypolicylab.com

- Closing the Digital Divide by Maria Chaparro, MPH
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren by Lupe Salazar
- Asian American Racial Equity and Healing by Shixi Zhao, Ph.D., CHES
- Tribal Health in All Policies by Daniel Hena and Norman Coeoyate, MCRP, BA

Digital Policy Storytelling is an innovative method for community members to share their visual narratives as a path forward towards systems and policy change. This session is for health providers, healers, public health leaders, policy makers, government officials, philanthropists and others wishing to advance health equity by centering story as a change strategy.



Monday Evening

7 A.M. | Morning Meditation Walk Community Labyrinth (Open Space near Registration)

7:30 A.M. | Continental Breakfast & Networking

Equity Manifesto Near Conference Registration (Outside Sandia Ballroom)

Please respond to the following question: What promise can you fulfill to assure that future generations inherit all they need to live healthy, in well-being and have equitable access to resources? Write your response on a note card and post outside on the community board or upload to the conference app.

8 A.M. | Welcome Back - Summary of Key Themes and Review of Day 1 Story / Narrative* Sandia Ballroom | Dr. Wanda Cody Padilla, M.Ed, DPA

8:30 A.M. | Recap - Purpose of Action Labs* Lisa Cacari Stone, PhD

9 A.M. | Break & Transition into Health Equity Action Labs

9:15 - 10:30 A.M. | Health Equity Action Labs - Round B*

Action Lab 5 | Health Care Workforce Development Moderator: Valerie Romero-Leggott, MD

In 2004, The Sullivan Commission issued the landmark report, Missing Persons: Minorities in the Health Professions, which provides the nation with a blueprint for achieving diversity in the health professions. While intergovernmental investments in growing the pipeline of racial and ethnic health professionals have made progress, New Mexico's Native American, Latino and African American communities continue to face barriers to professional education and training programs from time of application to enrollment, recruitment, retention, and matriculation. This lab focuses on the most successful equity strategies that increase the diversity of the nursing, physician and related health professional workforce and improves culturally competent care.

Action Lab 6 | Broadband & Digital Inclusion Moderator: Anisha Asundi, MPH, ECHO

The digital divide is the gap between those who have access to technology, the internet and digital literacy training and those who do not. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the broadband gap for rural, frontier, tribal and under-resourced families, and communities. To better coordinate broadband deployment efforts among different state entities, legislation passed during the 2021 Legislative Session established the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion the Connect New Mexico Council (Senate Bill 93), and the Connect New Mexico Fund (House Bill 10) and received appropriations totaling \$100 million (Senate Bill 377). Most of the recent funding to New Mexico for broadband is federal, including through the CARES Act. This lab features philanthropic, government and local strategies to increase digital inclusion for diverse communities.

*Credited Sessions

Action Lab 7 | Transportation Access Moderator: Michaele Pride, MAUD, B. Arch

Transportation barriers are determinants of poor health care outcomes due to lack of access to timely preventative services, rescheduled or missed appointments, delayed treatment, and missed medication use. These barriers are even more severe for communities living in rural, frontier, lower-resourced and un/under-insured areas of New Mexico. In response, the state's six-year transportation preservation and capital improvement program covers multi-modal transportation projects that use Federal, State Bond, State priority, State Capital Outlay and local government transportation funds. It includes projects of regional significance (projects with high public interest or air quality impacts) and projects in the National Parks, National Forests, and Indian Reservations. This lab provides illustrative examples of successful initiatives to tackle transportation barriers in New Mexico at the tribal, federal, state and local levels.

Action Lab 8 | Educational Advancement Moderators: Regis Pecos, MS and Diana Martinez, MPH

Research demonstrates that educational attainment plays a significant role in shaping employment opportunities and increasing the capacity in accessing health and social resources. However, the U.S. education system has also perpetuated systemic discrimination, intergenerational historical trauma and suppression of language and culture among communities of color and persons living with disabilities. The 2018 Yazzie-Martinez judgment that unveiled a history of failures by state government in providing adequate education for most students in the public school system. The case resulted in the court ordering New Mexico to fix the system. The state is looking at a substantial overhaul after “decades of neglect and underfunding” that affected young people with disabilities, those learning English, Native Americans, and students from families with low incomes, the action report summarizes. This lab underscores remedies that are in alignment with tribes, local control, closing the teacher diversity gaps and integrating language and cultural learning practices in education system reforms.



10:30 A.M. | Break

10:45 - Noon | **Health Equity Action Labs - Round C***

Action Lab 9 | Racial Justice & Healing

Moderators: Gerylyn Antonio and Kiran Katira, PhD

Racism impacts health through multiple pathways including reduced access to employment, housing, and education. A growing body of knowledge confirms that racism is associated

with worse health and mental health outcomes including depression, stress, cardiovascular diseases, chronic conditions and lower social cohesion and sense of belonging. Through resolutions, executive orders and other measures local leaders are declaring racism a public health crisis and committing to addressing systemic health and racial inequities. Yet, we need to move beyond declarations to implementing effective policies and practice that can create change towards health, racial equity, and justice. This lab centers racial justice and healing through investment strategies taken by local, city, state governments and philanthropic organizations.

Action Lab 10 | Insurance Coverage & Coverage Moderators: Arthur Kaufman, MD and Leah Sanchez, MPH

Insurance coverage matters for New Mexico’s children and families. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) includes many requirements that advance health equity in expansion of Medicaid, options for enrolling for insurance coverage through the marketplace and other provisions designed to increase health equity. Despite these provisions, New Mexico’s children and families continue to experience barriers to accessing low cost, no cost and adequate health insurance coverage due to complex application processes, language barriers and more. This lab provides participants an opportunity to assess various state legislative and local efforts to simplify enrollment and collaborative efforts between the state tax agency and other agencies that oversee health coverage programs, like Medicaid (Human Services Department), the Health Insurance Marketplace, and beWellnm.com.

Action Lab 11 | Affordable Housing

Moderator: Cathryn McGill, MS

Housing inequality is a driver of the large racial wealth gap between people of color and white households in the U.S. Housing stability, quality, safety, and affordability all affect health outcomes, as do physical and social characteristics of neighborhoods. Undermining access to housing and home ownership is a long history of “whites only” ideology that today remains an integral fabric of the real estate covenants in New Mexico. Due to redlining, segregation, racial steering and other discriminatory housing practices, generations of minorities have been barred from homeownership in New Mexico and beyond. Today, policymakers and activists fight to remove pro-segregation, anti-immigrant provisions from property deeds. This lab will focus on strategies to mobilizing political and public action for affordable and safe housing.



Action Lab 12 | Environmental Justice Moderators: Hazel James Tohe and Magdalena Avila, DrPH, MSW

Communities of color, low-income residents and immigrants bear a disproportionate burden of environmental health risks and have historically been forced to endure environmental racism around in New Mexico. As a result, these communities experience higher rates of morbidity and mortality due to the cumulative effects of exposure to environmental stressors such as uranium mining, toxic asphalt plants and superfund wastes dumping site. Environmental racism is a statewide issue for many communities such as the Red Water Pond of the Navajo Nation, Santa Fe's south side, Albuquerque's South Valley and for the south to the border colonias communities and more. This lab provides an opportunity for solidarity in sharing local solutions taken by coalitions, advocacy groups and other indigenous protectors of land, air, and water.

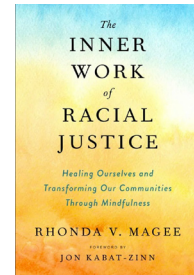


Noon | **Networking Lunch** Sandia Ballroom

Sponsored by New Mexico Hospital Association

12:30 P.M. | **The Inner Work of Racial Justice: Healing Ourselves and Transforming Our Communities Through Mindfulness*** Key Note by Rhonda Magee, JD

Sponsored by Western Sky Community Care



Rhonda V. Magee (M.A. Sociology, J.D.) is a Professor of Law at the University of San Francisco and an internationally recognized thought and practice leader focused on integrating mindfulness into higher education, law and social change work. A prolific author, she draws on law and legal history to weave storytelling, poetry, analysis and practices into inspiration for changing how we think, act and live better together in a rapidly changing world. She is the author of *The Inner Work of Racial Justice: Healing Ourselves and Transforming Our Communities Through Mindfulness*, published in September 2019 by TarcherPerigee, a member of the Penguin Random House Group, with paperback issued in September 2021.

1:30 P.M. | **Break & Transition to Afternoon Sessions**

1:45 P.M. | **Key Take-aways from Action Labs & Intersectional Mapping of Equity Solutions*** Sandia Ballroom | Moderators & Note-takers, Facilitator: Wanda Cody Padilla, Ed, DPA

2:45 P.M. | **Working Together for Health Equity: A Path Forward*** Sandia Ballroom
Laura Chanchien Parajon, MD, MPH, Deputy Cabinet Secretary of Health at New Mexico Department of Health

3 P.M. | **Break**

3:15 P.M. | **Facilitated Action - Planning & Equity Manifesto*** Sandia Ballroom
Facilitators: Wanda Cody Padilla, Ed, DPA, Lisa Cacari Stone, PhD and Nelsy Dominguez, MSW

4:45 - 5 P.M. | **Closing Circle & Evaluations** Sandia Ballroom

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Accreditation Information

Credited Sessions

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by UNM Health Sciences Center and Project ECHO. Project ECHO® is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.



AMA Designation Statement

Project ECHO® designates this live activity for a maximum of 9.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ACPE DESIGNATION STATEMENT

This activity will provide pharmacists up to 9.5 contact hours. UAN JA4008231-9999-22-022-L04-P has been assigned to this Knowledge based program for Pharmacists. CE credit information, based on verification of live attendance and completion of the program evaluation, will be provided to NABP within 60 days after the activity completion.

ANCC DESIGNATION STATEMENT

Project ECHO® designates this live activity for a maximum of 9.5 ANCC contact hours. Nursing contact hours will be awarded for successful completion of program components based upon documented attendance and completion of evaluation.

NMDOH CERTIFIED CHW CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

This activity will provide Community Health Workers up to 9.5 credit hours.

SOCIAL WORK ACCREDITATION

As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Project ECHO® is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Project ECHO® maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive 9.5 continuing education credits.



DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Project ECHO®, in compliance with the ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education, requires that anyone who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity disclose all relevant financial relationships they have had within the last 24 months with an ineligible company.

None of the planners and presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

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