

Advancing a Culture of Health and Equity: Current RWJF Approaches

Alonzo L. Plough, PhD, MPH, MA
Chief Science Officer and Vice President

Our vision
is that we, **as a nation**, will
strive together to build a
Culture of Health **enabling all**
in our diverse society to lead
healthier lives, now and for
generations to come.

**WHAT IS HOLDING
THE U.S. BACK?**

A high-angle, wide shot of a large gymnasium filled with people of various ages participating in a group exercise or dance class. They are arranged in several rows across the wooden floor. The gym has a high ceiling with exposed wooden beams and several basketball hoops. Banners hang from the ceiling, including one for 'Greater Tall River RECREATION' and others for 'Tall River' and 'Established 1911'.

\$3.3 Trillion

Annual health care expenditure in the U.S.

Close to 18%
of U.S. GDP

Highest percentage spent on health care in the world.

\$10,348

Per capita public spending on health care in the U.S.

Shifting to Focus on Health, Broadly

RWJF Commission
to Build a Healthier America



Time to Act: Investing in the Health of Our Children and Communities

Recommendations From the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Commission to Build a Healthier America

Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation

Building a Culture of Health

2014 President's Message

Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, MD, MBA, President & Chief Executive Officer



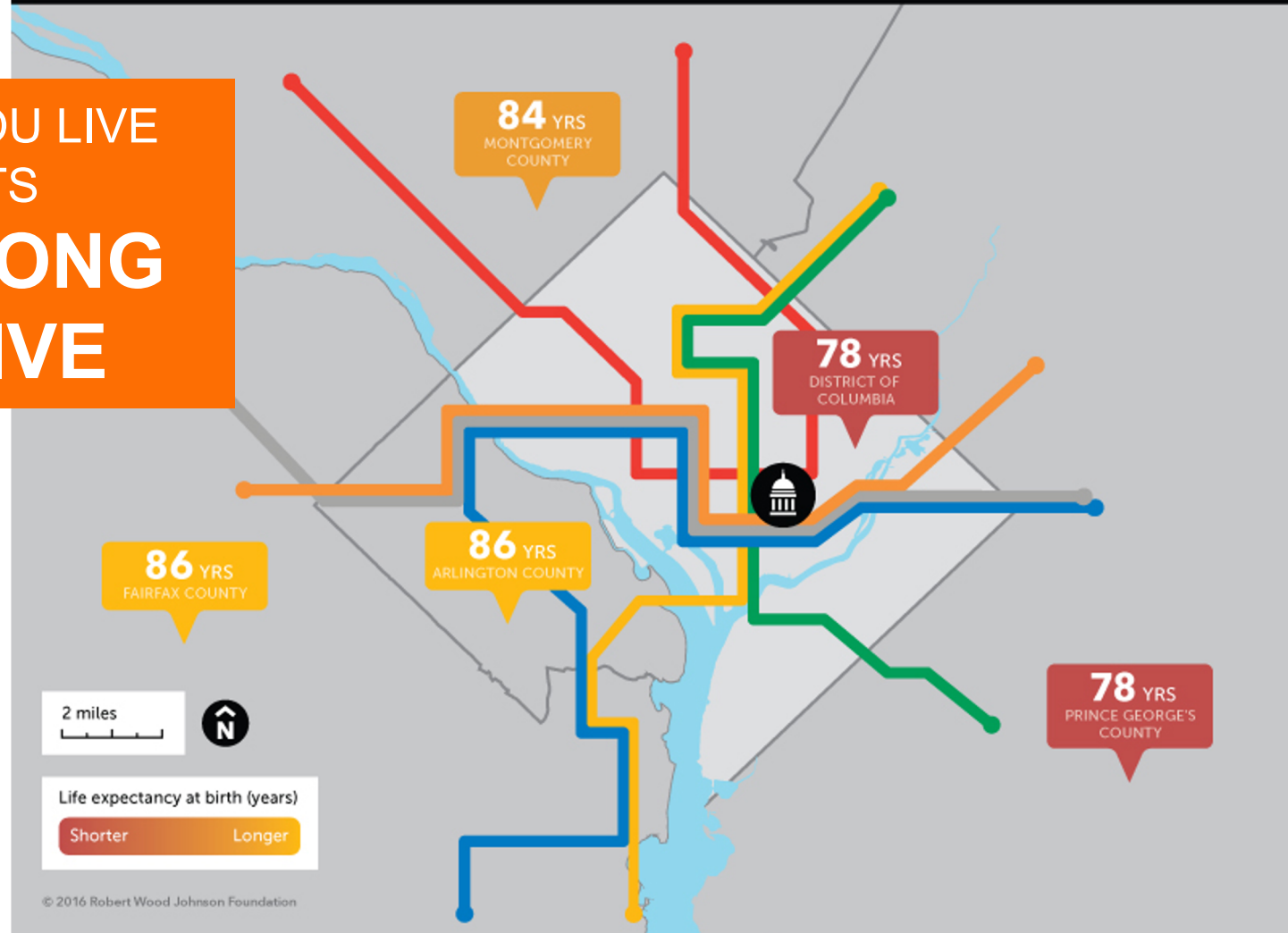
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Follow the discussion

#CloseHealthGaps

Short Distances to Large Gaps in Health

WHERE YOU LIVE
AFFECTS
**HOW LONG
YOU LIVE**



LAKEVIEW



FAIRGROUNDS

LAKEWOOD



NEW ORLEANS,
LOUISIANA

MID CITY

SEVENTH
WARD



MARIGNY

IBERVILLE



GERT TOWN

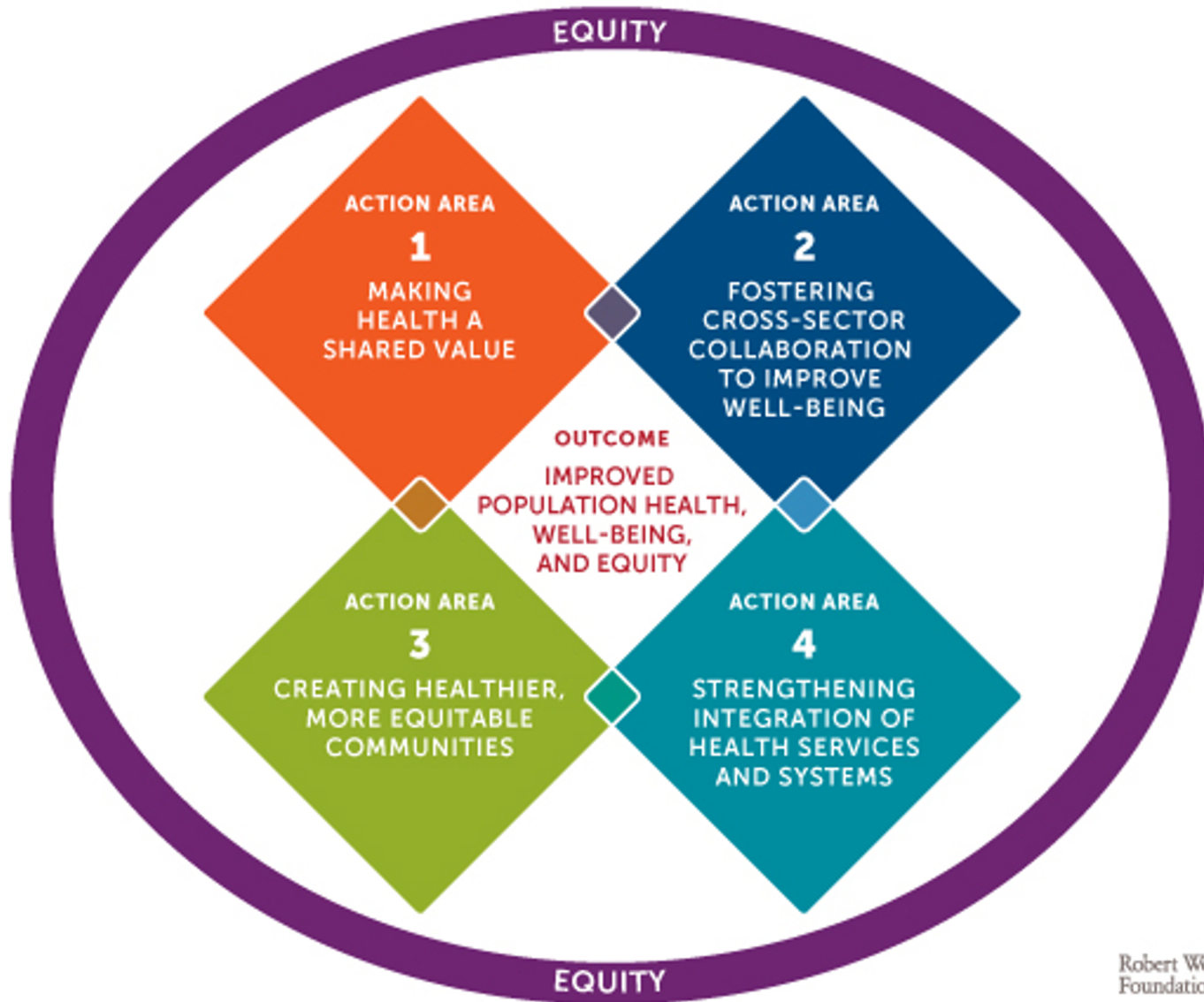
TULANE
GRAVIER

FRENCH
QUARTER

B.W.
COOPER

BROADMOOR

CULTURE OF HEALTH ACTION FRAMEWORK



CULTURE OF HEALTH ACTION FRAMEWORK

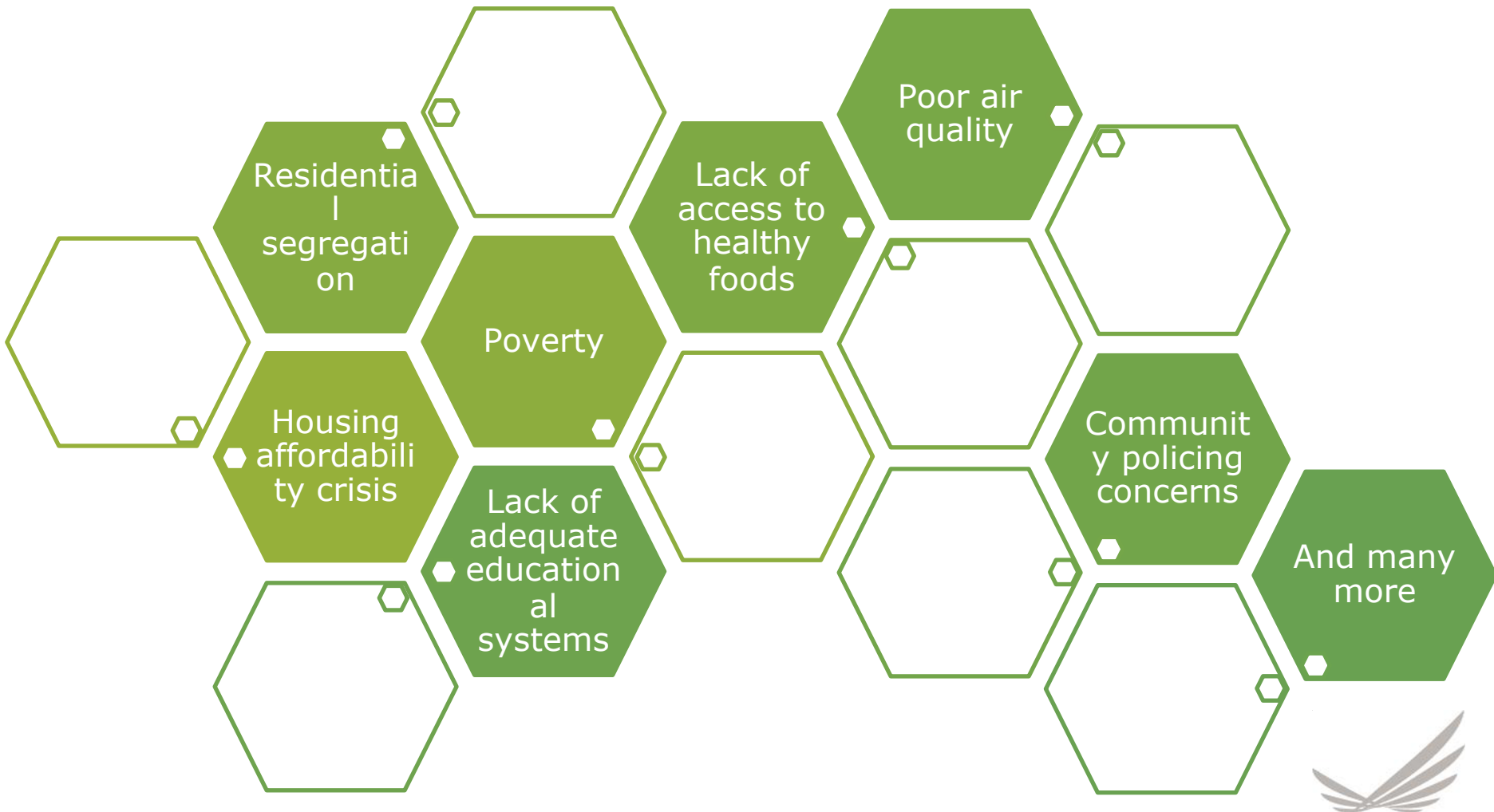
EQUITY

Health equity means that **everyone** has a **fair and just opportunity** to be healthy. This requires **removing obstacles to health** such as **poverty, discrimination & their consequences** –including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs, education, housing, environments, and health care.

-Working definition prepared by Paula Braveman, MD, MPH

EQUITY

Barriers to Health and Well-being



What does Progress look like for Culture of Health?

NARRATIVE

Changing national discourse on health and well-being (values and priorities)

ACTION

Changing how we invest (national and federal budgets, workforce development)

ASSESSMENT

Changing what we measure (our approach to research, our use of data, etc.)





Nearly **one-fifth** of all
Americans live in
neighborhoods that make it
hard to be healthy.

East Lake Meadows Public Housing

Atlanta, GA



Villages of East Lake

Atlanta, GA



> \$200 M private investment

Crime ↓

Violent crime ↓

Employment ↑

Student
performance ↑



CHOP, Philadelphia launch trailblazing Community Health and Literacy Center

Public-Private collaboration will serve as national model for integrating health and community services

ION SPORTS POLITICS ENTERTAINMENT LAS VEGAS V

the Las Vegas Sun. It has not been verified or edited



PRESS RELEASE

Dignity Health Will Increase Affordable Housing Costs

Published on Thu, Feb 18, 2016 (12:10 p.m.)

The Role of Hospitals in Improving Non-Medical Determinants of Community Health

Trinity Health improve health

By Maria Castellucci | November 19, 2015

North Union Food

Hospitals and Playhouse Square market to open at University



6 Portland health plan for homeless housing \$21.5M for homeless housing
Five major hospitals in Portland, Oregon, and a low-income, profit health plan are joined \$21.5

\$12 Million Investment by UnitedHealthcare Helps Bring New Affordable-Housing Community to Downtown Albuquerque, units for population

Signature Research Programs



E4A: Project Highlights



Universal Basic Income Evaluation

The University of Tennessee – Knoxville College of Social Work is conducting a mixed-methods evaluation on the impacts of the country's first city-led guaranteed income pilot on financial security, civic engagement, health, wellness, and other outcomes on the lives of Stockton, CA residents.

Building Researchers' Capacity

E4A conducted an 18-month matching service pilot with Johns Hopkins University (JHU) to test whether promising, but initially unsuccessful applicants from community organizations can be matched with a researcher to submit a stronger proposal.



Evidence for Action: Developing and Testing Evidence-based Strategies to Increase Support for Early Childhood Development

- Cornell University is testing the effect of a messaging intervention on mindsets, expectations, and civic engagement related to early childhood development policies.
- The project features two randomized, controlled trials-one among the general public and one among state legislators-to test the effects of values-based policy messages on these outcomes over time and under competition from opposing viewpoints.
- Findings will offer clear guidance for strategic messaging to promote these policies.



Health Data for Action

- Our goal is to generate insights from valuable, and often, hard-to-access, data to inform health and related policies.
- A recent Call for Proposals offered access to datasets from athenaHealth or the Health Care Cost Institute.
- A research team from Emory University is evaluating how opioid prescribing patterns vary across different pediatric surgical procedures and whether pediatric patients exhibit persistent opioid acquisition three months after surgery. The results could lead to increased standardization of practice and more appropriate opioid prescribing.



Systems for Action: Project Highlight

The New York Times Magazine

TRYING TO PUT A VALUE ON THE DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

IN ITS PUSH FOR PROFITS, THE U.S. HEALTH CARE SYSTEM HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR PATIENTS TO GET PERSONAL ATTENTION FROM DOCTORS. BUT WHAT IF HANDS-ON MEDICINE ACTUALLY SAVES MONEY – AND LIVES?

How may a return to a more personalized delivery of health care services improve health outcomes?

- Dr. David Meltzer, University of Chicago
- Randomized Control Trial
- After one year, patients in the intervention group:
 - Had 20% fewer hospitalizations
 - Reduced own medical expenses by \$800
 - Shortened hospital stays by ½ day

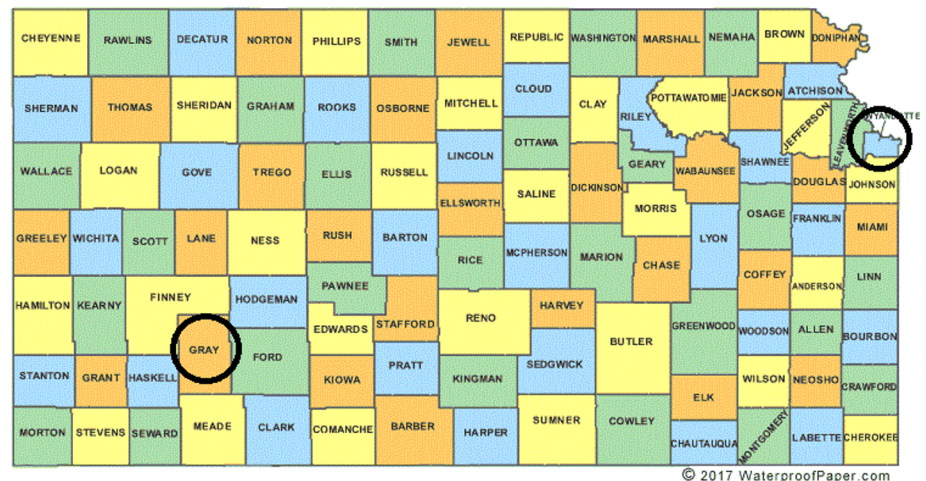


U.S. Small-Area Life Expectancy Projects

- Life expectancy at birth is the first public health outcome measure available nationwide at the census tract level
- Census tract-level data can help leaders, advocates, residents create healthier communities
- 2010-2015 data

- In Kansas...

- 723 Kansas census tracts
- Life expectancy ranges from 62.5 years (Wyandotte County) to 89.7 years (Gray County)



Opioids

- RWJF released a CFP in June to support evaluation of innovative community-based projects to understand the impact of multi-sectoral approaches across public health, social services, health care, behavioral health, justice, and other community-based settings to prevent and treat opioid misuse and opioid use disorder (OUD) within effected communities.
- Through evaluation of existing approaches or programs and broad dissemination, the CFP will enable communities to learn with and from one another as they work to address the opioid epidemic and the inequities facing diverse populations across this nation.



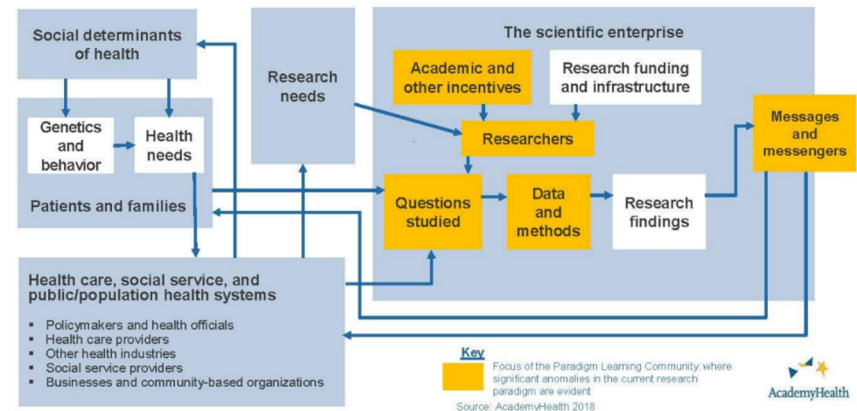
Health and Climate Solutions Program

- Climate change magnifies the inequities that prevent all people from having a fair opportunity to live a healthier life
- RWJF is funding assessments of community-driven approaches that address the nexus between health and climate change, with an explicit focus on reducing health inequities



Shifting the Health Services Research (HSR) Paradigm

- Goal: to move HSR beyond its focus on health care policy to assume a broader view on health and well-being that corresponds to the Culture of Health
- Why: the current paradigm of scientific inquiry is increasingly inconsistent with advances inside the research enterprise and in society at-large
- How: by convening a learning community of new researchers and thought leaders who can disrupt, redesign, test, and refine key components of the research ecosystem



Health Equity Research Initiative

- *Exploring New Frontiers of Health Equity Research* will be a collaborative learning exchange with researchers, community leadership, and funders to advance health equity research that promotes evidence-based, actionable solutions to achieve health equity.
- Health research has expanded from measuring health disparities to investigating broader efforts to foster health equity. New research questions explore the health impacts of bias and racism, cross-sectoral factors that cause inequity, and collaboration with communities to find solutions. How can new research, methods, and strategies inform funders' understandings of what it will take to achieve health equity?



Advancing Diversity and Inclusion

- Later this year we will launch an equity-driven national program that will create pathways for professional development for faculty and researchers from historically underrepresented backgrounds.
- The objective is to challenge and shift the conditions and contexts where researchers conduct their work, in order to support their professional development and skills in health equity research.
- This program builds off a decade-long RWJF program, started in 2005, that has supported over 130 junior and mid-career diverse professionals, and has fostered a network of more than 830 researchers from historically disadvantaged and underrepresented groups.



Measuring Well-Being in the City of Santa Monica



Ongoing Challenges for Well-Being Driven Policies in the U.S.

- Structural and policy barriers that reflect structural racism and amplify health inequities
- Reluctance to address threats of climate change, including adverse weather events and extreme heat, on the ability for communities to thrive
- Impacts of gentrification and residential segregation on housing affordability in cities
- Health and well-being concerns related to deaths of despair (opioids)
- Marginalization of indigenous populations

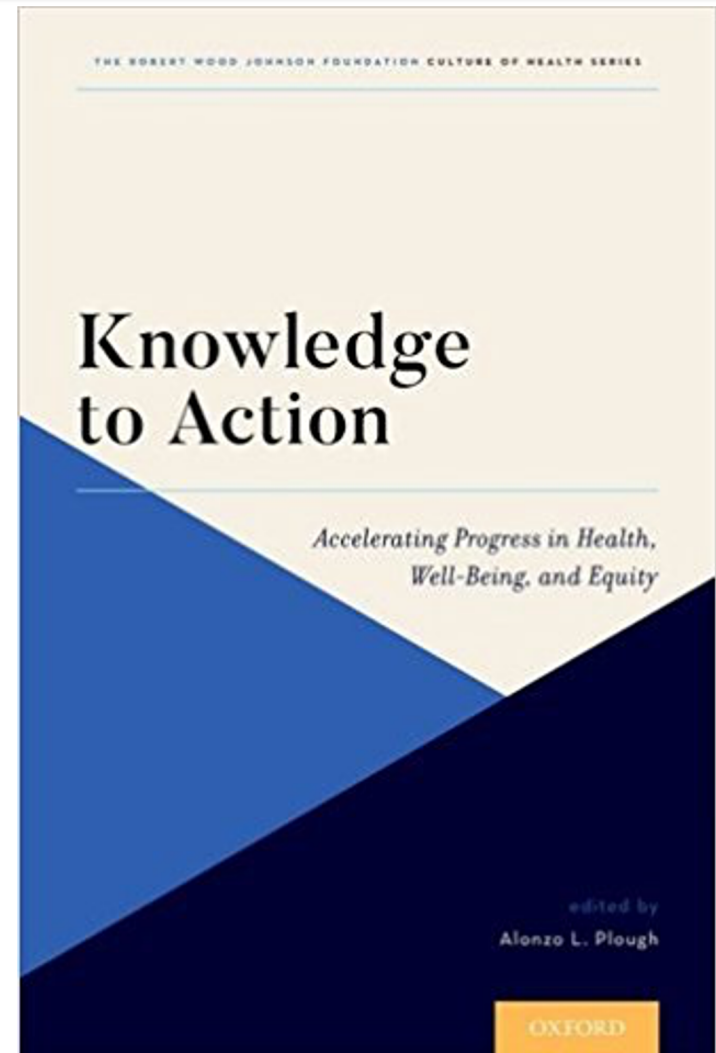


Encouraging Trends and Innovations at Local and Regional Levels

- There is promise in:
 - Committed and innovative local government
 - Increasing trust and transparency in decision-making processes
 - Fostering new and additional cross-sector collaborations
 - Authentically engaging community residents in policies and programs
 - Generating and leveraging representative community-level data
 - Well being metrics and related governmental policies



Knowledge Building and Culture of Health



Contact me at aplough@rwjf.org

Learn more about RWJF investments and funding opportunities at rwjf.org