A Lasting Impact on Health Outcomes

Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN
Associate Vice President-Program
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The State of Ohio’s Health: 2019 Health Value Dashboard Release
April 4, 2019
Columbus, OH
Presentation Overview

- Setting the context
- Role of Policy
- Health Impact-5 years (HI-5) Initiative
Will ‘shorter, sicker lives’ be our legacy?

A Shocking Decline in American Life Expectancy
Because of the opioid epidemic, Americans have been dying younger for two years in a row.

OLGA KHAZAN  DEC 21, 2017
CULTURE OF HEALTH VISION

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.
Why does policy matter?

• It affects entire jurisdictions and, therefore, has broad reach

• It is long-lasting and self-sustaining with appropriate enforcement

• It may create inequities, so is essential to reverse them

• It changes norms, expectations, and cultural understandings of key societal issues (though sometimes these are a pre-requisite for policy change to occur)

• It was critical to each of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century
HI-5
HEALTH IMPACT IN 5 YEARS
The “Buckets” of Prevention Framework

1. Traditional Clinical Prevention: Increase the use of evidence-based services
2. Innovative Clinical Prevention: Provide services outside the clinical setting
3. Total Population or Community-Wide Prevention: Implement interventions that reach whole populations

Credit: John Auerbach
Bucket 3
community-wide prevention

- How do we improve population health in our states and communities?
- What is the best evidence of health *and* cost impact?
- What can we do that will begin to show results soon?
What is different about HI-5?

**HI-5**

HEALTH IMPACT IN 5 YEARS

14 evidence-based community-wide population health interventions:

- Improve health of community (not clinical/patient-oriented)
- Demonstrate positive health impact in 5 yrs or less & cost effectiveness & savings over time
Social Determinants of Health

HI-5

Health Impact in 5 Years

- School-Based Programs to Increase Physical Activity
- School-Based Violence Prevention
- Safe Routes to School
- Motorcycle Injury Prevention
- Tobacco Control Interventions
- Access to Clean Syringes
- Pricing Strategies for Alcohol Products
- Multi-Component Worksite Obesity Prevention

Changing the Context
Making the healthy choice the easy choice

- Early Childhood Education
- Clean Diesel Bus Fleets
- Public Transportation System
- Home Improvement Loans and Grants
- Earned Income Tax Credits
- Water Fluoridation
HI-5 Health Outcomes Addressed

- Anxiety and Depression
- Asthma
- Blood Pressure
- Bronchitis
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Cognitive Development
- Infant Mortality
- Liver Cirrhosis
- Motor Vehicle Injuries

- Obesity
- Dental Caries
- Pneumonia
- Sexually Transmittable Infections
- Sexual Violence
- Teenage Pregnancy
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Type II Diabetes
- Youth Violence
14 Evidence-Based, Community-Wide Interventions

**Address the Social Determinants of Health**
- Early Childhood Education
- Clean Diesel Bus Fleets
- Public Transportation System Introduction or Expansion
- Home Improvement Loans and Grants
- Earned Income Tax Credits
- Water Fluoridation

**Change the Context: Making Healthy Choice the Easy Choice**
- School-Based Programs to Increase Physical Activity
- School-Based Violence Prevention
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
- Motorcycle Injury Prevention
- Tobacco Control Interventions
- Access to Clean Syringes
- Pricing Strategies for Alcohol Products
- Multi-Component Worksite Obesity Prevention
HI-5: Collaboration between RWJF, CDC, and CDC Foundation

• Assess how three HI-5 strategies are being implemented:
  • Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
  • Early Childhood Education
  • Public Transportation Expansions

• Identify and fill gaps in research and technical assistance

• Plan for technical assistance and other resources provision
Early Childhood Education

Programs for children ages 3 and/or 4 years old, various settings

Include one or more component:
- literacy
- numeracy
- cognitive development
- socio-emotional development
- motor skills

Some programs may offer additional components
- recreation
- meals
- health care
- parental supports
- social services.
Early childhood education – Impacts

Educational impacts
• Improved social, emotional, and cognitive development
• Improved academic achievement and reductions in disparities

Social impacts
• Increases in maternal employment and income
• Reductions in crime, welfare dependency, and child abuse and neglect
• Better jobs and higher earnings throughout employment years

Health impacts
• Long-term improvements in health with greater educational attainment
• Long-term savings in health care costs (along with savings in remedial education, dependency services)
• May improve weight status
• May increase diagnosis & treatment of hearing & vision problems
Early childhood education - Challenges

- How do you fund at scale to reach all children starting with children who can benefit the most?
- How do you balance program reach and quality?
- How do you prevent “fade-out” in which children make academic gains in early education but then regress in K-3 systems that may be of lower quality or not well aligned with early education systems?
- How do you link early education programs to health and social service programs?
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

A refundable tax credit for low-income workers

Average annual credit is $2400

- Larger credit amounts for households of color because of income and family structure

27 million households received credit for $65 billion in income support

- 70% with incomes below $25,000
- 50% white, 24% Hispanic, 19% black
- Top occupations: retail, food service, construction, transportation, office/administrative

Nearly two-thirds of recipients use EITC for 1 to 2 years at a time, particularly during times of reduced income

- Most use the credit for necessities, past-due bills, debt, and asset building
$1000 EITC increase associated with these impacts:

• 7.3 percentage point increase in employment
• 9.4 percentage point decrease in poverty
• 6% of standard deviation increase in math and reading scores
• 2.1 percentage point increase in high school graduation
• 1.4 percentage point increase in completion of one year of college
• More than $1000 increase in real value of child’s future earnings
Twenty-Nine States and D.C. Have Enacted Earned Income Tax Credits (EITCs), 2018

- States with refundable* EITCs (24)
- States with non-refundable EITCs (6)

*Refundable EITCs give working households the full value of the credit they earn even if it exceeds their income tax liability.

Source: CBPP analysis
EITC-health pathways
Birth outcomes

- Consistent effects on birthweight and gestational age
  - $1000 increase in EITC $\rightarrow$ 6% decrease in low birthweight births (8% among black women)

- All EITC-health pathways are likely at play
  - Possible neighborhood level effects

- Generosity of credit matters
HI-5
HEALTH IMPACT IN 5 YEARS
Contact Info:

Paul Kuehnert
Associate Vice President - Program
(609)-627-6319
pkuehnert@rwjf.org
Twitter: @PaulKuehnert
Health Policy Resources

- Evidence based policies and benefit-cost analyses  http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/BenefitCost?topicId=2
- CityHealth  https://www.debeaumont.org/CityHealth/
- The community guide  https://www.thecommunityguide.org/
- What Works for Health  http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health