

# ASTHMA DISPARITIES IN BLACK COMMUNITY

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## Disclosure

- AAE, Board Member
- Owner & Founder of Kezi Health, LLC

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## Objectives

- Participants will be able to describe Health Disparities and the Social Determinants of Health.
- Participants will understand how health disparities and the social determinants of health impact asthma among the African American and Black community
- Participants will understand how systemic racism fuels health disparities, particularly with our asthmatic populations.

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## Health Disparities

**What's the truth?**  
Black people are sicker and dying earlier than our white counterparts

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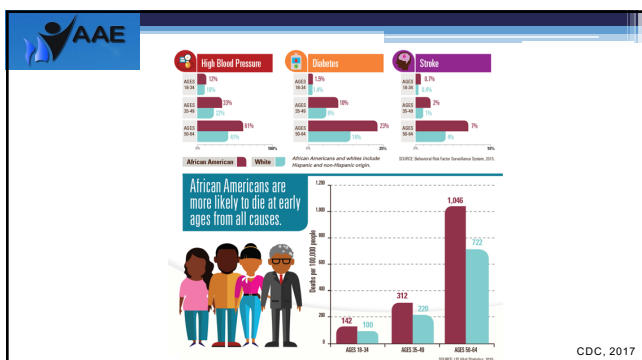
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## Health Disparities

**What's the truth in asthma?**  
The burden of asthma falls disproportionately on Blacks and Hispanics

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### Asthma Disparities

**In 2017**

- Non-Hispanic black children were 5x more likely to be admitted to the hospital for asthma, as compared to non-Hispanic white children

**In 2018**

- 2.7 million non-Hispanic blacks reported that they currently have asthma
- Non-Hispanic African Americans were 40% more likely to have asthma than non-Hispanic whites

HHS Office of Minority Health, 2021

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### Asthma Disparities

**In 2019**

- Non-Hispanic blacks were almost 3x more likely to die from asthma related causes than the non-Hispanic white population.
- Non-Hispanic black children had a death rate 8x that of non-Hispanic white children.

HHS Office of Minority Health, 2021

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### FACTS! In Maryland

- African Americans are
  - 84% more likely than whites to be diabetic
  - About 25% more likely to die from heart disease or stroke.
  - Nearly 3x more likely to die from asthma
- African-American women are
  - 2.5x more likely to die during pregnancy
  - 39% more likely to die from breast cancer.
- African-American children are
  - 2.5x more likely to DIE AS AN INFANTS
  - 13% more likely to have ASTHMA
  - 45% more likely to be OBESE

Baltimore continues to have a mortality rate that is 1.34x that of Maryland as a whole

The Greatest Gap: Health Inequity in Baltimore, 2016

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### Health Disparity

Racial and ethnic disparities in asthma have been well documented over the years and multiple factors are linked to the cause

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### Health Disparity

**Preventable** differences in the burden of disease, injury, violence, or opportunities to achieve optimal health that are experienced by socially disadvantaged populations.

Health disparities are directly related to the historical and current unequal distribution of social, political, economic, and environmental resources.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020

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### What is racism?

*"Racism is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks (which is what we call "race"), that unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, unfairly advantages other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources."*

*– APHA Past-President Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD*

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**AAE**

### What is systemic racism?

- Simply – Institutional & Structural Racism combined
- Widespread and deeply embedded in systems (political, criminal justices, health care, education, etc.), laws, written and unwritten policies, and entrenched practices and beliefs that produce, condone, and perpetuate the unfair treatment and oppression of people of color
- Often invisible or seen as the norm within the system(s) to those who are not directly impacted
- Comes with adverse health consequences

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**Systematic racism**

**Poverty**

- Employment and standard of living
- Education and access to technology
- Environment and pollution level
- Personal and neighborhood safety
- Family stability and homelife
- Health and access to care
- Shelter, warmth, and sanitation
- Food and energy security

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**AAE**

**Socioeconomic Factors**  
Education, Job Status, Family Support, Income

**Physical Environment**  
Housing

**Health Behaviors**  
Tobacco Use, Diet & Exercise, Alcohol Use, Sexual Activity

**Health Care**  
Access & Quality of Care

UCLA Health, 2021

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## Social Determinants Impacting Health

The five key determinants include\*:

- Economic Stability
- Education
- Social and Community Context
- Health and Health Care
- Neighborhood and Built Environment

\* Healthy People 2020

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Figure 1  
Social Determinants of Health

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Hunger	Social integration	Health coverage
Income	Transportation	Language	Access to healthy options	Support systems	Provider availability
Expenses	Safety	Early childhood education		Community engagement	Provider linguistic and cultural competency
Debt	Parks	Vocational training		Discrimination	Quality of care
Medical bills	Playgrounds	Higher education		Stress	
Support	Walkability				
	Zip code / geography				

**Health Outcomes**  
Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations



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How Sway?

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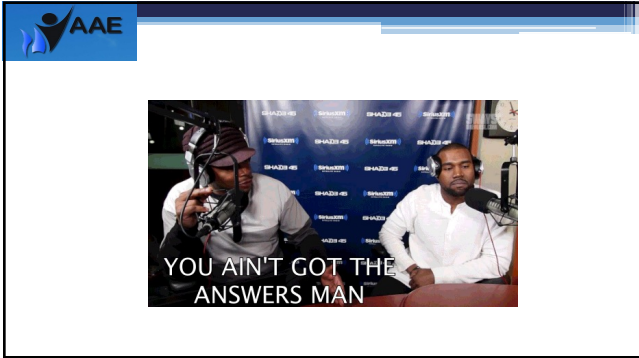
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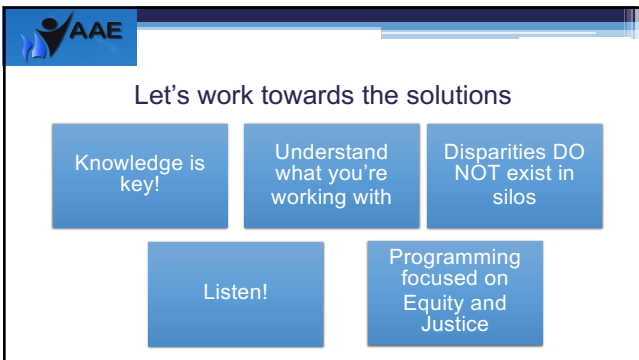
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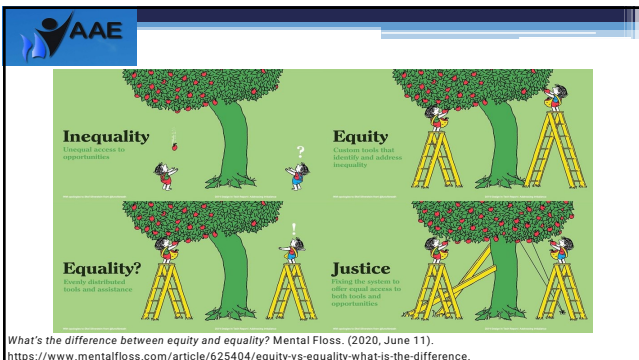
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**Thank you!**  
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