HEALTH EQUITY
PREVENTS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Everyone deserves the opportunity to experience optimal health and well-being!

Health equity is about wellness and safety where all people live, learn, work, play, worship, and age.

## HEALTH EQUITY IS CONNECTED TO REDUCING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Partner violence is a structural issue that intersects with multiple systems of oppression.

Oppressive systems, shaped by economic, social, and political forces, create power imbalances among groups of people. These power imbalances, in turn, perpetuate violence that shows up in our institutions and our relationships with others and ourselves.

The most impacted are the most oppressed with the least systemic power, including women of color, Indigenous people, queer and trans people, people with disabilities, immigrants, and those with intersecting marginalized identities.

Health equity works to prevent violence by addressing the oppressive conditions that contribute to it.

> "We will never end intimate partner violence as an oppression until all oppressions are ended. Racial justice and social justice, including health equity, are intractably linked. You can't work on one in a corner without working on them all collectively."
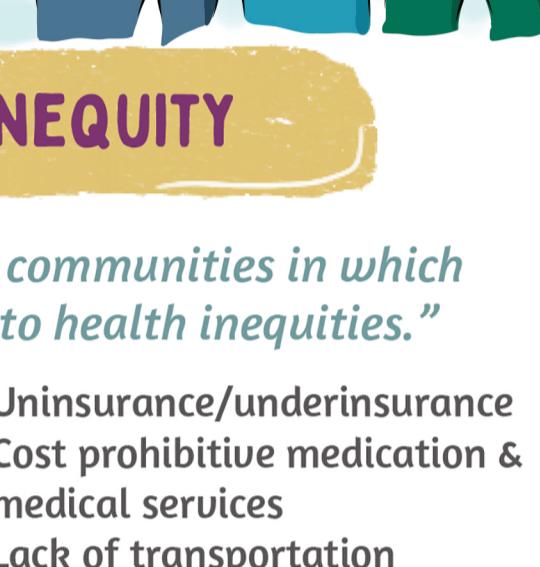
DRIVERS OF HEALTH INEQUITY

"The lack of investment in people and the communities in which they live create the conditions that lead to health inequities."

- Community disinvestment
- Wage stagnation
- Unemployment/underemployment
- Lack of affordable childcare
- Poor quality education
- Housing insecurity
- Food insecurity
- Uninsurance/underinsurance
- Cost prohibitive medication & medical services
- Lack of transportation
- Pollution & exposure to toxic substances
- Scarcity of green & open space

Systemic racism is the common thread that pervades all drivers of health inequity. That's why an anti-racist & intersectional approach is critical to creating solutions that work.

INTERSECTIONAL SOLUTIONS

We can move to health equity by improving environmental conditions in 5 key domains, known as the Social Determinants of Health. Knowing that effective approaches draw on community wisdom, lived experience & cultural strengths.

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE:

ECONOMIC STABILITY
Stable employment with living wages, good benefits, and affordable childcare.

EDUCATION ACCESS & QUALITY
Access to quality education from preschool through college.

HEALTH ACCESS & QUALITY
Affordable health insurance, health care services, and medication.

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS
Walkable and bikeable neighborhoods with clean air and water and healthy foods.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
Positive social connections and community support.

WE CAN WORK TOGETHER ON:

WORKPLACE POLICIES
Workplace policies that promote pay equity, paid family leave, fair and equitable hiring.

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY
Policies that promote educational equity, peer educator programs, and hot spot mapping to assess & promote the safety & wellbeing of students.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS PLANNING
Conducting community health needs assessments and health improvement planning processes using approaches such as the THRIVE* model.

GREENING OF SPACES
Greening spaces with community gardens & safe play areas, repairing or replacing abandoned buildings, transforming vacant lots, & creating accessible well-lit pathways.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY BUILDING
Creating opportunities to gather, learn, play, connect and celebrate that center relationships, connection, joy & belonging.

*THRIVE is a Tool for Health & Resilience in Vulnerable Environments from the Prevention Institute

AN INVESTMENT IN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES IS AN INVESTMENT IN HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Measurable outcomes include increases in:

- Community connectedness
- Public awareness understanding
- Inclusion & representation
- Community interest and engagement
- Social Cohesion
- Meaningful partnerships

> "We all have the responsibility & the power to ensure that all spaces create a deep sense of community, connection, belonging, and inclusion. This is the basis for preventing multiple forms of violence."
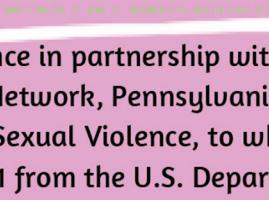
> "We all have a role in making sure everyone feels welcomed & comfortable to be their whole selves and to live the life they envision."

TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE HEALTH EQUITY!

To learn more, visit PreventIPV.org

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

preventIPV
tools for social change