

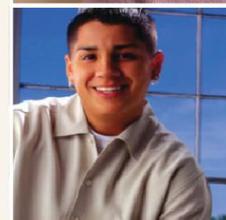
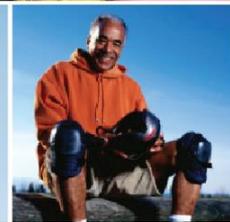
Bridging Health Equity Across State Lines and Communities:

Mid-Atlantic Regional Health Equity Council

August 2, 2017

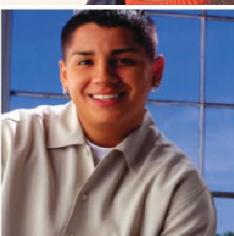
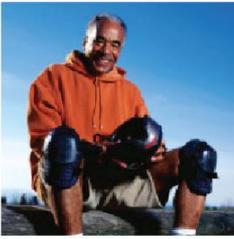


**NATIONAL
PARTNERSHIP
FOR ACTION**
to End Health Disparities



About the Mid-Atlantic RHEC

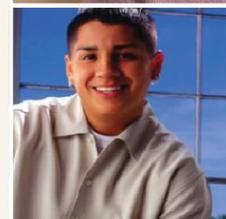
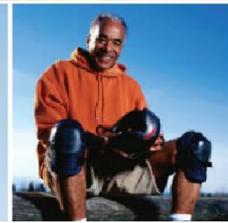
- The Mid-Atlantic RHEC is one of ten RHECs in the U.S. formed in 2011 to implement the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA)
- **Mission:** Strengthen programs, policies, practices, and services to achieve better health in Region III, in coordination with state offices of minority health to address CLAS and social determinants of health, therefore eliminating health disparities.
 - To inform and strengthen programs, practices, policies and services that contribute to achieving better health for all within **Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia** by eliminating health disparities, addressing the determinants of health, and stimulating communities to empower themselves



Mid Atlantic RHEC Membership Profile

20 Members affiliated with the following organizations/entities:

- State Departments of Health (Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Virginia)
- AARP
- AmeriHealth Caritas
- Bon Secours (Hospital System)
- Bluefield State University
- Central Penn College
- Community Capacity Builders, LLC
- Epilepsy Foundation
- Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Health Policy Research Consortium
- Nemours (Children's Hospital System)
- Norfolk State University
- NOVA Scripts Central
- University of Delaware
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Center



Mid-Atlantic RHEC Priority Areas

Increasing awareness of the significance of health disparities

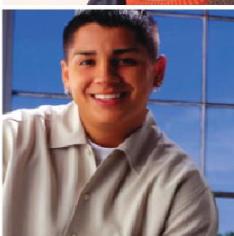
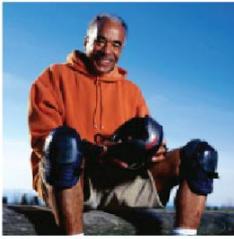
- Publish and disseminate health equity profiles
- Collaborate with regional stakeholders to provide education about health insurance provisions under ACA

Improve cultural and linguistic competency

- Educate regional practitioners from multiple sectors about cultural competency and unconscious bias
- Increase access to information to support adoption of culturally competent practices

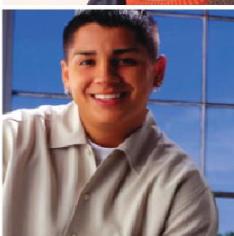
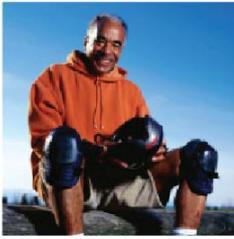
Address pipeline workforce development for people of color

- Convene leaders to increase the health care pipeline for minority students
- Provide youth education and leadership through training on health equity and social determinants of health, mentoring, and practicum experiences



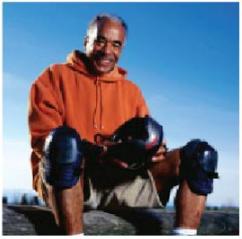
Committees and Workgroups

- ▶ Awareness committee
 - ▶ Increases awareness of the significance of health disparities and their impact on the nation
- ▶ Cultural Competence committee
 - ▶ Improves cultural and linguistic competency and the utilization of CLAS standards
- ▶ Ad Hoc HBCU workgroup
 - ▶ Explores strategies for collaboration in promoting the training of African Americans in the health professions



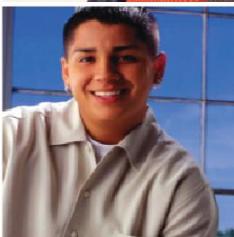
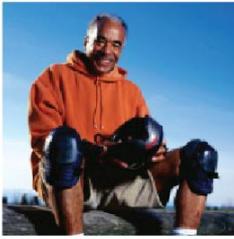
Awareness Committee

- Increasing awareness of health equity and health disparities in Region III
- Identifying key stakeholders for collaboration on health equity related activities
- Annual Health Equity Hero Award
- Annual Health Equity Day, April 5



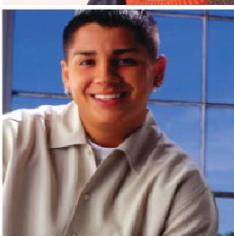
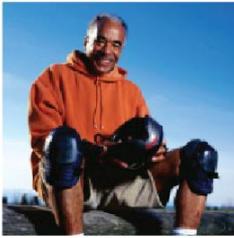
Cultural Competency Committee

- ▶ Implementation of the CLAS Survey
 - ▶ To assess awareness and implementation
 - ▶ To identify regional goals
- ▶ Developed a database of:
 - ▶ Hospitals
 - ▶ FQHCs
- ▶ Implemented the survey on October 25th
 - ▶ Thus far n=43
- ▶ Results will be used to develop training and identify resources



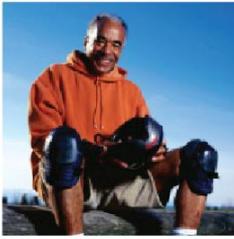
HBCU Committee

- Host Bi-Annual HBCU Health Professions Summit
- Assist and facilitate in building sustainable cross-collaboration health professions programs, including focus areas in emerging leaders and youth development pipeline
- Support emerging leaders and youth development pipeline
- Raise awareness regarding health and hard science pathways to public health, nursing, and innovation for the future
- Facilitate awareness about new emerging jobs and employment in healthcare fields
- Seek ways and means to increase collaborative relationships within the HHS infrastructure consistent with new priorities



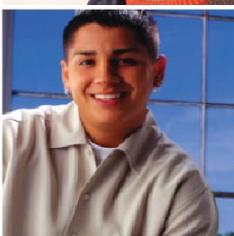
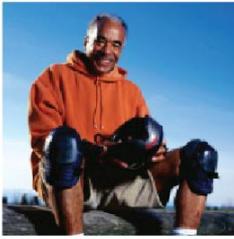
Other RHEC Activities

- Community Dialogue was held on December 9, 2016 at Norfolk State University in Norfolk, VA
 - Key takeaways
 - Collaborate with the faith-based community. Churches are an integral part of communities
 - Address other important equity issues, such as rural health, transportation housing, homelessness, obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular veterans, etc...
 - Provide more resources on the RHEC website, especially on on culturally appropriate programs for African Americans and/or communities of color, LGBTQIA, disabilities, etc...Also provide training and assistance on developing these type of tools
 - Get to the root of the problem, what triggers disparities (SDoH). How do deal with the structural issues regarding housing, pain management, and drug abuse
 - Address systems change



Key Considerations

- Support funding efforts that address the social determinants of health
- More cross-collaboration between RHEC's, Regional OMH, and the SOMHs and transparency so we can work together to move the needle. For example, combining the work around health literacy with the Region III RHEC CLAS efforts
- Expand our reach by explore opportunities to collaborate with NPA's existing partners and work through initiatives such as the AI/AN Caucus to help improve access to educational opportunities, training and technical assistance)
- Help facilitate and establish collaborative relationships with underserved, and other special populations such as tribal communities.
- Develop strategies on how to maintain the momentum under the current administration
- Collaboratively develop a youth workforce pipeline development (with HBCU's and other colleges/universities)



Contact Us:

Mid-Atlantic Regional Health Equity Council

Website: <http://region3.npa-rhec.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RHECRegionIII>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/MidAtl_RHEC

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