



Equity Analysis: Vermont's COVID-19 Response

AMCHP Conference 2022

Vermont Title V

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Health Equity at VDH

*Health equity exists when all people have a fair and just opportunity to be healthy, **especially those** who have experienced socioeconomic disadvantage, historical injustice, and other **avoidable systemic inequalities** that are often associated with social categories of race, gender, ethnicity, social position, sexual orientation and disability.*

Applying an equity lens

Health inequities exist across all aspects of public health and the health care system.

A health equity lens asks questions like:

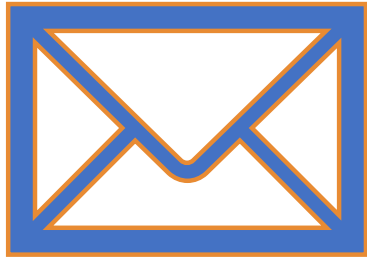
- What are the systemic, root causes contributing to these inequities?
- Where is the power imbalance to maintain these inequities?
- What is public health's role in addressing these root causes beyond addressing the health condition?
- Why are different populations being impacted more than others?

What can we do about it?

- Fund racial/social justice advocacy organizations
- Fund community health work
- Focus on primary prevention efforts
- Acknowledge that state government messages and services miss many Vermonters
- Engage the community in determining the most effective ways to reach all people

HECE successes

- Made equity-focused **recommendations**
- Granted **funding**
- Supported **RFP** processes
- Hosted equity **workshops**
- Collaborated with partners on **community-building and educational sessions**
- Increased **communication about equity**
 - Examples: Winooski outbreak/BIPOC household vax



**Let's stay in
touch!**

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