

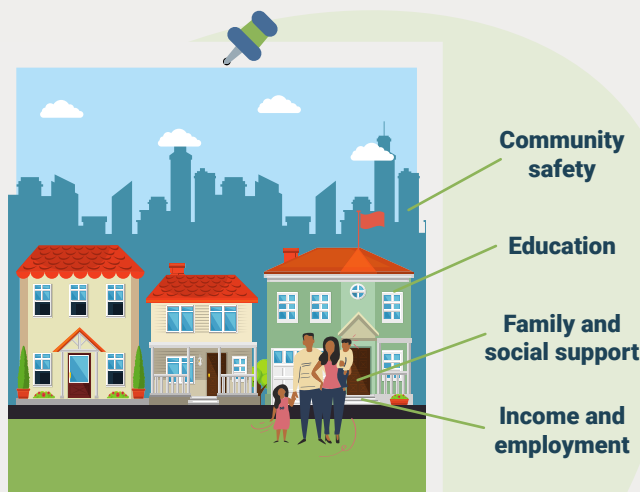
# Advancing Health Equity as a Core System Value

How do inequities affect health outcomes?

## What is health inequity?

Health inequities are preventable health disparities between groups of people that occur as a result of unfair or unequal systems, practices, or conditions. Long-standing inequities can be perpetuated by federal, state, and local policies, putting vulnerable populations at increased risk of poor health outcomes.

## Social and economic indicators that affect health equity



## Why is equity important?

Race/ethnicity, racism, socioeconomic status, education, and access to healthcare are just a few of the systemic and structural conditions that influence health outcomes in disadvantaged populations. These social and economic indicators make up 40% of the health factors that determine life expectancy and quality of life.

Certain health challenges, like the COVID-19 pandemic, affect many groups of people. However, inequitable access to evidence-based prevention resources and recovery services disproportionately impact low income and minority populations, negatively affecting their overall health.

## What can be done?

The 2021 Cooperative Extension National Framework for Health Equity and Wellbeing outlines three key areas that Cooperative Extension can target to achieve equity in health status.

To learn more about these target areas and the factors that determine health equity, be sure to register for the upcoming SCCAHS webinar on [advancing health equity as a core system value](#).

## How can Cooperative Extension help improve health equity?

- 1 Create **healthy communities** through collective action
- 2 Identify and address **health inequities**
- 3 Promote **healthy behaviors** through communication and education