

Call for Papers – AJCP Special Issue

Community-based Approaches to Understanding and Addressing Health Disparities and Promoting Health Equity

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A large number of individuals and communities world-wide face many barriers in achieving positive health outcomes. Many of these individuals include children, immigrants and refugees, low-income families, ethnic and racial minorities, LGBTQIA+, women, and other groups for which social, environmental, and economic conditions place them at risk for health disparities. Furthermore, many of these individuals encounter discrimination and lack of access to opportunities and services that promote health equity. Several entities, including the Surgeon General have made a call for community-based approaches and community engagement as a way to understand and address health disparities in order to promote healthy communities. Community psychologists have been strong proponents of community-based participatory approaches, having a long history of contributing to its development. Community-based participatory approaches build on engaging with communities in reciprocal ways, utilizing a strength-based approach, promoting empowerment of individuals and communities, and working in collaborative ways with communities as partners. Community-based approaches are rooted in feminist theory, critical consciousness, empowerment theory, critical theory, social ecological theory, and diversity among other frameworks underpinning much of the research advancing community research and action to address health disparities and promote health equity.

The aim of this Special Issue is to bring together a set of papers that contribute to our understanding of health disparities and community-based approaches to promoting health equity. The Special Issue takes a global perspective, so international papers are welcomed. We encourage papers that are theoretical/conceptual, empirical, ethnographic, methodological, and systematic reviews/meta-analysis. We also encourage papers from related disciplines and transdisciplinary work focused on community-based approaches toward health equity.

- Analysis of social, ecological, environmental, and system-level factors that contribute to health disparities among vulnerable populations.
- Analysis of cultural, social, ecological, and system-level factors that contribute to health equity and healthy communities.
- Community-based participatory research approaches to promoting healthy communities and health equity.
- Empowerment interventions that promote health equity and healthy communities.
- Methodological considerations around issues of power, diversity, and ethics in health equity research.

- Health promotion interventions that incorporate individuals and families grounded in participatory methodologies.

Researchers interested in submitting an article to the Special Issue should submit a one page abstract to Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar (ysuarez@uic.edu), Vincent Francisco (vtf@ku.edu), and Noé R. Chávez (noechavez@cdrewu.edu) no later than **April 30th**. The single space, about 400-word, abstract should include a title, authors and affiliations, and a description of the proposed manuscript and how it would fit into the Special Issue. Only those proposed abstracts that are deemed responsive to the call for this Special Issue will be invited to submit a manuscript. Invitations are not a guarantee of acceptance of manuscripts for review or publication; all manuscripts will undergo an external, blind peer review process. For further questions regarding this Special Issue please contact the Guest Editors.