

Health Disparities Town Hall Meeting

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Town Hall Meeting

- Location: Philander Smith College
- Attendee: Faculty of Philander Smith College, UAMS, UAPB, Arkansas Baptist College, Arkansas State Government, Community-based organizations
- Presentation: Overview of health disparities
- Open Discussion of causes of health disparities, solutions for health disparities



Overview of Health Disparities

- Health Status Disparities vs. Healthcare Disparities
- Role of Socioeconomic Status
- Role of Access to Care
- Role of genetics



Causes of Health Status Disparities

- Complex web of causation: social, cultural and behavioral factors
 - No simple answers



How do we move forward?

- Greatest impact on health disparities likely to come by improving outcomes from those at greatest risk.
- Healthcare solutions not likely to significantly effect health status disparities: improving access to care not enough
- Need to move the arguments for addressing health status disparities beyond social justice: Economic burden of health disparities
- Need to see health disparities as a crisis



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