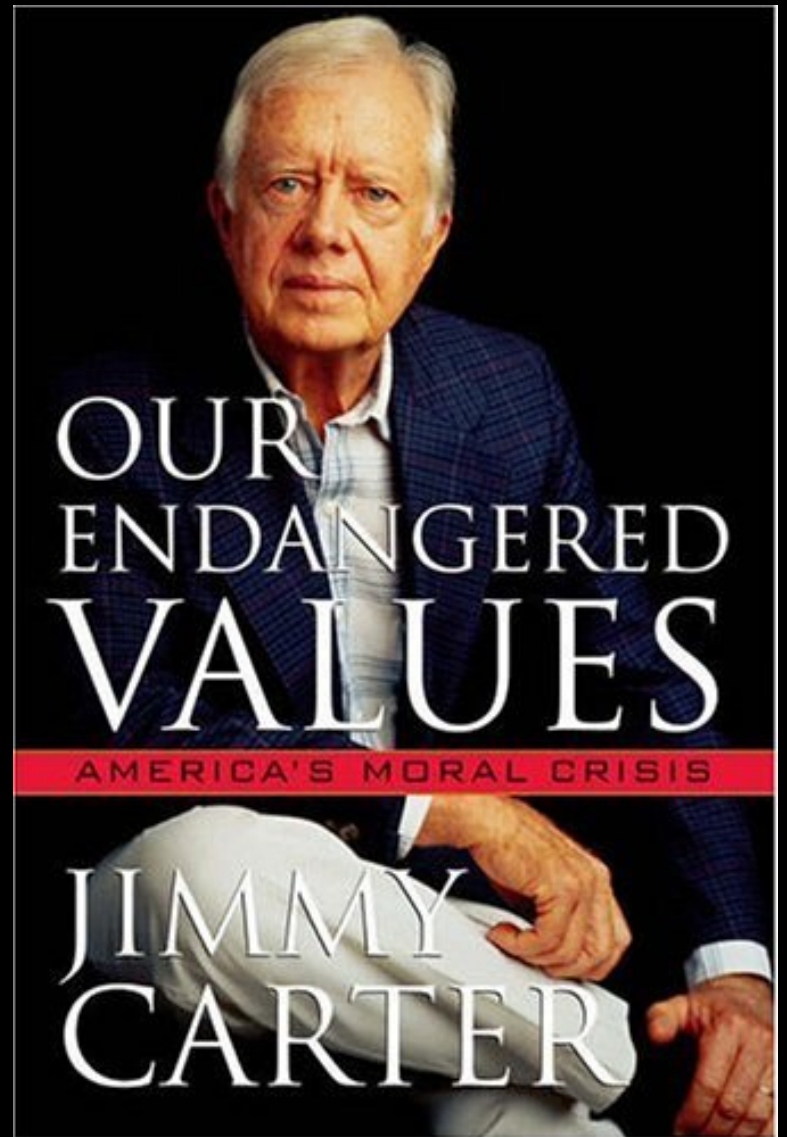
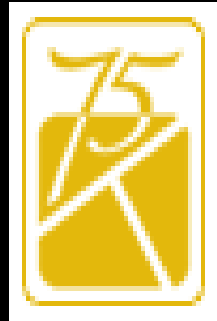




W.K. KELLOGG
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****For Engaged Institutions Initiative (EII) team member distribution only****

Becoming an Engaged Institution for Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities

The School of Public Health
Boston University
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What is a health disparity?

- Differences that occur by gender, race or ethnicity, education or income, disability, geographic location, or sexual orientation.

-US DHHS, 2000

What is a health disparity?

- Differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States.

-NIH, 2000

What is a health disparity?

- Racial or ethnic differences in the quality of health care that are not due to access-related factors or clinical needs, preferences and appropriateness of intervention.

-IOM, 2003

What is health disparity research?

- Includes basic, clinical and social sciences studies
- Focuses on identifying, understanding, preventing, diagnosing and treating health conditions such as diseases, disorders, and such other conditions, which
 - ◆ Are unique to, more serious, or more prevalent in subpopulations in socio-economically disadvantaged (i.e., low education level, live in poverty) and medically underserved rural and urban communities.

-NIH, 2003

Our Own Definition

- The specific thing that causes African Americans, American Indians, Asians, and Latinos to get sick more or die sooner than other groups of people in Boston is....

UNC Definition

- Inequities in disease and well-being that come from discrimination and unequal access to society's benefits, such as quality education, good jobs, decent and affordable housing, safe neighborhoods and environments, nutritious foods, and healthcare.
- These inequities result in disproportionately higher rates of death, disease, and disability, and have adverse consequences on the physical, mental, spiritual, and social well-being of population groups who, historically and currently, do not experience equivalent social disadvantage.
- These groups include, for example; African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics/Latinos, Asian Americans, Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, people with disabilities, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer persons, and people with lower incomes

Does our engaged scholarship look like this?

- Deals with difficult, intractable and evolving questions; these complex issues may constantly shift.
- Is long-term, in both effort and impact.
- Is collaborative and participatory.
- Crosses disciplinary lines.
- Requires diverse strategies and approaches.
- Draws on many sources of distributed knowledge.
- Is shaped by multiple perspectives and expectations.
- Is based in partnerships.

What more can we do?

- If we were to achieve health equity for all groups of people in Boston, our universities, agencies, and community-based organizations would have the following strategy or resource for engaged scholarship...

Goal 1

- Build a cadre of diverse, committed, effective, and authentic community partnerships, engaged with UNC SPH in eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities.

Portal of Connection

- A single point of contact between community groups and UNC SPH faculty, students, and staff with similar interests in **initiating** a range of engaged scholarship activities that promote health equity.

Portal of Connection

- Enable UNC and community groups to initiate and coordinate two-way communication and mutual access to each other's resources, including referrals, such as:
 - ◆ Training opportunities
 - ◆ Continuing ed and evaluation
 - ◆ Potential research partners
 - ◆ Calls for research proposals

Portal of Connection

- In conjunction with SPH Office of Student Affairs, will coordinate practicum opportunities with each SPH Department's Field Coordinator to:
 - ◆ Document relationships/partnerships
 - ◆ Provide orientation & training for all MPH students, prior to field practica on cultural humility, institutional racism, health disparities, community engagement
 - ◆ Provide on-going support seminars & workshops for students engaged with racial and ethnic communities

Portal of Connection

- To be administered by UNC SPH in a University unit, such as:
 - ◆ SPH Office of Research
 - ◆ UNC HPDP
 - ◆ NCIPH
 - ◆ ECHO

Goal 2

- Promote and support UNC SPH faculty, staff, and students in a continuum of community engagement activities, from listening to communities to generating and disseminating policy-relevant evidence, to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities.

Community Engagement Consortium

- That will ensure our partners of having their voices well represented within UNC SPH to **sustain** increasing diversity within the University and facilitate a continuum of academic-community partnerships
- That, in turn, will promote policy-focused evidence and action to eliminate health disparities.

Community Engagement Consortium

- Members appointed by the Dean and staffed to:
 - ◆ Link SPH faculty, students, & staff with on-going health disparities: research, practice, and teaching; resources, points of contact, training on community engagement
 - ◆ Serve as point person for communities and organizations seeking SPH collaborators
 - ◆ Respond to capacity building needs of community partners to engage with SPH

Community Engagement Consortium

- In conjunction with SPH Special Assistant for Diversity and SPH Office of Student Affairs, will co-convene an ad hoc **Diversity Advisory Committee** to establish initial procedures for increasing the pool of diverse candidates, and the number hired.

Goal 3

- Position UNC SPH as a leader in eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities and as an integral partner with the University in elevating and sustaining authentic community engagement.