## Health Disparities and Community Strategies

A Panel Addressing Disparities in Diverse Populations

## Why focus on health disparities?

 In 1985, <u>Margaret Heckler</u> noted that the annual report card on the health status of Americans ". . .signaled a sad and significant fact; there was a continuing disparity in the burden of death and illness experienced by Blacks and other minority Americans as compared with our nation's population as a whole." She noted that although there had been steady gains in the health status of minority Americans, "the stubborn disparity remained--an affront both to our ideals and to the ongoing genius of American medicine."



Margaret Heckler 15<sup>th</sup> U.S. Secretary of HHS

## **Understanding Health Disparities**



## **Panel Presenters**

- Ben Danielson
- Ralph Forquera
- Frederico Cruz-Uribe
- Anthony Chen