



HEC Accomplishments

- Adopted the name Health Equity Council (HEC), replacing the former designation as the Health Disparities Interest Group, as a better reflection of the emphasis on achieving health equity for all.
- Held the first HEC elections in fall 2008; installed the HEC Chair and Chair-Elect.
- Established four work groups: Advocacy (ADV), Cultural Competency (CC), Promising Practices (PP) and Social Determinants of Health (SDOH).
- Presented six SDOH trainings covering a range of topics: 1) Social factors that influence health; 2) Improvements in public health practices; 3) Policies that can reduce avoidable differences in health and 4) Indicators to identify health inequities and measure progress in reducing health disparities.
- Promoted the *Unnatural Causes* series and collected success stories to supplement the series tool kit.
- Provided HEC member training in conducting facilitated discussions and action planning.
- Participated in the CDC SDOH Expert Panel Planning Committee (2007) and Expert Panel meeting (2008).
- Developed a web-based PP resource guide to assist public health professionals in selecting appropriate interventions for communities.
- Completed a CC assessment of NACDD members and provided recommendations for action to the NACDD Board and the Diabetes Council.
- Adopted HEC approved definitions of health equity related terms, including cultural competency, advocacy, health disparities, health equity and social determinants of health.
- Initiated the evaluation of HEC influence and impact across and beyond NACDD. HEC membership grew from five members in 2005 to over 70 in 2009.
- Established linkages with external partners, including the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the National Association of County and City Health Officials, the Association for Community Health Improvement and California Newsreel.
- Provided training, educational presentations and planning session expertise upon request.

