The goal of health equity is met when every person has the opportunity to "attain his or her full health potential" and no one is "disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances." (CDC) Achieving health equity requires focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities and historical and contemporary injustices, and to eliminate health and health care disparities. (US DHHS)

Mission

*The Center for Health Equity Research (CHER) brings together collaborative, multidisciplinary teams of scholars and community members to improve health and healthcare in underserved communities through a shared commitment to equity, innovation, and translational research.*

Programs

Four programs comprise the Center’s focus on health equity research.

- **Social Enterprise**
  
  *Translates discoveries* in health equity research into social enterprise and innovation

- **Outcomes Research**
  
  Focuses on policy-relevant *patient- and community-centered outcomes research*

- **Methods and Metrics**
  
  Advances the *methods, metrics, and analytic frameworks* used in health equity research, engaged scholarship, and community based participatory research

- **Policy and Interventions**
  
  Develops, tests, disseminates, and evaluates *interventions* designed to achieve health and healthcare equity

Center Functions

- Serves as a scholarly resource for new and emerging investigators in health equity research
- Provides administrative structure and support as well as access to a community-based infrastructure to support research efforts
- Leverages infrastructure to catalyze new research efforts and partnerships in health equity through the use of pilot grants

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