



OVERVIEW

In recent decades, the United States has made substantial progress in improving the overall health of the nation, yet racial and ethnic disparities in health and health care persist. The *2015 Kelly Report on Health Disparities in America* outlined the persistent racial and ethnic disparities in our nation, disparities that are intolerable but correctable. Comprehensive and coordinated policy action is needed to address the unequal distribution of social, educational and economic resources that underlie the differences in health outcomes among population groups. This conference, ***The March Toward Health Equity***, will provide an opportunity for health policy experts, policymakers, academics and community leaders to examine and discuss the causes, complexities and remedies to health disparities.

The conference will be held November 12th - 14th at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

- To register, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tri-caucus-health-equity-and-accountability-act-summit-tickets-18827437372>
- For travel or accommodations inquiries, please contact Garcia Williams at Garcia.Williams1@gmail.com or the Medical University of South Carolina website at www.musc.edu
- For general questions, contact cbc.healthbraintrust@mail.house.gov

AGENDA

Thursday, November 12th

James E. Clyburn Research Center, Medical University of South Carolina

5:30pm-7:30pm Health Equity Town Hall

Welcome Remarks:

- Assistant Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn (SC-6)
- Mayor Joseph Riley, Jr. Charleston, SC
- Anton Gunn, Medical University of South Carolina

Opening Remarks & Town Hall Discussion:

- CBC Health Braintrust Co-Chair, Congresswoman Robin Kelly
- CAPAC Health Co-Chair, Congresswoman Barbara Lee
- Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee

(Congresswoman Lujan Grisham will also be in attendance but not arriving until Friday)

Friday, November 13th

James E. Clyburn Research Center, Medical University of South Carolina

8:00am-8:30am Breakfast & Registration

8:30am-8:45am Plenary Speaker, AJ Jones, Gilead Life Sciences

9:00am-10:20am Panel I: *Advancing the March Toward Health Equity: 114th Congress HEAA Legislation*

Expert panelist will discuss the 114th Congress Health Equity and Accountability Act. HEAA provides a consensus blueprint of the most principled, comprehensive, and strategic plan to eliminate health disparities and improve the health of all communities. We believe that no one's life expectancy should be determined by the color of their skin, or the zip code in which they are born. Presenters will discuss ways to advance HEAA's wide spectrum strategy of racial, ethnic, ability, language, and gender health disparity elimination initiatives.

10:30pm-11:50pm Panel 2: *A Winning Offense: Battling Diseases*

Expert panelists will discuss many diseases that disproportionately affect minority populations, with a focus on HIV/AIDS and Sickle Cell anemia. They

will not only discuss the problem but several solutions, including advances in care and technology that help in both prevention and stopping the diseases.

12:00pm-1:15pm

LUNCH

1:30pm-2:50pm

Panel 3: *The Color of Medicine: Perspectives on Health, Healthcare and the Diversity Pipeline*

Minorities in general account for less than 30% of the health and health care workforce. These numbers are staggering because they affect everything from patient care, hospital management and event testing in pharmaceutical studies. Expert panelists will discuss our current problem of the lack of diversity in medicine, ways to remedy it and finally why not only in health but in the bottom line it is so important.

3:00pm-4:20pm

Panel 4: *Food for Thought-Closing the Nutrition Gap*

In her contribution to the *Kelly Report*, Congresswoman Lujan Grisham argues that hunger affects more children, more often, and in a more profound way than most other consequences of poverty. Nearly 16 million American children face hunger, and most of the food they receive is not considered healthy; rather, their parents are more inclined to buy the most affordable food available. The lack of access to healthy food hurts a child's development, including physical and mental health, academic achievement, and future economic prosperity. Here expert panelists will discuss ways to close the nutrition gap and ways the health and healthcare community can assist in providing education and healthy food options.

Saturday, November 14th

Royal Missionary Baptist Church

9:00am-1:00pm

Community Health Clinic

As we work to educate the community on health care policy priorities, it is important to help assist with services to the community of Charleston to provide free access to basic health services that many residents desperately need. We welcome the opportunity to work with local health care partners here and in other underserved areas to provide services and health information that can help reach our goal to significantly reduce health disparities within a generation.