



# Screening for Social Determinants of Health

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Office of Health Equity

January 14-16, 2020

Impacting Lives in our Local Communities





## HRSA's Office of Health Equity (OHE)

- HRSA's Office of Health Equity (OHE) works to reduce health inequities so that communities and individuals can achieve their highest level of health for all people.
- This is accomplished through the development of strategic partnerships, internally and externally, with an emphasis on the integration of equity concepts into policy and programming across all HRSA bureaus and offices to positively impact the people we serve.



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“Social determinants of health is an abstract term, but for millions of Americans, it is a very tangible, frightening challenge: How can someone manage diabetes if they are constantly worrying about how they’re going to afford their meals each week? How can a mother with an asthmatic son really improve his health if it’s their living environment that’s driving his condition?”

“This can feel like a frustrating, almost fruitless position for a healthcare provider, who understands what is driving the health conditions they’re trying to treat, who wants to help, but can’t simply write a prescription for healthy meals, a new home, or clean air.”

**Secretary Alex M. Azar, II**  
November 14, 2018  
Washington, D.C.



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# Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

- conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age
- the fundamental drivers of these conditions

Source: World Health Organization (2008)



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## Healthy People SDOH Model



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Source: Castrucci B, Auerbach J. Meeting Individual Needs Falls Short of Addressing Social Determinants of Health. Health Affairs Blog. January 16, 2019.



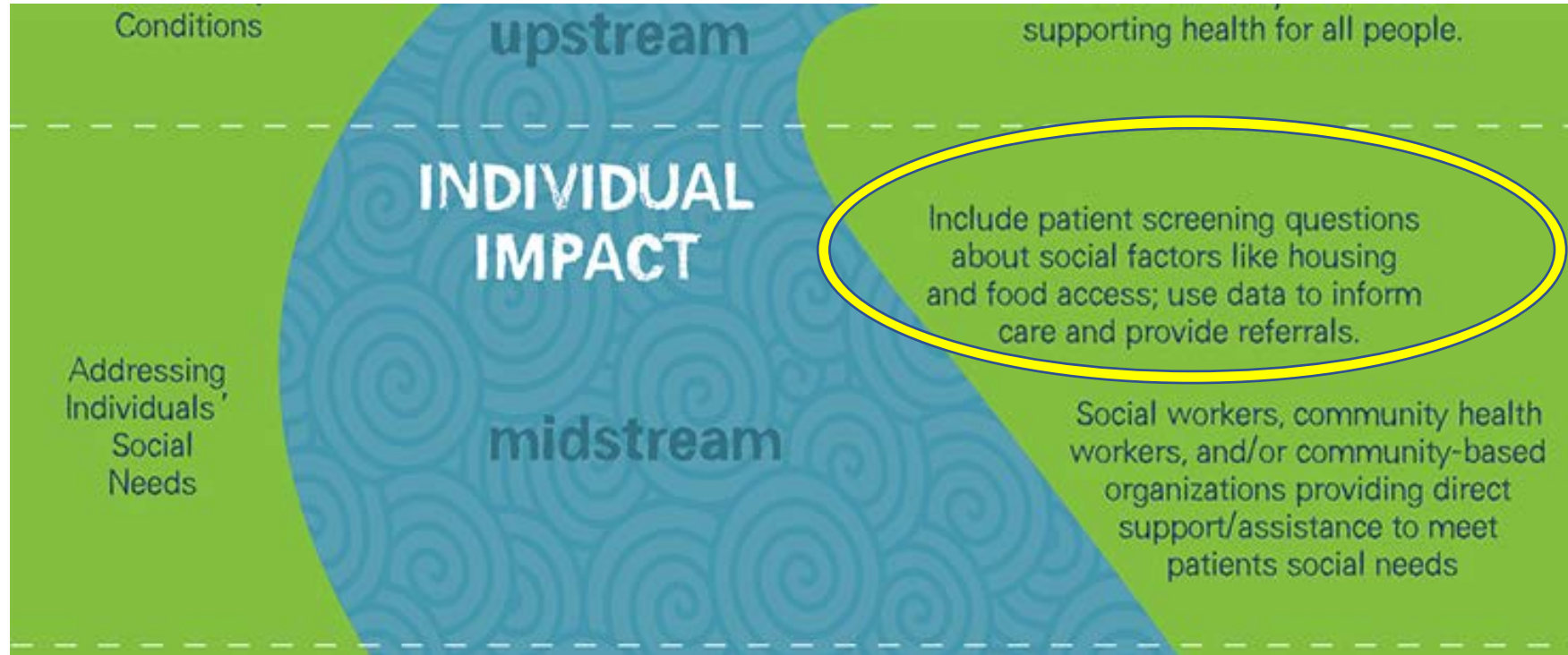


## SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND SOCIAL NEEDS: MOVING BEYOND MIDSTREAM



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# RURAL PARTNERSHIP



# DEVELOPMENT MEETING



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# SDOH Rural Considerations

- Wealth, income, poverty: low perceptions of mobility means people feel they lack control over their lives, which induces toxic stress and leads people to engage in risky behaviors.
- Education and labor markets: students who leave to attend 4-year colleges often do not return. For those who stay, the local job market is dominated by low-wage service jobs.
- Transportation: rural residents don't have as much access to public transportation as urban residents, and drive farther to get social and health services and basic goods.

Source: National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services



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# Patient screening for social factors

- Housing instability
- Food insecurity
- Transportation needs
- Utility needs (electric, gas, oil, water)
- Interpersonal safety

*Source:* Billioux A, et al. Standardized Screening for Health Related Social Needs in Clinical Settings: The Accountable Health Communities Screening Tool. National Academy of Medicine Perspectives, May 30, 2017.

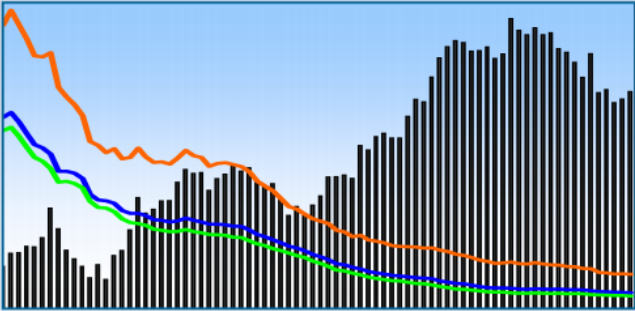





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**Health Equity Report 2017**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
Office of Health Equity



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Link to OHE and Health Equity Report:  
<https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/ohe/>

**New Health Equity Report due Spring 2020**

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