We Can’t Gentrify Our Way to Health Equity

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December 8, 2017
Appreciations and Welcome!

• Health & Medicine Colleagues
• Chicago Community Trust
• Loyola University’s Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy and the Civitas ChildLaw Center
• Members of the media
• Our speakers and participants
• Chicago Public Schools students
Agenda Review:
Welcome
Historical Overview
Keynote Address
Break
Voices: Multimedia Presentation
Feedback from the Field Panel
Q&A and Discussion
Questions for Connecting Gentrification and Health Inequities

• What causes gentrification and displacement?

• How does displacement contribute to health inequities?

• What can people working in our various sectors do to prevent housing and community displacement?

• What are some policy changes that could slow or stop community displacement?
Centering the Discussion in Root Causes
Defining Health Equity

Health equity is a process of assurance of the conditions for optimal health for all people.

Health Equity requires at least 3 things:

• Valuing all individuals & populations equally
• Recognizing & rectifying historical injustices
• Providing resources according to need

-Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD
Root Causes:
Historical and Contemporary Injustice
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IPUMS

IPUMS
How do disinvestment and inequities in the public sector relate to gentrification?

- Public Education & Schools
- Public Housing
- Public health clinics
- Public Transit & Road maintenance
- Tax codes
- Policing & Incarceration
- Immigration Policy
- Redevelopment dollars (e.g., Tax Increment Financing)
Tensions and Relationships to Explore

• Individual responsibility **versus** collective, societal problem

• Human right to housing **versus** property rights

• Human need for belonging, connectivity, and community **versus** a political economy that ascribes higher value to capital and people who have it
Why are we here?

People’s Right to Exist and Be In Community
Introducing our first speaker
Janet Smith
Defining Health Equity

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Gentrification and Community Displacement: Driver of Health Inequity

Gentrification is a process that does not assure the conditions for optimal health for all people.

• Values some individuals & populations more than it does others
• It is built upon and extends historical injustices through new, contemporary injustice
• Provides resources according to people’s