



**THE
COLORADO
TRUST**

A Health Equity Foundation

Health Equity Learning Series

Health Equity and Community Engagement

Dedicated to Achieving Health Equity for All Coloradans

HEALTH EQUITY LEARNING SERIES

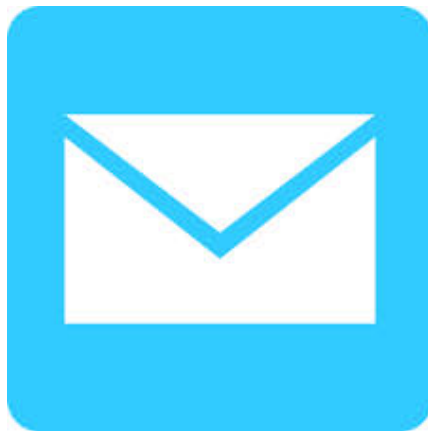
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HEALTH EQUITY LEARNING SERIES



Doran Schrantz
Executive Director
ISAIAH

Presentation for Colorado Trust, February 2015

Building Our Health: Building Democracy

Doran Schrantz
Executive Director
ISAIAH
PICO Center for Health
Organizing

ISAIAH and PICO

- ❖ **ISAIAH** is a faith-based community organization of 100 member congregations. ISAIAH is a vehicle for people of faith and communities of faith to act collectively and powerfully for racial and economic justice in MN.
- ❖ **PICO** (People Improving Communities through Organizing) is a national organizing network of 55 organizations in 19 states working for racial, social and economic justice.

Overview

- ❖ Define Our Collective Definition of Health
- ❖ Define Community Organizing
- ❖ Explore the intersection of Health and Organizing—Is organizing a viable strategy for reducing health inequities?

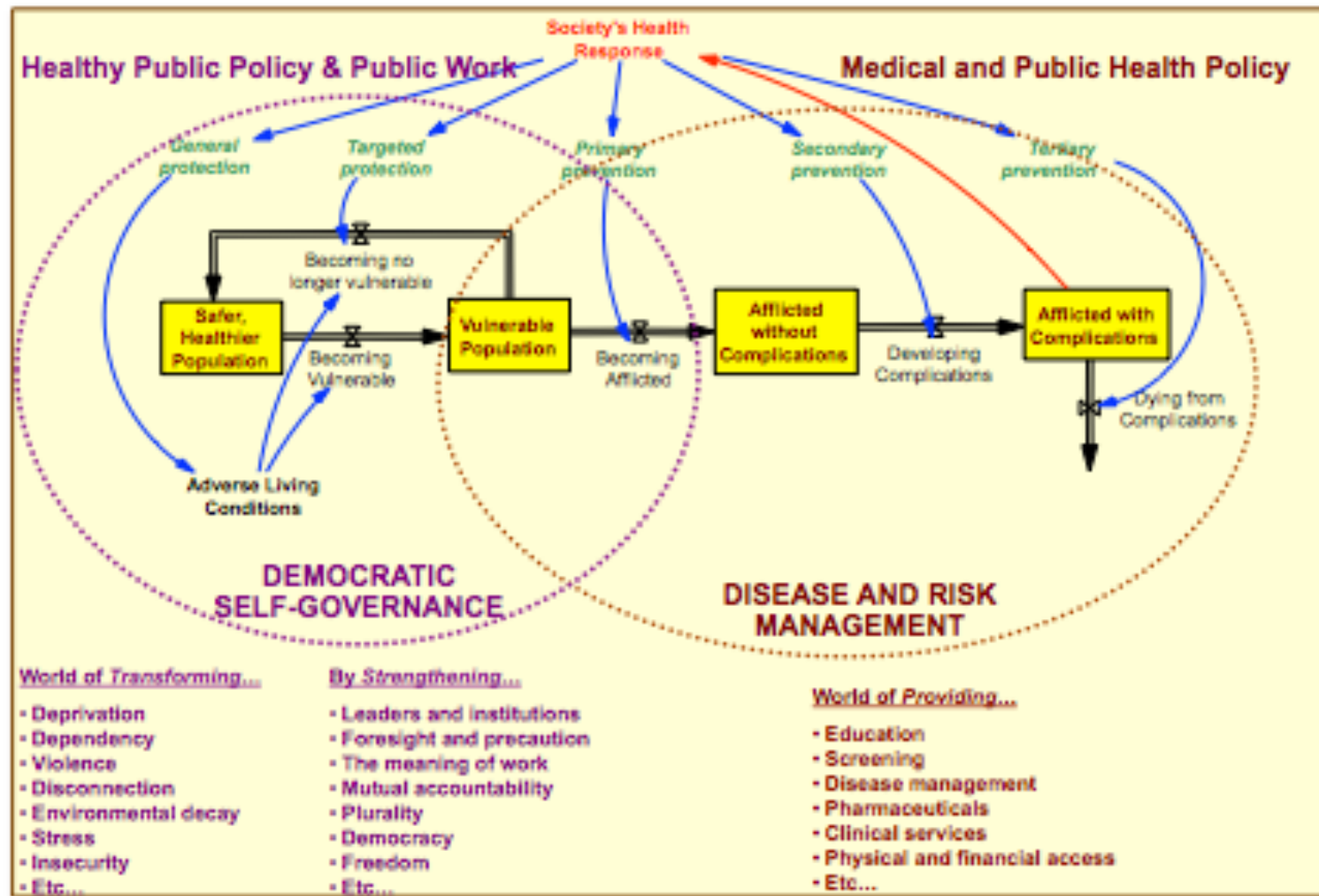
World Health Organization: Social Determinants of Health

The *social determinants of health* are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, age, including the health system. These circumstances are shaped by the *distribution of money, power and resources* at a global, national and local levels.

Institute of Medicine (1988), Future of Health

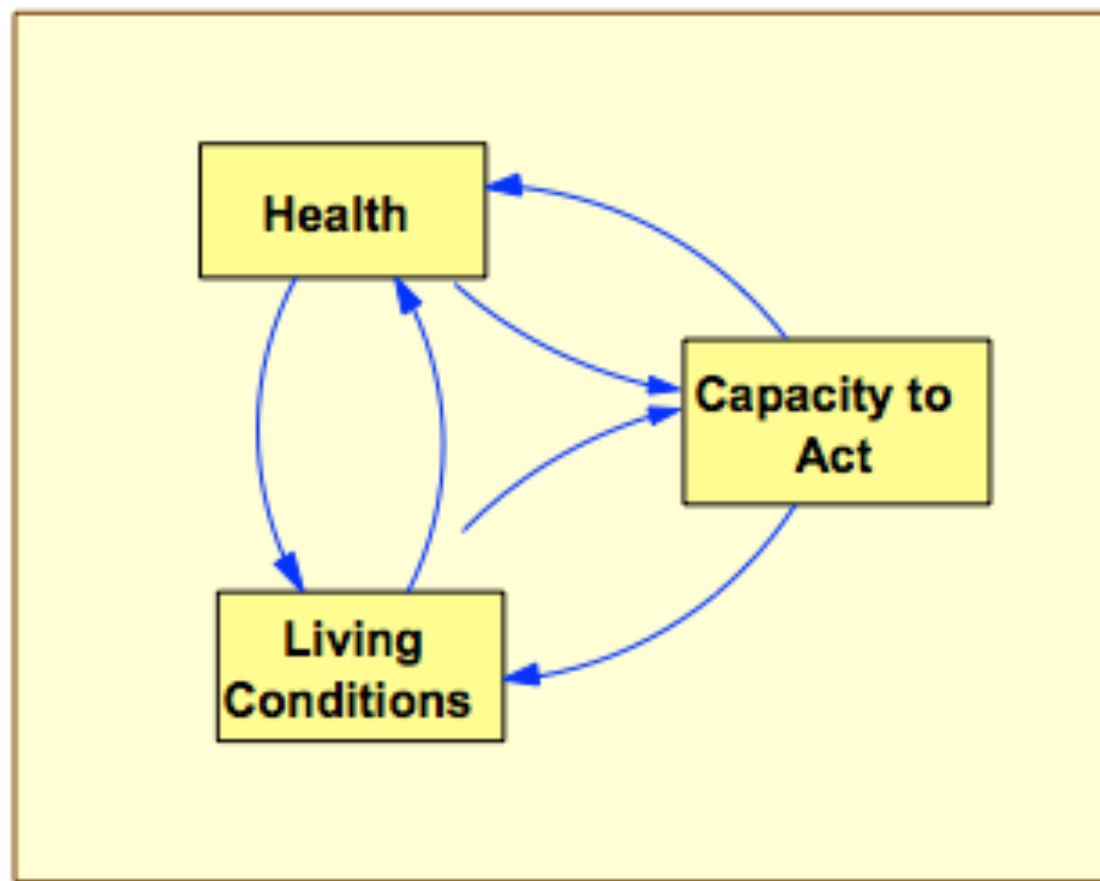
Public health is what we, as a society, do collectively *through organized actions* to assure the conditions in which *all* people can be healthy.

Areas of Emphasis



Presented by: Jeanne F. Ayers, Minnesota Department of Health, Milstein B. Hygeia's constellation: navigating health futures in a dynamic and democratic world. Atlanta, GA: Syndemics Prevention Network, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 15, 2008. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/pressroom/stories/04/15041508.htm>

Seeing a Wider Set of Relationships



Presented by: Jeanne F. Ayers, Minnesota Department of Health - Milstein B. Hygela's constellation: navigating health futures in a dynamic and democratic world. Atlanta, GA: Syndemics Prevention Network, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; April 15, 2008. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/syndemics/monograph/index.htm>



Power and Politics

- ❖ **Power** is “The Ability to Act”
- ❖ Power operates in the public sphere, the realm of “politics”
- ❖ **Politics** derives from Aristotle’s definition of the “polis” — “The political community”

Capacity to Act

We are *political beings*: There is part of us that emerges only to the extent that we participate in public life

—Aristotle, Arendt, Adams, Friere, M. Luther King, etc.

Community Organizing

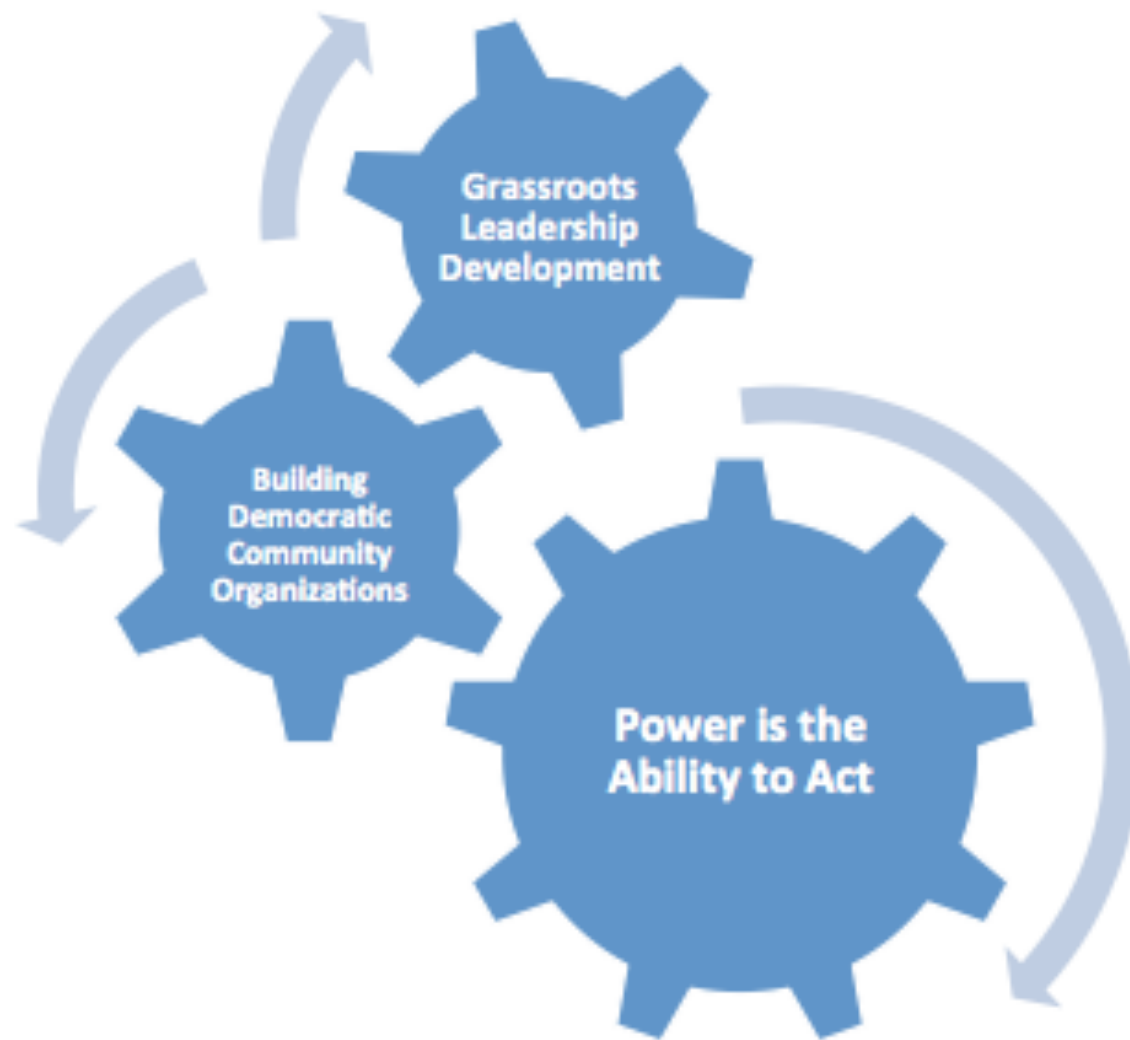
A set of **disciplined and strategic** practices to **build democratic and collective power** to assure the conditions in which a community or communities can thrive.

Core Strategies of Community-Based Organizing

- ❖ Grassroots Leadership Development
- ❖ Building Democratic, Sustainable and Community-Driven Organizations
- ❖ Theory of Change Grounded in Building Power to make change



Community Organizing



10,000 Voices Shining The Light Event

1600 People from 110 Congregations
Gathered to Unveil a Racial Equity
Agenda for Minnesota: Health,
Transportation, Education, Jobs



SHINING the LIGHT A FAITH GATHERING FOR MINNESOTA'S FUTURE

Sunday, Dec. 5, 2010

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Minneapolis Convention Center Ballroom

Working together to create a racially and economically just Minnesota.

10000VOICES
for oneminnesota
a project of BVALAR



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612.333.1260 | www.isaah-mn.org
10000Voices@isaah-mn.org



Faithful tell Dayton: Erase gaps

• As the recount winds down, a coalition of church and religious groups urged the front-runner to work from the governor's office toward educational and economic opportunity for all.

By IERÓN MÁRQUEZ ESTRADA
ism@startribune.com

All but declared the next governor of Minnesota, DFLer Mark Dayton on Sunday promised a gathering of more than 1,500 Minnesotans of faith to strive to make the state a place of equal opportunity for all.

"That's my commitment," Dayton said at the Minneapolis Convention Center to members and representatives of about 100 churches and religious organizations from around the state. "I share that [vision] with you. Now let's go do it."

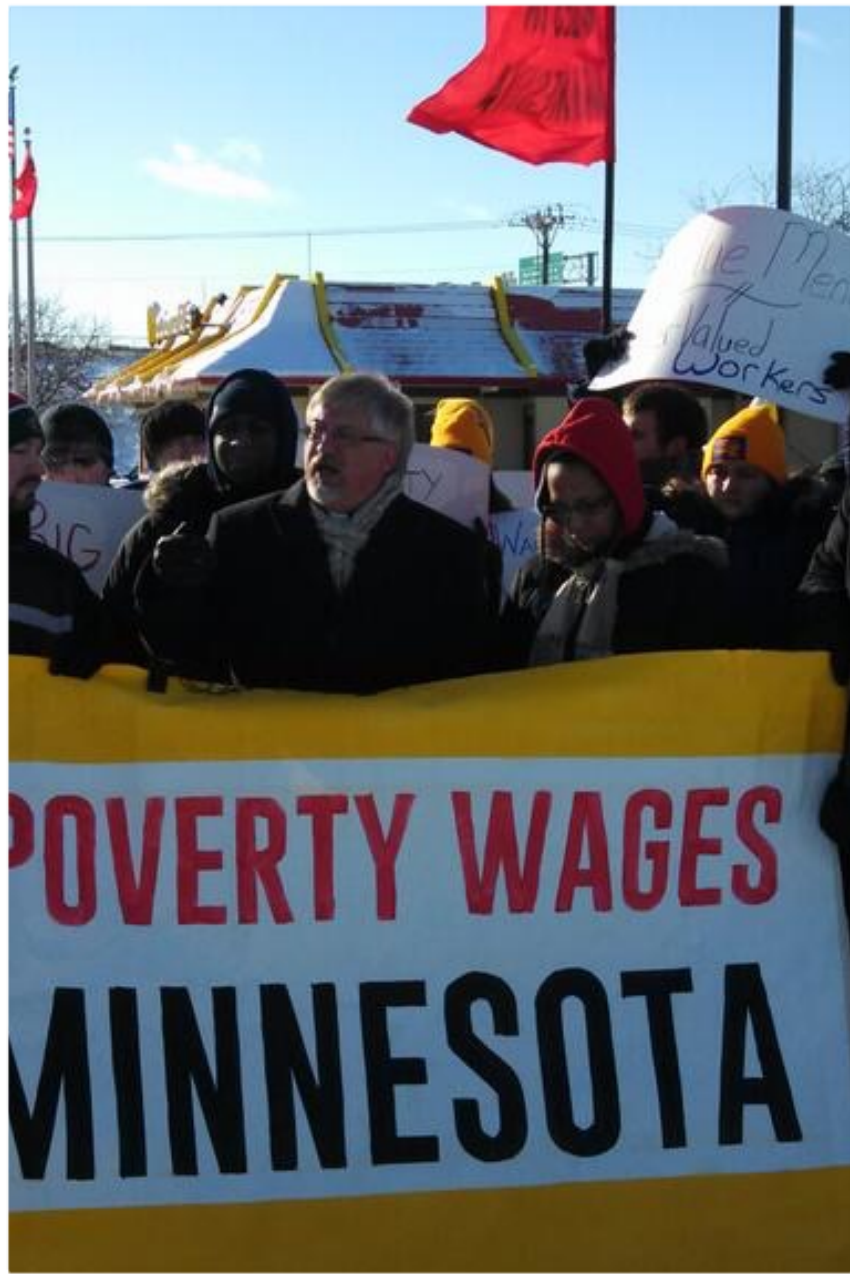
Dayton's comment, which drew a standing ovation, came at an event that was part religious revival gathering and part political and economic forum.

Sponsored by ISALAH, a Twin Cities religious coalition, the "10,000 Voices for One Minnesota" project was intended to bring



Members of the ISALAH coalition joined their voices at the Sunday afternoon convocation. "I want one Minnesota," said the Rev. Billy Russell of Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist in Minneapolis.

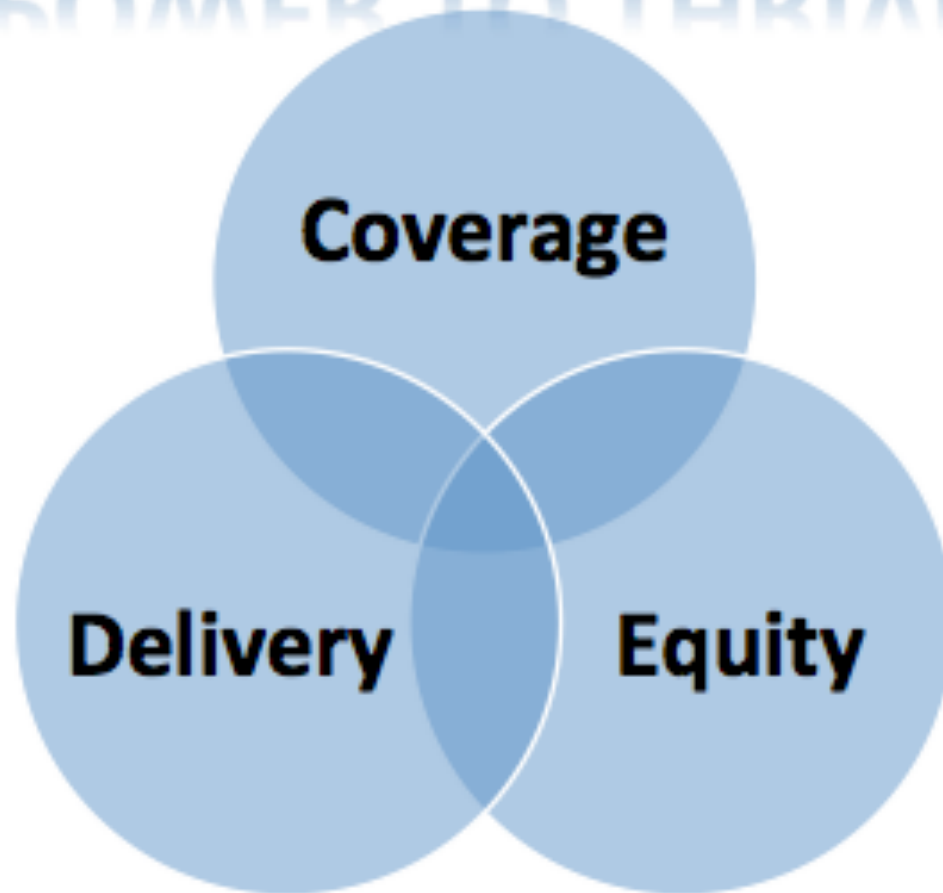
Raising The Wage In MN:
Minnesota Department of Health



Power to Thrive: PICO Center for Health Organizing

POWER TO THRIVE

POWER TO THRIVE



Core Mission: Unleashing the Capacity to Act

- ❖ Are we creating pathways for people to **act with agency and power** around their own interests and agenda?
- ❖ Who has the **power to decide**? How have we “set the table”? (Engagement vs. Sharing Power)
- ❖ How are we **shifting the arrangements of power** to change the “distribution of money, power and resources”?

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Join the discussion...

- In-person
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Thank you for joining us!

**For more information, please visit
www.coloradotrust.org**