



Health Equity Support Pledge

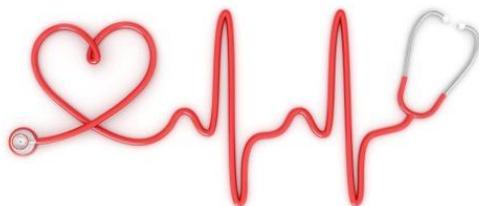
[Insert the name of your organization] enthusiastically supports the efforts of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Office of Health Equity and the thousands of individuals on the frontlines across the commonwealth to create a state free of disparities in health and health care. We believe it is critically important to 1) reduce the disproportionately high burden of illness, injury and premature deaths that affect racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations and 2) create better health outcomes for all Americans.

That's why we have signed a pledge to support the **Office of Health Equity**, so we can work with others in our communities to achieve health equity.

Data show that where a person lives, learns, works and plays affects their health. The disparities in health between different racial and ethnic groups and others impose a significant burden on the United States. The combined cost of health inequalities and premature deaths were estimated to be \$1.24 trillion between 2003 and 2006. [Source: Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies: Economic Burden of Health Inequalities in the United States]

With the help of other partners, including the federal government, the private sector and leaders here in our own community, we can work together to make sure that everyone has equal potential for good health. The state of Pennsylvania will be unable to significantly improve its overall health and productivity without meaningfully addressing health disparities experienced by significant segments of the population.

We know we have a problem. Together we can fix it.



(Signature)