

What is progress in obesity interventions?



ROUNDTABLE ON OBESITY SOLUTIONS

OCTOBER 25, 2022

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UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

Obesity policy - What is progress?

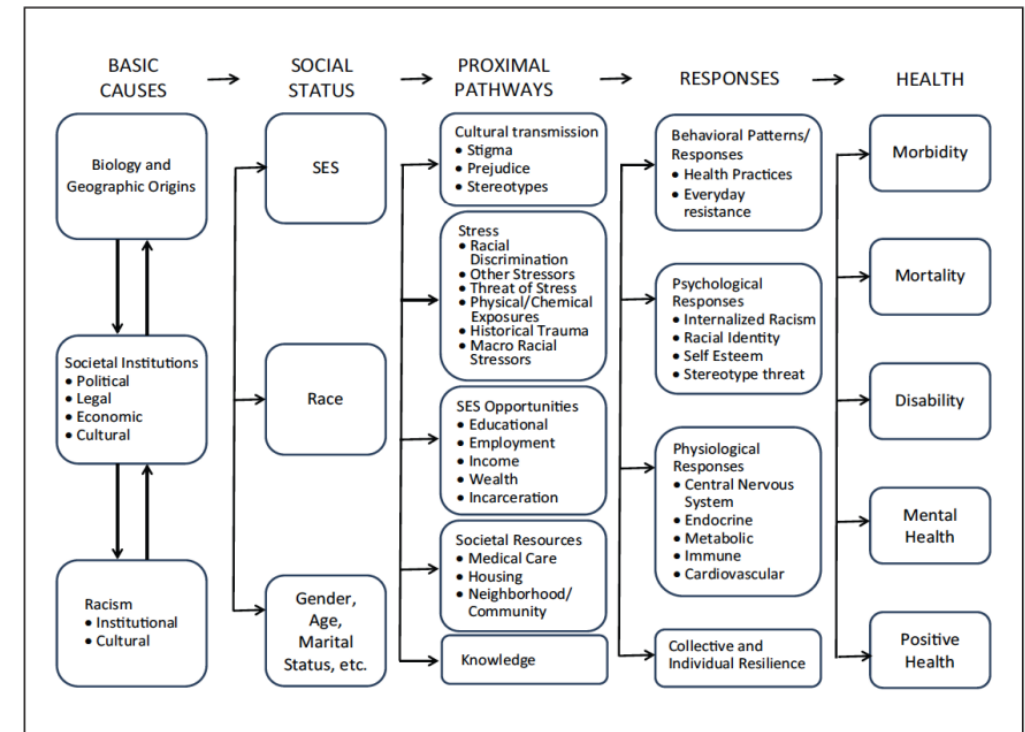
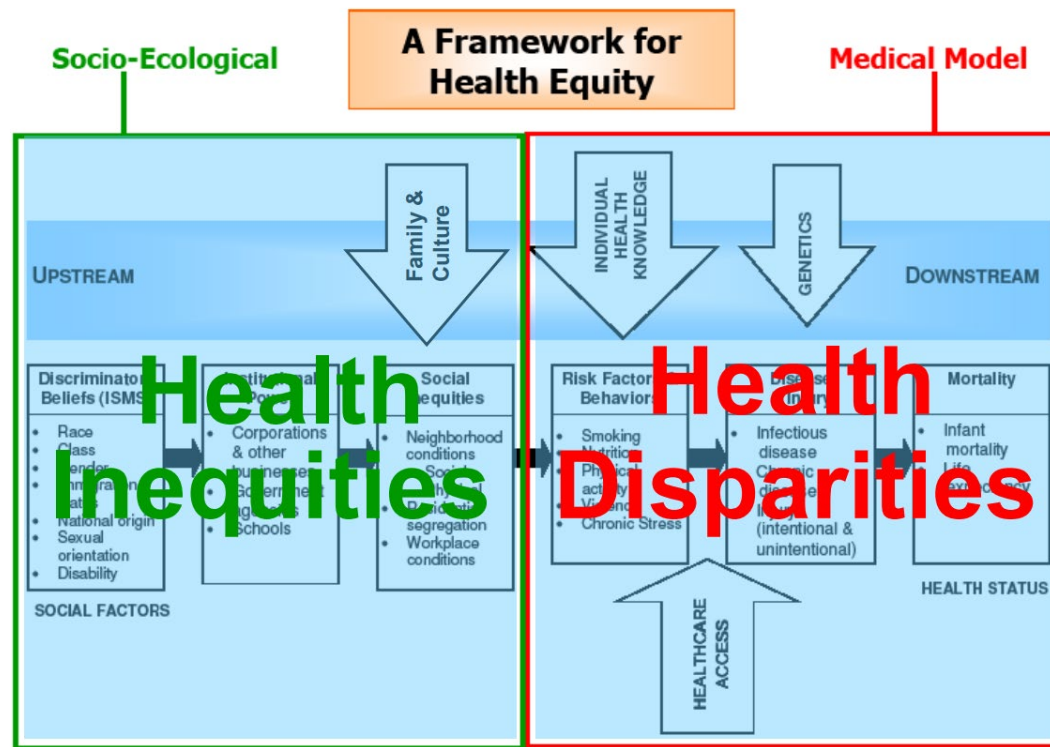


Identifying policies that are effective – and those that are not



Implementing policies that address upstream causes

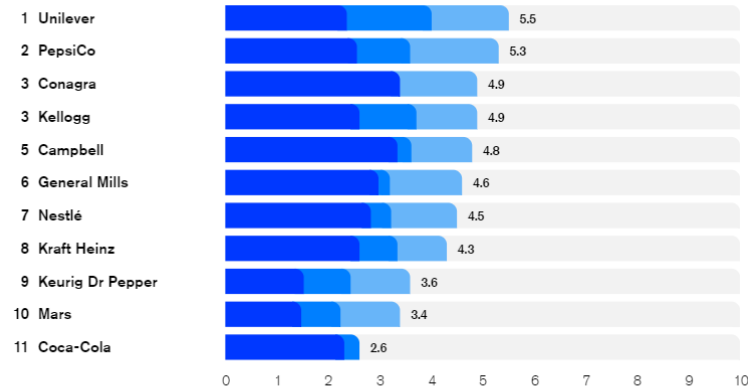
Upstream causes and pathways



Addressing upstream causes



Products



B1 Product Profile **B2** Product formulation **B3** Defining healthy products

<https://accesstonutrition.org/index/us-index-2022/>

Corporate Racial Equity Alliance

Illustrative Standard #3 — Contributing to a Healthy, Multiracial Democracy

Lever of Change	#17: The company contributes actively to building a flourishing multiracial democracy, including regularly assessing its national policy positions with a racial and economic equity lens, being fully transparent about its political activity, and supporting national policies that would create a more equitable nation and strengthen democratic processes.
Performance Target (Bar for Equity)	100% of the organization's political activity is aligned with its board-approved policy embedding racial and economic equity in all political activity (e.g., lobbying and political donations) at the national level.
Interim Target	\$0 spent directly or indirectly on public policies that exacerbate racial and economic inequity.

<https://corporateraciaequityalliance.org/>

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Taking effective policies to scale



Identifying and mitigating unintended consequences

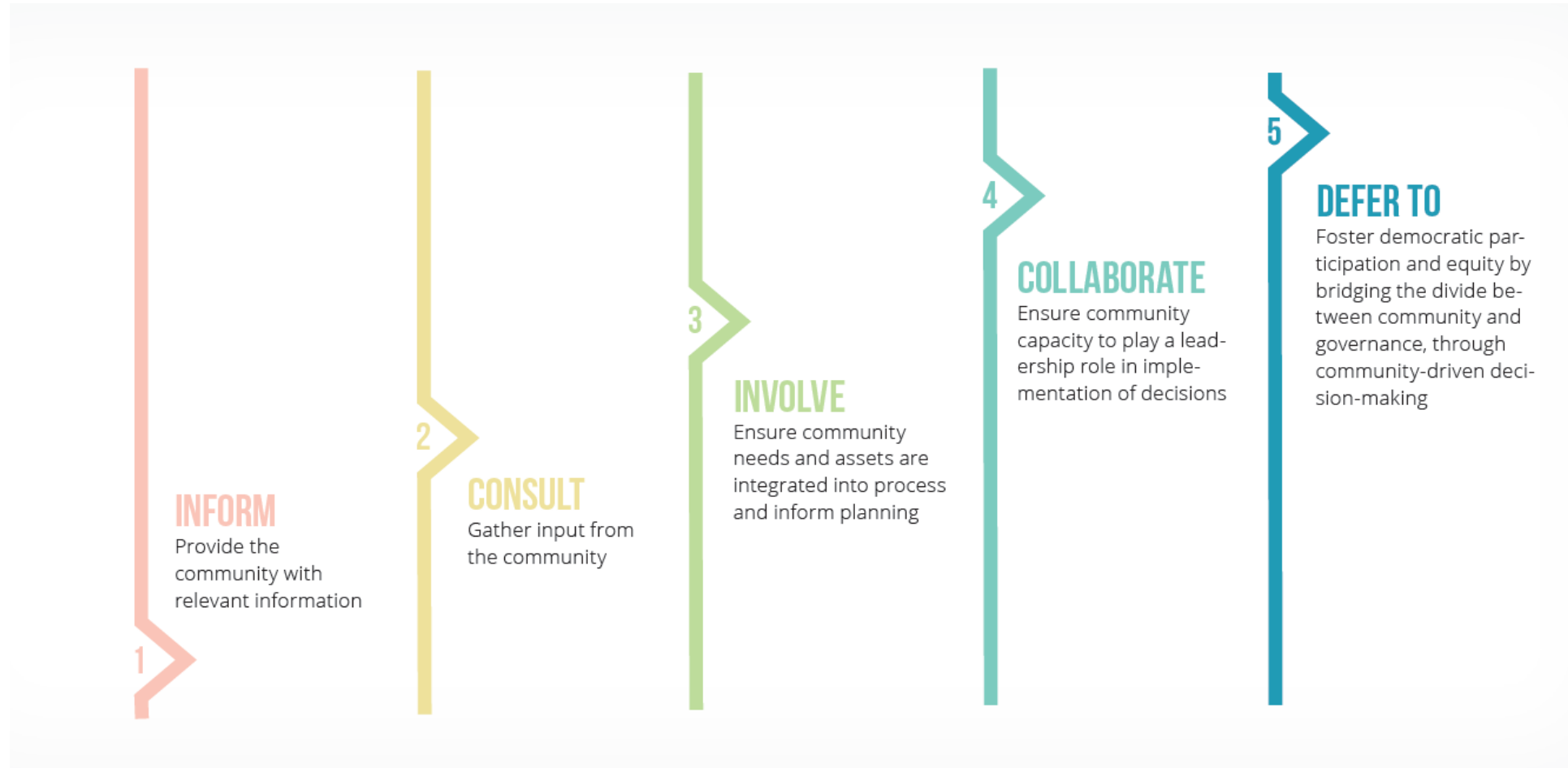


Optimizing co-benefits



Using efficient, effective and just approaches to policy adoption and implementation

THE SPECTRUM OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO OWNERSHIP



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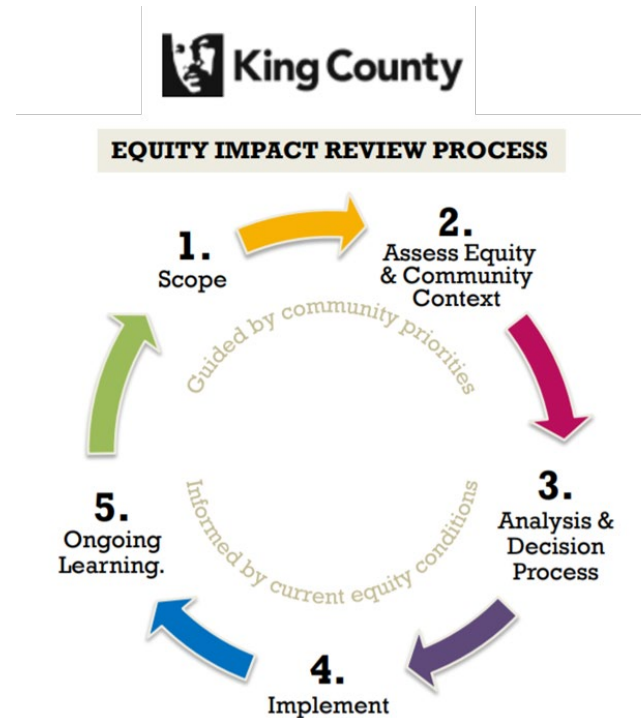
Using efficient, effective and just approaches to policy adoption and implementation



Centering policy in equity - applying an equity lens to policy adoption, implementation and evaluation

Equity lens

An equity lens is a process for analyzing or diagnosing the impact of the design and implementation of policies on under-served and marginalized individuals and groups (*and including them in the process*)



Race Equity Impact Assessment

These questions can help you begin your race equity impact assessment.

1. Are all racial and ethnic groups that are affected by the policy, practice or decision at the table?
2. How will the proposed policy, practice or decision affect each group?
3. How will the proposed policy, practice or decision be perceived by each group?
4. Does the policy, practice or decision worsen or ignore existing disparities?
5. Based on the above responses, what revisions are needed in the policy, practice or decision under discussion?

Communicating progress

Pandemic-EBT and Grab-and-Go School Meals: Costs, reach, and benefits of two approaches to feeding children during school closures — Lessons from COVID-19 responses

Healthy Eating Research

Research Brief, August 2022

Overview and Recommendations

COVID-related school closures across the United States in spring 2020 disrupted the school meal programs that provide critical access to healthy food for millions of children — including children in elementary and middle school and adolescents in high school — from households with low incomes, leading to increased food insecurity. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) responded with innovative policies that allowed states and school districts to implement the Grab-and-Go School Meals (GGSM) and Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) programs. Together, these programs ensured children's access to billions of meals and mitigated the effects of school closures on food insecurity. P-EBT reached more children and provided meals at lower cost. GGSM offered prepared meals and reached people not eligible for P-EBT. Both programs should be continued to assure food access when schools are closed during planned breaks and future crises.

Introduction

When school is in session, the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP) play an essential role in improving nutrition, reducing food insecurity, and promoting health among U.S. children, particularly those from families with lower incomes.^{1,4} Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly 30 million children received lunch daily through the NSLP. 23 million of whom qualified for free or reduced-price meals (FRPM) because their household incomes were at or below 185% of the federal poverty level.⁷ Schools served nearly 15 million breakfasts each day through the SBP.⁴

This brief summarizes research findings from a Healthy Eating Research rapid-response study focused on school meals during COVID-19. Specifically, this study assessed the reach, benefits, and costs of the P-EBT and GGSM responses during the spring of 2020. [The full manuscript can be found here.](#)

Key points

- COVID-related school closures in spring 2020 disrupted children's access to school meals, leading to increased food insecurity.
- Two innovative policies offered different approaches to feeding children — Grab-and-Go School Meals (GGSM) and Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT).
- GGSM allowed school food services to prepare meals for families to take home immediately following school closures.
- P-EBT issued debit-like cards to income-eligible families for purchasing food to replace missed meals.
- P-EBT reached 89% of eligible children, while GGSM reached 27%.
- The overall cost-per-meal provided was \$6.46 for P-EBT and \$8.07 for GGSM.
- These complementary programs provided millions of children with food while schools were closed.

Crosscut. Politics Culture Equity Environment Video MEMBERSHIP

EQUITY

Study finds Seattle's controversial soda tax can improve equity

Researchers found that taxes on sweetened beverages funded programs mainly benefiting lower-income households, including grocery subsidies and pre-K education.

by Cinnamon Janzer *NextCity* / August 22, 2022

