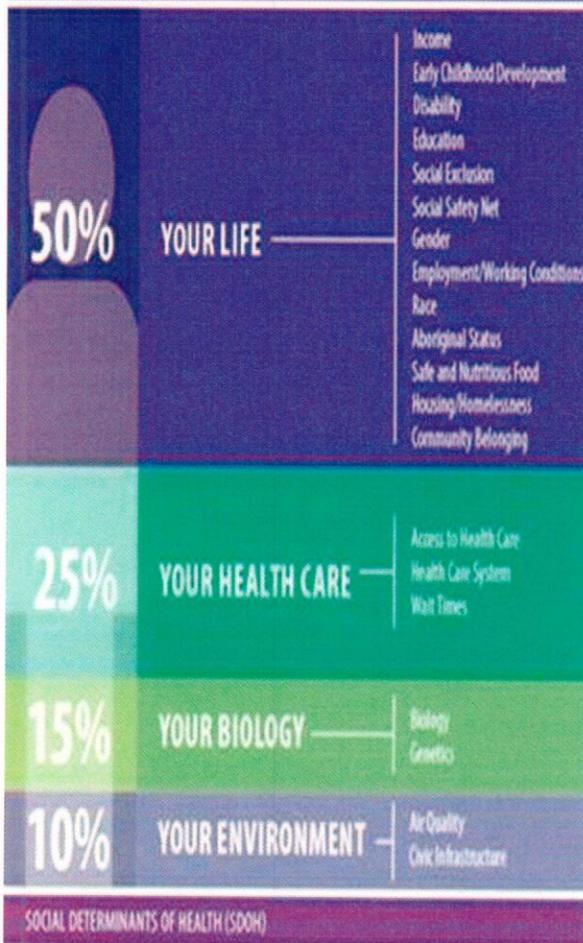


WHAT MAKES PEOPLE SICK?



WVDHHR, (2018). Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease: Fast Facts.

OBESITY:

- The prevalence of obesity in West Virginia was 37.7%, which was 1st highest in the nation.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:

- More than one-fourth of West Virginia adults (28.5%) did not participate in leisure-time physical activity or exercise, which ranked West Virginia 11th highest in the nation.

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE:

- West Virginia ranked 1st highest in the nation in the prevalence of heart attack (7.5%) and coronary heart disease (8.0%) and 7th highest in the nation in the prevalence of stroke (4.4%). The overall cardiovascular disease prevalence was 1st highest in the nation at 14.6%.

DIABETES:

- More than 1 in 10 West Virginia adults had diabetes (15.0%), which ranked West Virginia the 2nd highest nationally.

TOBACCO USE:

- Nearly one-fourth of adults (24.8%) currently smoke cigarettes every day or some days, which ranked West

Collaborative Care for Better Health Outcomes

Social determinants of health (SDOH) “are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels,” (WHO, 2018).

“Research has shown that collaborative care models which address behavioral and physical health and programs which address social determinants have independently generated improved patient outcomes. However, these three factors are

inextricably linked; combining social determinants with collaborative care models may further improve individual and overall outcomes, and provide the cost savings that health plans and states are looking for,” (Deloitte, 2016).

The **Health Work Group** consists of representatives from various community health advocacy and provider groups. Many local agencies recognize the need for Inter-disciplinary and Inter-agency collaboration to help patients and clients to achieve their highest

possible level of health and productivity. Part of the challenge in addressing the multiple factors that affect health is connecting people to the right resources. Additionally, it can be difficult to collaborate with other fields, other billers, or even to find needed resources.

Through open communication and partnership the **HWG** has bridged health care gaps in the community and has increased awareness of health services in the community.

Health Risks from Poverty are Real but can be minimized through Collaboration and Community Commitment

Poverty affects health in many ways. The extra stress of poverty causes permanent changes to the brain. The lack of reliable transportation makes accessing routine health care difficult. The inability to purchase nutrient dense foods like vegetables and whole grains affects the family diet and contributes to the high rates of diabetes. The inability for low income families to pay for prescriptions or should Medicaid be cut, medical services, all compound any health problem a person experiences. In fact, some are directly caused by lack of resources or education.

The Health Work Group seeks to link health and human services to resources outside of their specialty and to support collaboration between

specialties. Members come to meetings and learn about opportunities and resources that may be available to their patients struggling with chronic illness and possibly poverty as well.

The **HWG** works through out the year by promoting and sponsoring community health fairs and health programs including:

- **Cheap Eats Family Nutrition Cooking Class-Morgan County**
- **Diabetes Management Program**
- **Workplace Wellness Resources**
- **Updating Resource information for 211**
- **Free assistance with public health programs**

Health Work Group

The meeting takes place on the third Thursday of each month at 9:00am at Hospice of the Panhandle, 330 Hospice Lane Kearneysville WV. Chairperson Lisa Bromfield can be contacted at lbromfield@svms.net.

Notes:
