Bringing our voices together

Three of Indiana’s largest healthcare systems, Community Health Network, Eskenazi Health and Indiana University Health came together to address racial discrimination in healthcare. In a joint statement the healthcare leaders pledged to do more to end health disparities and inequities in minority communities across Indiana.

Each system plans to address racial discrimination by improving their own workplaces and by improving Indiana communities with meaningful partnerships that address social determinants of health.

To read IU Health’s full statement, click here.

Business Equity for Indy pledge

Business leaders from the corporate and non-profit communities of Central Indiana have come together to form the Business Equity for Indy Committee. The committee, a joint venture of the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership (CICP) and Indy Chamber, with support from the Indianapolis Urban League, is comprised of a group of Indianapolis-based corporate leaders committed to advancing a fairer and more inclusive future for minority Hoosiers.

Through community input, the Business Equity for Indy Committee has developed a set of proposed business actions and engagements to address inequities in business opportunities for communities of color.

The committee has already identified other priorities for immediate action through specific activities, with key leaders in the community coming forward to drive responsive investments and programs. Some include expanding hiring, promotion and leadership opportunities for the region’s communities of color, expanding minority-owned business enterprise (MBE) participation and procurement opportunities, and addressing healthcare disparities.

Indiana University Health President and CEO, Dennis Murphy, is helping lead the charge to addressing impediments to health.

When addressing healthcare barriers, the healthcare task force is focusing on three core objectives:

- Reducing the greatest health disparities that disproportionally impact minority groups and underserved areas.
- Organizing key stakeholders in local communities to lead the way in driving collective actions, solutions and accountability, and expanding or creating giving programs and volunteer opportunities to strengthen, stabilize and support grassroots healthcare organizations.
Build the foundational facts and ecosystem of partners to drive sustainable change. The goal is to have commonalities within language and metrics and to share knowledge and data to better understand the landscape of health challenges.

For more information on the Business Equity for Indy pledge, visit the CICP [website](#).

**Community partners**

In deepening our engagement with Indiana organizations that have a mission and history of advocating for underrepresented minorities, we have committed to the following:

- Strengthening our partnerships with Central Indiana Community Foundation, Indiana Black Expo and the Indiana Latino Institute among others. These partnerships helped provide better access to COVID-19 vaccines for minority and low-income Hoosiers.

- We launched a partnership with Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School that is designed to address the lack of minority representation amongst healthcare professionals while combatting the inequities and disparities within the healthcare industry. The Crispus Attucks Legacy Project will:
  
  - Create pathways for students to advance their academic and professional careers
  - Create a pipeline of well-trained team members for IU Health
  - Leverage the collective impact of community stakeholders within the IU Health health district
  - Contribute to the improvement of the educational landscape of Indiana by developing an industry-driven academic platform that can be replicated throughout the state.
  - Offer tuition support for enrollment in an undergraduate program
  - Offer guaranteed employment at IU Health in one of the predetermined Health Care Pathways

- The IU Health Foundation has received a grant of $8M from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to support the Mosaic Center for Work, Life and Learning, that will help Indianapolis youth and adults navigate a path to and across healthcare careers. The Mosaic Center will offer individualized and intensive services to help individuals chart pathways to meaningful careers at IU Health, other healthcare settings, or beyond the healthcare field.