



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT EXPLORES CURRENT DATA AND LOCAL STRATEGIES

HONOLULU – The Hawai`i State Department of Health (DOH) and the Hawai`i Public Health Association (HPHA) will co-host a two-day **Health Equity Summit** at the Hawai`i Convention Center on **September 11-12 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** A pre-summit historical tour of two areas on the island of O`ahu, including Waikiki and the Ho`oulu `Āina Nature Park in upper Kalihi Valley, will also be offered on September 10. The Summit and tour are open to the public. Registration for the Summit is \$30, and the cost of the pre-conference tour is \$10. Register for the event at www.hawaiipublichealth.org

Health equity explores why certain populations bear a disproportionate burden of disease and mortality and what can be done to better address the root causes of these inequities. Health equity concerns differences in population health that can be traced to unequal economic and social conditions that are systemic and avoidable, and therefore may be considered inherently unjust and unfair.

Summit participants will examine current data about inequities in Hawai`i and the Pacific, discuss how they are potential causes of emerging inequities in health, and identify strategies that can help move towards health equity for all people living in our state. Information on further training available in the state to raise awareness about and advocacy for health equity will be provided. Results of the Summit will be used to develop a State Health Equity Plan by the DOH Office of Health Equity in conjunction with other government and community partners. For additional information contact Kawika Liu at 586-5444, or kawika.liu@doh.hawaii.gov.

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