

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-80

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A "HEALTH EQUITY IN ALL POLICIES" (HEIAP) APPROACH TO PUBLIC POLICY THAT INTENTIONALLY CONSIDERS THE HEALTH IMPACT OF ALL PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS PRIOR TO THEIR IMPLEMENTATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the HEIAP approach takes a broader view of what creates positive health outcomes, e.g. zoning, transportation, housing, education, public safety or environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, Racism has been declared a public crisis by the Kent City Health Department Board of Health. Acknowledging Racism may be intentional or unintentional, is both systemic and institutional, and weakens our community instead of strengthening it; and

WHEREAS, the Social Determinants of Health which are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age are impacted negatively by Racism and racist practices; and

WHEREAS, Racism is a multifactorial problem requiring the combined efforts of many agencies and departments to address the injustices that have been entrenched for decades; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kent is committed to actions to improve disparities, inequalities, and injustices in a thoughtful and methodical approach. A foundation of this work will be "Health Equity in all Policies" Policy. This will focus a lens on all legislation, ordinances, programs and projects to look for and root out unintended consequences which could perpetuate or worsen disparities and correct them to equalize and improve principles and practices allowing for the greater health and well-being of all our community members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio, at least three-fourths (3/4) of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That "Health Equity in all Policies" (HEIAP) be adopted as set forth in the document entitled "Standard Operating Procedure, Health Equity Policy/Guidelines", attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: August 19, 2020
Date

EFFECTIVE: August 19, 2020
Date

Jerry T. Fiala
Jerry T. Fiala
Mayor and President of Council

ATTEST: Amy Wilkens
Amy Wilkens
Clerk of Council

I, AMY WILKENS, CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF *RESOLUTION NO.* _____, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON _____, 20_____.


(SEAL)

AMY WILKENS
CLERK OF COUNCIL



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Health Equity Policy/Guidelines

Subject Category:	Administrative	Related Policies:	NA
Effective Date:	September 12, 2017	Distribution:	All Staff
Review Frequency:	3 Years	Approved By:	Joan C. Seidel 
Revised Dates:	July 14, 2020		

Objective:

To ensure that the health department institutionalizes health equity into all programs, policies, services, and interventions.

Health Equity Values

The Kent City Health Department believes in the following health equity values:

1. Commitment to the elimination of health inequities within the City of Kent
2. Access to socioeconomic and environmental resources for everyone in Kent
3. Apply a health equity view to all programs and services provided by the health department
4. Accountability through measurement and quality management
5. Be a leader for the community in the health equity field.

Health Equity Policy Guidelines

The following are the guidelines for the health department to apply:

1. Consider health equity to current and new programs, policies, services, and interventions to ensure that they consider public health actions that break the cycle of health inequity in Kent.
2. Maintain a demographic profile of the jurisdiction including social determinants of health.
3. Include health equity and social determinants of health in community needs assessments, health improvement planning, surveillance systems, and other monitoring efforts of community health status.
4. Provide health education, health communications, and other public health information about community health status and needs in the context of health equity.
5. Identify opportunities if they exist for staff to learn and understand the social determinants of health for health department clients.
6. Support ongoing, staff professional development in health equity and cultural competency.

"This Agency is an equal provider of services and an equal employment opportunity employer Civil Rights Act 1964 (CRA)"