Addressing Racial/Ethnic Equity in Anti-Poverty Policies
Panel Discussion

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Contextual factors can greatly influence the impact and success of anti-poverty programs and policies.

- Stability and predictability of income
- Equitable and ready access to programs
- Equitable treatment in employment and housing
- Equitable treatment by the criminal justice system
- Positive neighborhood conditions
- Health and wellbeing

Contextual factors are highly unequal by race and ethnicity.
Policy equity analysis asks a key question
RESOURCE ALLOCATION

By Pamela K. Joshi, Kimberly Geronimo, Bethany Romano, Alison Earle, Lindsay Rosenfeld, Erin F. Hardy, and Dolores Acevedo-Garcia

Integrating Racial/Ethnic Equity Into Policy Assessments To Improve Child Health
## Policy Assessment Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Stage</th>
<th>Traditional Assessment Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logic</td>
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Research strengths & limitations:
- Availability and quality of data
## Policy Equity Assessment Framework

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<td>Policy impacts?</td>
<td>Policy reduces racial/ethnic gaps?</td>
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Anti-poverty programs discussed today

- Child care subsidies
- SNAP
- EITC
- Medicaid
- TANF
Identifying racial/ethnic disparities in human services

- Marla McDaniel, Urban Institute
- Racial/ethnic differences in eligibility, services, treatment and outcomes
- Internal factors: worker bias, locations, language
- External factors: employer discrimination, work schedules
- Recommendation: need better data, systematic research
Reducing administrative burden to improve access, take-up and retention for minority children

• Pamela Herd, Georgetown University

• Administrative burdens and racial/ethnic inequality

• Burdens are highest in programs most needed by black and Hispanic families

• Burdens are not equally enforced

• Recommendation: deconstruct burdens, use a transparent framework
TANF and reducing the black-white child poverty gap

- Zachary Parolin, Columbia University
- TANF spending decisions
- State spending priorities driven in part by state racial composition
- Changes in spending can reduce racial poverty gap
- Recommendation: monitor and shift spending
“Some of the potential solutions are well within existing policy tools. It’s moving toward knowledge from a lack of information.... It’s getting a smarter way of reaching these populations.”

DOLORES ACEVEDO-GARCIA
Questions for Discussion
• What other policy resource allocation or program implementation factors might be contributing to racialized differences in child poverty and social outcomes?

• What else could be done on the state/local level to address inequities in spending, administrative burden or internal program practices?

• How can federal/state agencies address external factors such as nonstandard or unpredictable work schedules or employment/housing discrimination that affect program services and outcomes?

• What are the implications of these research findings for structuring packages of multiple policies?