

Children's Health Medical Center Dallas

## Children's Health Scholarly Collection

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Bridging the Gap

Newsletters

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10-2023

### October 2023

Forest Melton

Jennifer Clark

Stormee Williams

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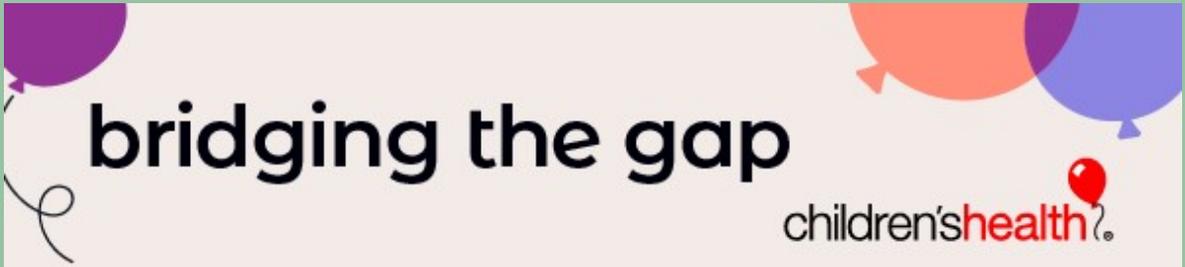
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## Forest Melton

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**From:** Health Equity <healthequity@childrens.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2023 8:31 AM  
**To:** Forest Melton  
**Subject:** Welcome to Bridging the Gap

[View on web](#)



# bridging the gap

children'shealth<sup>SM</sup>

## New Health Equity bulletin debuts

Welcome to the inaugural edition of **Bridging the Gap** where we will dive into the crucial actions and activities Children's Health<sup>SM</sup> is doing to create fair and just health for all. We will explore the multifaceted landscape of health equity, shedding light on the disparities that persist, and the innovative solutions being forged to bridge the gaps.

Together, we can build a future where everyone has equal access to quality healthcare and the opportunity to live a healthy life.



## What is Health Equity?

Health equity is the fair and just opportunity for everyone to achieve their highest level of health. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation states, “This requires removing obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination and their consequences, including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education and housing, safe environments and health care.” Explore our [Health Equity initiatives](#).

## Social Determinants of Health Screening (SDOH)

Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age which affect quality of life and health. We currently screen for the seven SDOH domains:

- Financial insecurity
- Food insecurity
- Health literacy
- Housing quality and insecurity
- Social support
- Tobacco use and exposure
- Transportation insecurity

## SDOH Dashboard debut

We recently witnessed the completion and release of a few initiatives that will allow us to make more evidenced based decisions. This [new dashboard](#) will

allow staff to have real time data filtered by date, location, department, race, ethnicity and more.

## one year of social determinants of health (SDOH) screening at Children's Health<sup>SM</sup>

From July 28, 2022 - July 28, 2023:

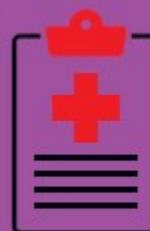
more than **48,000**

**patient families** have been screened for social needs in over 95 clinical areas and departments.



more than **24,000**

**patient families** (50% of those screened) have reported at least one social need on the SDOH screening.



more than **11,000**

**patient families** (24% of those screened) have reported low social support.



more than **5,000**

**patient families** (13% of those screened) have reported lack of internet access at home.



more than **8,000** **patient families**

(17% of those screened) have reported food insecurity.



more than **6,000** **patient families**

(14% of those screened) have reported health literacy concerns.



All patient families who report a social need are provided community resource information on their after-visit summary. Patient families with high-risk needs are followed up by Social Work.

For more information on our one year of SDOH screenings, visit our [Health Equity SharePoint page](#).

## Community health initiatives

At Children's Health we have collaborated with community health partners like federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). These initiatives allow for reduced gaps in care, seamless healthcare delivery and reduced health disparities.

[Learn about](#) one of our success stories.

## Culturally competent care: A collaborative health conversation

This was a panel conversation on the importance of providing quality patient focused care for groups with diverse backgrounds. [Watch the recording](#) featuring Stormee Williams, M.D., Chief Health Equity Officer, and other physicians committed to advancing health equity. This recording is eligible for CME credit.

## Recognize a Health Equity Hero

- Visit the [RED page](#).
- After filling out who you want to recognize and why, scroll down and choose Select an e-card: Thank you for being a **Health Equity Hero**.

Select an eCard



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