



## Madison County Public Health Recognizes the Impact of Racism on Health

Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, and worship that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes. Racism and discrimination are social determinants of health and can impact overall health, well-being, and quality of life that people can achieve.

Data in the United States show that racial and ethnic minority groups experience higher rates of illness and death across a wide range of health conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, obesity, asthma, and heart disease, when compared to non-minority groups.

Racism may be intentional or unintentional. It operates at various levels in society. To achieve health equity and create a healthy Madison County, we must continue to address injustices caused by all social determinants of health including racism. We must support actions at all levels to ensure equal opportunity for all.

The work of equity, diversity and inclusion is the work of Public Health. We are committed to a future that is free of health inequities that promotes the highest level of wellness for the communities we serve. Our public health workforce embodies humility, respect, leadership, and service on behalf of, and with, the diverse communities we are privileged to serve.

*Madison County Public Health recognizes the importance of commemorating June 19 as the day enslaved African Americans were emancipated and will formally designate Juneteenth National Independence Day a holiday in 2022.*