Introduction to HIP

Decision Making Based Primarily on Economic Analysis & Unmitigated Corporate Power

Health Inequities

Narrow Conception of Health

Lack of Awareness of Scientific Evidence

Disenfranchisement & Disengagement

Devaluation of Experiential Knowledge

Fragmented Policymaking & Failure to Analyze Root Problems

Hyper-Individualism

Root Problems:

Raising Awareness
Training & Mentoring
Conducting HIAs for others
Case Studies on Findings
Advocacy & Policy

Vision:

Health used in Decision Making
No Health Inequities & Improved Health
Broad and Holistic Definition of Health
People have Health Information and Tools
Participation, Collaboration & Community
Public Health engaged in Policy Making

Core Strategies for next 2-3 years to build a body of successful work
Supporting Strategies; tailored to specific situations

www.humanimpact.org
Why is collaboration an important part of HIA?

- Broad range of people affected
- Data, information, resources
- Relationship building
- Capacity for advocacy
Examples of Roles in HIA

✓ Identify priority health issues to be studied through HIA
✓ Prioritize research questions for the HIA
✓ Research and organize baseline/ existing conditions data
✓ Conduct surveys, interviews, focus groups, and interpret or ground truth data
✓ Conduct data analysis to predict impact of decision on health of community
✓ Write, review and edit final HIA report (that includes findings and recommendations for decision-makers)
✓ Develop and execute a communication, media and advocacy plan to report HIA findings to key decision-makers
✓ Continue to hold decision-makers accountable for decision agreements and mitigations
Jack London Gateway HIA

Working with a variety of stakeholders to ensure that infill development is healthy.

• A non-profit developer proposing to build 55 units of low-income senior housing and additional retail in West Oakland

• Residents were interested in using this project as a case study for HIA; site near freeways and port

• A rapid HIA was completed in 4 community meetings over 3 months; concerns prioritized: air quality, noise, retail use, safety

• Oakland Planning Commission asked developer to work with HIA collaborators and to implement recommendations

• To date many mitigations have been implemented: air filtering, front entrance, balconies
South Los Angeles HIA

Influencing housing development plans to improve community health

• Proposal to build an affordable housing development in a formerly industrial location of South Los Angeles
• Collaborators: ACORN, HIP, housing developer, LACDPH, redevelopment agency
• Collectively developed, and ACORN conducted, 300 surveys in the community; identified main areas of concern as pollution, housing, pedestrian safety, transportation, education, retail diversity
• Community presented HIA findings to City, Developer, and other decision makers - strong support for most recommendations
• Project is going into first phase of development in next year
Humboldt County General Plan Update HIA

• Collaborators: Public Health, Planning, HIP & Community Coalition
• HIA assessed 3 GPU alternatives
• 50 focus group participants helped set scope
• 35 indicators in 7 areas: transportation, housing, environment, infrastructure, public safety, social cohesion, economy
• 37 data contributors

• Findings: compact development would improve almost all indicators
• Planning Dept contributed data, reviewed drafts, and included assessment & recommendations in their plans
• Outcomes: engaged community; changed proposed plan; data for health advocates