



Making Health Equality a Reality

[www.institute2000.org](http://www.institute2000.org)

For more information, call Bronx Health REACH  
212-633-0800 Extension 232



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## Introduction

When you present Voices for Health Equality, you are helping your audience to learn about racial and ethnic disparity in health and health care. You are helping them to choose to take action. This Guide will help you use the presentation to educate and motivate your audience. Of course, each audience is different. Please use these and your own questions in whatever way you think is best.

## Before the Tape Begins

- Welcome the audience.
- Introduce yourself. Tell them why you think this presentation is important.
- Introduce Voices for Health Equality:

“This presentation is about health disparity. It is also about making health equality a reality.”

“What they are about to hear was spoken from the heart. There is not a single word of script.”

And, you can ask them to open their hearts and minds to the message.

- Prepare to start the presentation. Announce that it has four parts. Each part is about 5 minutes long. Tell them that you will pause for discussion at the end of each part. Start presentation.
- Show Part One: What Do We Mean by Health Disparities?

## Part One: What Do We Mean by Health Disparities?

- Lead Group Discussion:
  - ▶ The tape began with some statistics. Then, you heard a sermon from Rev. Joe Albert Bush. Did the statistics or his words surprise you? Do you agree with what he said—that racism is alive in health care?
  - ▶ Jeannette Puryear said that she received bad treatment at a hospital. How did that make you feel? She said she filed a complaint. What do you think the hospital should do? What would you have done if you were she?
  - ▶ Dr. Neil Calman said that there were two systems of care in America. He said that one was better than the other was. That is, one produced “better outcomes.” Do you agree or disagree? What would you do to change the way the health system operates?
- Show Part Two: You Can’t Get a More Basic Right

## Part Two: You Can’t Get a More Basic Right

- Lead Group Discussion:
  - ▶ Magdalena Torres and others said that they did not get the care or information that they needed. In your opinion, how is that health disparity?

- ▶ Milta Vega Cardona said that some people are afraid to ask for what they want or need from their doctor. Why do you think people are afraid? What do you think is the consumer’s role in their health and health care?
- ▶ Dr. Calman said that all people have an equal right to health care, health information and access to the health system. Do you agree? What other rights do you believe all people have when it comes to health and health care?

- Show Part Three: Bronx Health REACH is a Movement

## Part Three: Bronx Health REACH is a Movement

- Lead Group Discussion:
  - ▶ Charmaine Ruddock and others said that it takes the whole community to fix the problem of health disparity. Do you agree?
  - ▶ Maxine Golub and others described Bronx Health REACH as “a movement.” They also said they hoped this movement for health equality would spread to other communities. Do you think our community is doing enough to challenge health disparity? What lessons do you think our community could learn from Bronx Health REACH?

- Show Part Four: Where We Ought to Be

## Part Four: Where We Ought to Be

- Lead Group Discussion:
  - ▶ Reverend Robert Foley said that one of the reasons that health equality does not exist is because “the will simply isn’t there to get it done.” Whose will do you think he is talking about? What do you think can be done to create that will?
  - ▶ Dr. Calman said that all physicians—really all people—have prejudices that they need to clear out of the way in order to do the best job. Do you agree? Do you think that medical education must change? What can each of us do personally?
  - ▶ At the end of this part, Charmaine Ruddock said that while progress has been made toward health equality, we are “not where we ought to be.” Where do you think we should be? What can you do to make health equality a reality in your community, organization and/or institution?

## Wrap Up

- Thank the group for attending and for getting involved in the discussion. Tell them that if they want to obtain a copy of the tape and discussion guide for their organization, you have order forms.
- Please ask the audience to complete their Participant Evaluation Form. Please complete a Facilitator’s Evaluation Form and return it to Bronx Health REACH.