

Commission

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

- Purpose:** As a means of supporting the AHA 2020 Goals, the Association must examine health inequities including disparities, issues related to a myriad of social constructs including but not limited to: socioeconomic position (income, education, employment/occupation, wealth), race and ethnicity, culture, gender, food insecurity, housing neighborhoods and the built and social environment, social exclusion and discrimination, access to health services, and disability status. Inequalities between groups of people affect quality of life, risk of illness, prevention and treatment and are key considerations to meeting the AHA goals and serving our mission.
- Membership:** Chair, Vice Chair, will begin with an EPI Council Chair and the Vice Chair who will become next chair of the committee will be from the QCOR council and the rotation will continue in this way going forward. Chairperson and Vice-chair are to be appointed by the leadership of the joint Councils. Other members will consist of other Councils, including (but not limited to) NPAM, CVSN, and Clin Card & Stroke CVD & Stroke in Women & Special Populations (one representative from each council within this joint committee).
- There will be 10-12 members in total.
- Method of Selection:** Chair and Vice Chair will be selected by the Councils on Epidemiology and Prevention Chair and QCOR Chair.
- Terms of Service:** Terms shall be for two-years and shall begin and end with the AHA fiscal year (July-June). Terms shall be staggered in such a way as to assure continuity. Members may be eligible for appointment to one additional term.
- Member Commitment:** The Committee shall meet quarterly or as needed via teleconference, email correspondence and face-to-face annually in the fall during Scientific Sessions. When face to face meetings are deemed necessary each council with a representative on the ICP will be responsible for travel expenses of their member.
- Responsibilities:**
- To represent interests within the AHA and the strategic plan and to suggest mechanisms on how to achieve success for all Americans for people in all populations, conditions and environments.
 - To enable investigators to engage in information sharing and dialogue, and to collaborate on science

that will address taking an integrated approach in chronic disease prevention across the lifespan.

- To assist in developing the science that will help AHA address the toxic environment in which most Americans live today. To provide expert information, opinion and advice on social determinants of health, policy and programs to AHA.
- To act as spokespersons as requested and quickly respond directly to media or to other AHA entities to suggest other experts and spokespersons in the area of social determinants. As spokespersons, promote the AHA strategic goals to the public, and support educational and outreach programs, public affairs, advocacy communications and media relations.
- To identify knowledge gaps and also serve as a conduit for young investigators to get involved.
- To proactively identify opportunities for scientific statements and programming, and drive placement of relevant programming at AHA Scientific Sessions.
- To provide advice regarding topics, content, and experts to serve on writing groups and committees.
- To play a role in translating research and clinical recommendations to reduce the burden of disease and improve CV.