

# SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF ADOLESCENT HEALTH

## WHAT ARE *STRUCTURAL* DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH?



Circumstances interwoven through the social determinants of health that create social hierarchies which distribute power differently and lead to inequities and inequalities.

[\(Wang et al., 2020\)](#)

## WHAT ARE *SOCIAL* DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH?

The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

[\(World Health Organization\)](#)



## WHAT ARE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF ADOLESCENT HEALTH?

(SDoAH)

SDoAH are the social determinants of health that have a strong influence on young people as they transition to adulthood: money and resources; community conditions; relationships; education; and employment.

[\(Hagell et al., 2019\)](#)



- Household income
- Family savings & debt
- Health insurance



- Standard of housing
- Exposure to violence & crime
- Availability of alcohol, tobacco, & other drugs



- Family structure, relationships, & connectedness
- Peer influences, relationships, & connectedness
- Opportunities for civic & community engagement



- Access to education & training
- Quality of education & training
- Level of education & skills achieved



- Under & unemployment
- Insecure employment
- Low pay

### INDIVIDUAL CALL TO ACTION

#### *Why do social determinants of adolescent health matter?*

- Provide an outline for prevention professionals of the protective and risk factors that their community may face.
- Identify problems to develop a sense of awareness amongst community members.
- Create relationships with other local organizations to drive prevention work.
- Remember that youth voices can prevent or help mitigate potential negative impacts arising from the SDoAH.

### ADULT ALLIES CALL TO ACTION

#### *What can adult allies do to address this issue?*

- Be aware of the SDoAH.
- Share information about the SDoAH with colleagues and other Adult Allies.
- Think critically about how SDoAH impact local programs, policies, and practices.
- Connect with other Adult Allies to help you consider how the structure of your youth-led program can support SDoAH.

### YOUTH-LED GROUPS CALL TO ACTION

#### *What can youth-led groups do about it?*

- Create a sense of awareness of SDoAH within your school and community by educating your peers and key stakeholders.
- Amplify youth voice by connecting young people to community groups, stakeholders, and decision makers about youth issues.
- Learn more about the processes necessary to create policy change.

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