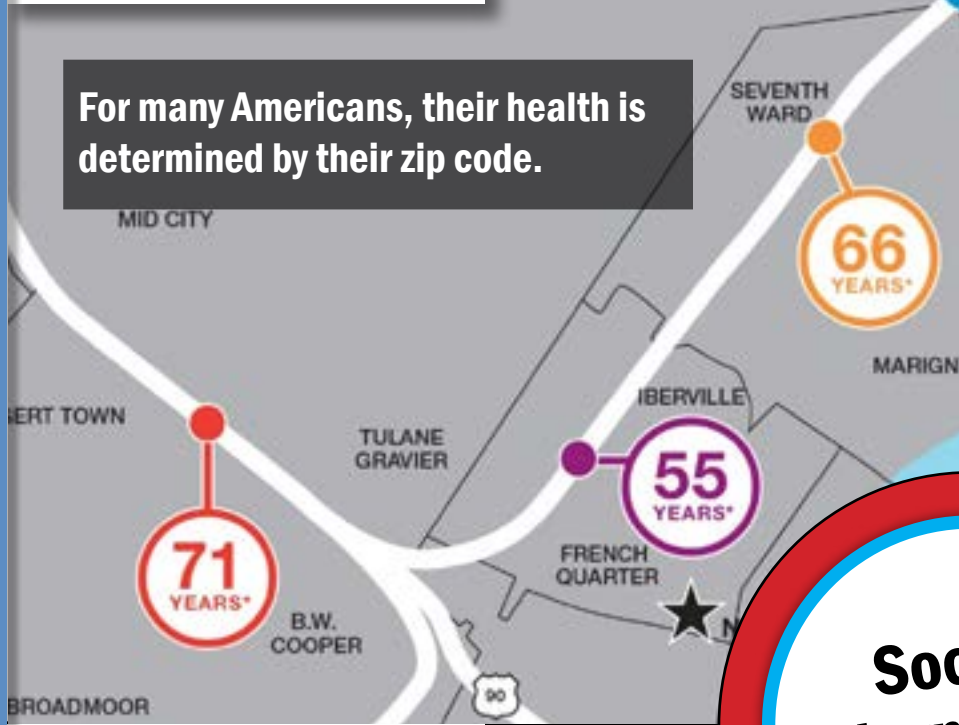


WHY is this a problem?

For many Americans, their health is determined by their zip code.



What is the ongoing NEED?

Too many communities lack places to buy healthy food, get good health care and be physically active.

Social Determinants of Health

HOW are we addressing the problem?

We are working with community partners to drive collective impact to address social determinants of health.

WHAT can you do?

Step up and advocate for safe streets, healthy food and access to care for those in under-resourced areas.





Stats

- Your zip code can go a long way toward determining your life expectancy. In some cases, where someone lives could cost them upwards of two decades of their life.
- Approximately 10 million Americans live in affordable housing, with an additional 19 million in need of affordable housing units.
- Roughly 19 million Americans spend over half of their income on housing.
- 30 million people in the United States have no easy access to healthy food.

Let's Talk: Discussing social determinants of health



Danger

Why is this a problem?

Social determinants of health -- such as **economic stability, access to healthcare, neighborhood, level of education, lack of infrastructure, etc.** -- are impacting life expectancy for under-resourced populations across the United States.



How are we working to solve it?

We are advocating for under-resourced populations. Accessible options for healthy living are often limited in lower income neighborhoods and many cardiovascular disease risk factors disproportionately impact people of color. **The AHA is partnering with community organizations to determine a hierarchy of needs and utilizing our resources and volunteers to close these gaps.**



What is the ongoing need related to social determinants of health?

More affordable housing, fair wages, strong school systems, safe streets and access to healthy foods must be made available to help the millions of Americans who are burdened by social determinants of health.



What can you do to help?

You can sign up at YoureTheCure.org and help us advocate for those living in under-resourced communities. Individuals and organizations interested in creating sustainable solutions in your community should join the **EmPOWERED To Serve** movement to learn more about innovative business models and collective impact.

Want to see the real-life impact of social determinants of health?

Check out this [amazing documentary series](#) produced by AHA/ASA's EmPOWERED To Serve team.

