

In this issue

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Last summer, the editorial team concluded that we would elevate a frank discussion of Race and Health in the Journal. This decision was made long BEFORE George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and too many other names became a wake-up call and rallying cry about racism in America, and months before COVID-19 became a household term.

We reached out to Guest Editors Marshá Horton, Ph.D. and Jaqueline Washington, Ed.D., both Black, to curate this issue, and we thank them for their leadership. We in public health have known for some time of the complex relationship between Race, the Social Determinants of Health, and health outcomes, and hope this issue is thought and action provoking.

Turning to news of note about the Academy/DPHA (the parent organization and publisher of the Journal): we have been recognized as the **2020 Affiliate of the Year** by the American Public Health Association. The press release from APHA about the recognition is on the following page. Introducing the award was Dr. Melissa Alperin, who highlighted the following as reasons for our selection:

The DPHA is uniquely positioned as an Affiliate embedded within a state medical academy. With this relationship, the Academy/DPHA has provided a model for seamless partnership between traditional medical communities and public health.

The Academy/DPHA draws together primary care providers along with public health workers including those at the state division of public health, local academic institutions and non-profits into one community focused on creating a healthier Delaware.

The Academy/DPHA uniquely combines a hands-on approach to public health community building with a commitment to science and data. Several activities of note include:

- *The Delaware Journal of Public Health serves as a model for data and information sharing.*
- *The Academy/DPHA strengthens the state approach to creating a healthier Delaware through its engagement with the Delaware State Health Improvement Plan; and their Delaware Immunization Coalition program.*
- *The Academy/DPHA is committed to providing professional education in the medical, dental, and public health realms.*
- *The Academy/DPHA is also strongly committed to providing quality learning opportunities to both young and old which increase awareness and health literacy.*
- *They support students and young professionals through their student internship program which is focused on public health opportunities/projects.*
- *The work closely with the Pennsylvania and Maryland Affiliates through the Mid-Atlantic Public Health Partnership.*
- *And many board and staff of the Academy/DPHA are active leaders within APHA.*

We have, in the pages of this Journal, through our columns, and through the very foundation of the Academy/DPHA, advocated for health equity and the advancement of the public's health. We reaffirm this in the strongest terms now, by helping continue an important conversation in

America about racism and health. It is our sincere hope that these efforts will help eliminate disparities and truly achieve the promise of health that all those in our country deserve.

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