



Health Equity Timeline of METROWEST

Created in partnership with the Metrowest Health Foundation

hetmw.org

What It Is:

Inspired by community conversations and the recent debates about health equity, the **MetroWest Health Equity Timeline (HET)** illustrates how local historical events – including legislation, policies, social movements, and individual actions – have shaped **health disparities and outcomes** in the region today. The HET tells the story of our region through the lens of health equity as a nonpartisan, human rights issue.

The HET

- Demonstrates systemic challenges through personal and relatable storytelling
- Educates users about complicated health equity concepts – such as social determinants of health, intersectionality, root causes of disparities, and systemic change – by making them more relatable and easily understood
- Provides historical and sociopolitical context for public health practitioners, human services staff, board members, students, and newcomers to the region to understand the forces behind present-day disparities
- Helps nonprofits and local leaders articulate why their work matters
- Encourages civic engagement by providing tangible, population- and region-specific examples of policy actions and impacts
- Helps users see public health infrastructure and their own communities as part of a larger system
- Creates a launchpad for discussion, curriculum, and personal or professional exploration
- Helps users identify commonalities and challenge assumptions about their neighbors by highlighting the breadth of experiences and identities in our region

Who It's For:

- Municipal officials & health departments
- Nonprofits & community advocates
- Educators, students & researchers
- Funders, grantmakers & donors
- General public & newcomers to the region



Visit the Timeline and related resources: hetmw.org

Get involved: Scan the QR code to complete the Google form or email Kate at kbaker@mwhealth.org

Explore & Contribute

The HET is a **living, collaborative resource** – organizations and individuals are encouraged to contribute events to reflect the evolving history of equity in our region.