Putting Social Determinants of Health Into Action
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America’s Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) is the national association whose members provide coverage and health-related services that improve and protect the health and financial security of consumers, families, businesses, communities and the nation.
Impact of Social Determinants of Health

Social determinants’ role in health
Factors beyond medical care play significant roles in impacting patients’ health

- Socio-economic factors, 40%
- Health behaviors, 30%
- Healthcare, 20%
- Physical environment, 10%

Source: University of Wisconsin, Population Health Institute, percentage estimates of impact on patient health.
• Addressing the social determinants of health has become a top priority for public and private institutions.

• SDOH are correlated with health disparities, which refer to the rates of disease occurrence and disabilities between socioeconomic and/or geographically defined population groups” (NIH).

• CDC has identified addressing SDOH as “the primary approach to achieving health equity.”
Health Plan Strategies to Address Disparities

- Leveraging data analytics to identify gaps
- Redesigning and enhancing outreach materials
- Deploying mobile health units
- Partnering with local organizations
- Hosting health fairs and community events
How Plans Use SDOH Data
1. Identify at-risk populations
2. Design programs based on member needs
3. Map and catalogue existing community resources

How Health Plans Don’t Use SDOH Data
1. Setting Rates
2. Setting Premiums
3. Market Participation