Homelessness & Racial Health Equity

2022 SIREN National Research Meeting
Homelessness and Health

• Housing is a fundamental social determinant of health

• Homelessness is associated with
  – higher rates of hospitalization and ED use
  – higher rates of chronic disease
  – worse overall physical and mental health
  – higher rates of reported exposure to physical and sexual violence
  – early aging and mortality
Racism and Homelessness

580,466 experience homelessness on any given night

Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness analysis of HUD data
Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith: “We all must work together to disrupt the predictable pattern of who is harmed first and harmed worst.”

– Chair, White House COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force

Conducting research | Providing education | Informing policy

Our core values:

• Housing and health care are human rights and should be provided as public goods.

• Health care, housing, and homeless services systems should do no harm.

• Housing and homeless services should foster health and wellness across the lifespan.

• People who have experienced homelessness and housing instability are experts by experience and their perspectives and input should be valued, uplifted, and integrated with other forms of evidence such as that produced by rigorous research.

• Systemic racism—which has produced inequities in housing and health—must be confronted directly, including in developing, conducting, and disseminating research.
Moderated Discussion

Experts by experience: uplifting and integrating the knowledge of people with lived experience of homelessness in social care research, education, and practice

- Kadisha Davis
- Kelly Doran, MD MHS
- Antoine Lovell, PhD MSW MPA
- Giselle Routhier, PhD (moderator)