

Statement from
Bob Prentice, PhD
Director, Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative
180 Grand Ave., Suite 705
Oakland, CA
Phone: 510-302-3321
Email: bprentice@phi.org

The Berkeley Health Status data are clear: the more income and wealth people have, the longer they can expect to live. This is also true for the most common paths to upward mobility—people with more education live longer, as do homeowners. In the City of Berkeley, those with low incomes, lower levels of education, and low levels of home ownership, tend to live in neighborhoods that are disproportionately populated by similarly situated individuals and families. Consequently, these patterns of vulnerability cluster geographically in places like South and West Berkeley. At BARHII we are working with Public health departments across the region to help them make the connection with every sector that we need; community activists, planning agencies, employers, school districts, environmental justice activists, recreation departments, health care providers, elected officials and just plain folks must join together to create the social and environmental conditions in neighborhoods that make health possible.