



HEALTH LITERACY, HEALTH DISPARITIES AND HEALTH CARE REFORM

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South Shore Community Partners in Prevention
Health Literacy Kick-off
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Department of Public Health Mission

The mission of DPH is to prevent illness, injury, and premature death; to ensure access to **high quality** public **health** and health care services; and to promote wellness and health equity **for all** people in the Commonwealth.



VISION

Optimal health and well-being for all people in Massachusetts, supported by a strong public health infrastructure and healthcare delivery.

MISSION

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DATA

We provide relevant, timely access to data for DPH, researchers, press and the general public in an effective manner in order to target disparities and impact outcomes.

DETERMINANTS

We focus on the social determinants of health - the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, which contribute to health inequities.

DISPARITIES

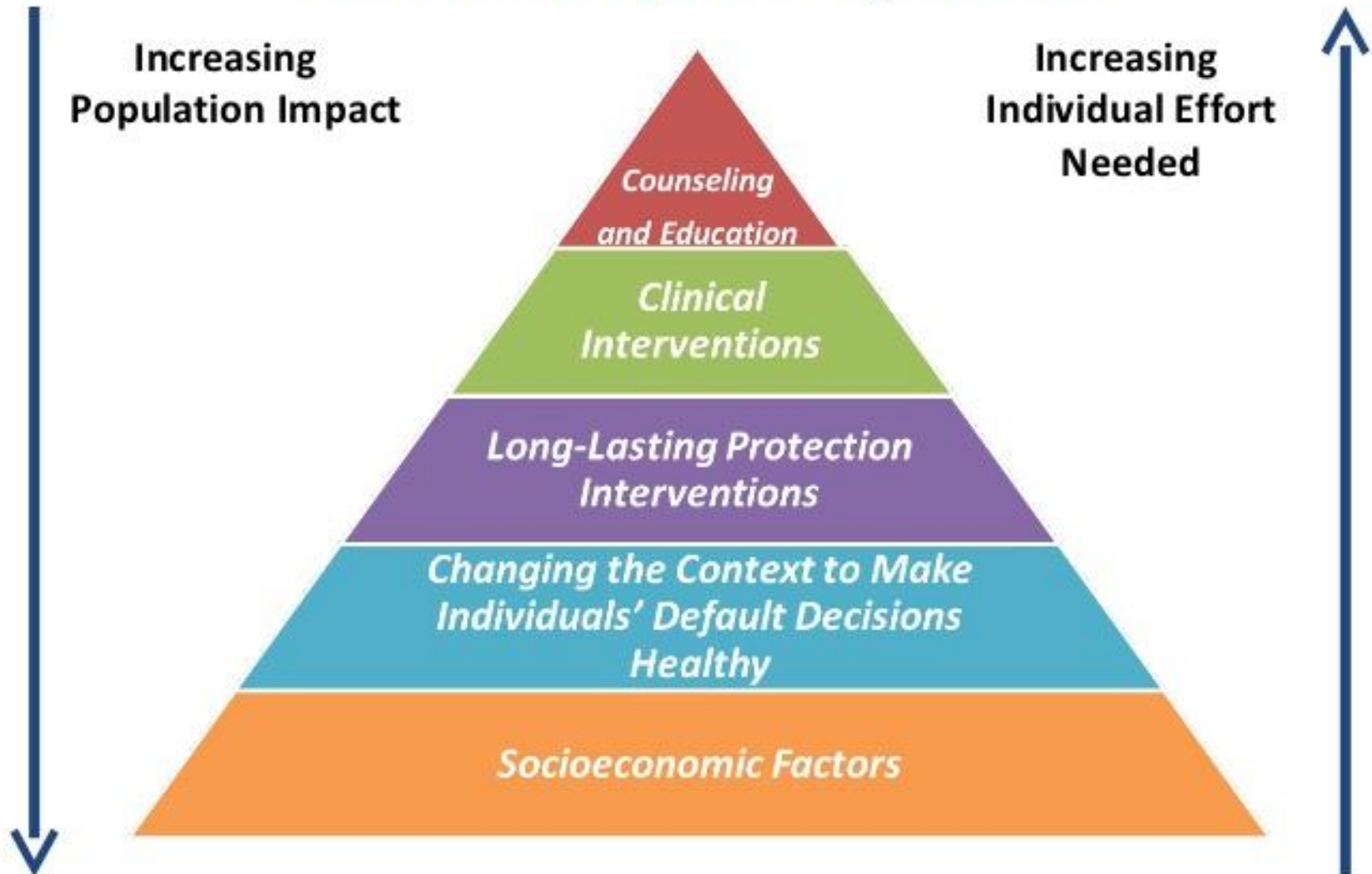
We consistently recognize and strive to eliminate health disparities amongst populations in Massachusetts, wherever they may exist.

EVERYDAY EXCELLENCE

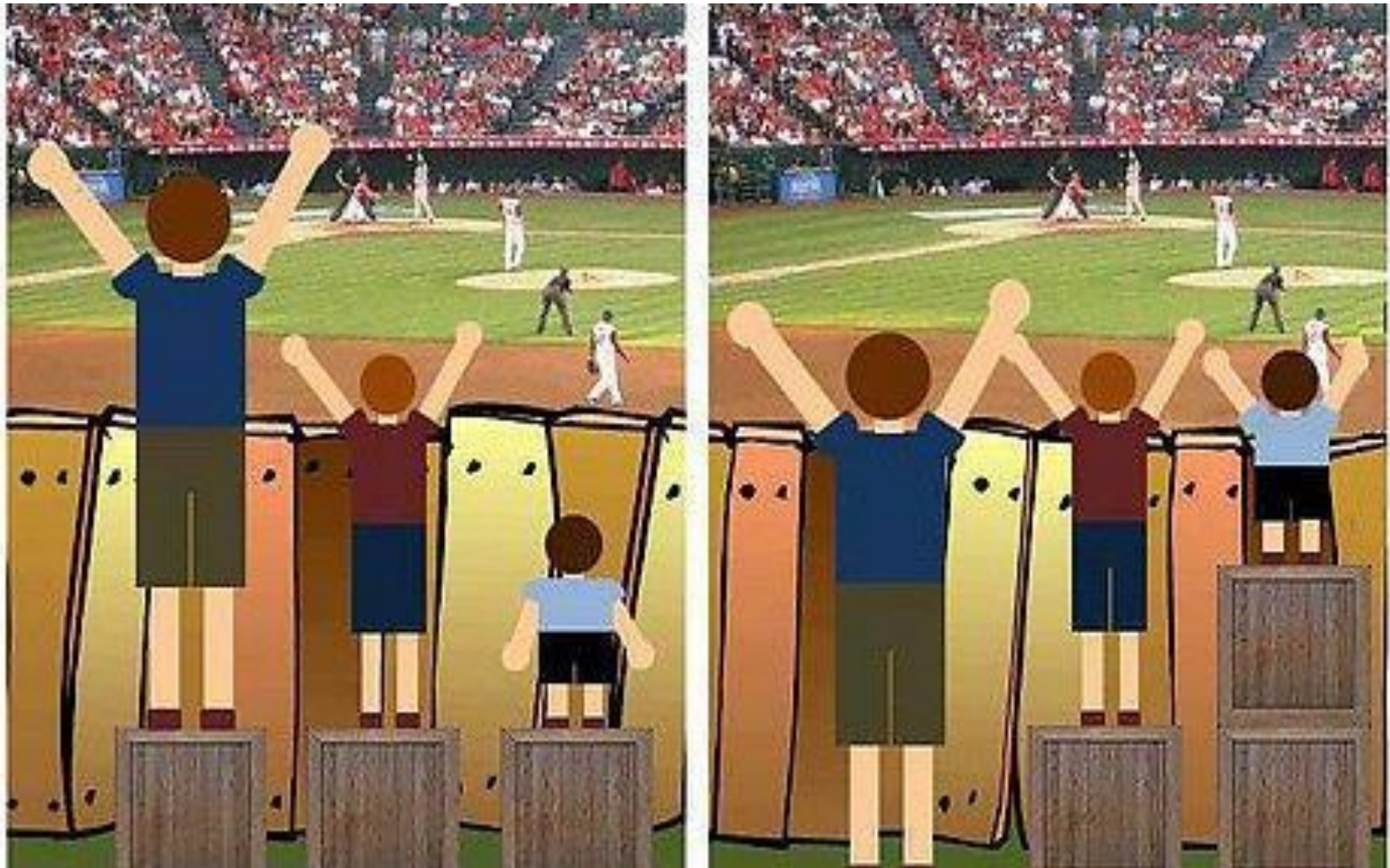
PASSION AND INNOVATION

INCLUSIVENESS AND COLLABORATION

Health Impact Pyramid



Equality vs. Equity



What is Health Literacy?

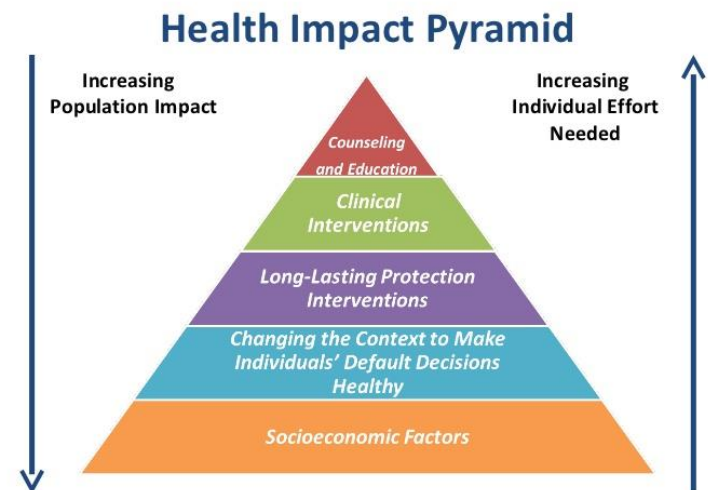
Health literacy is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, communicate, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

Health Literacy at MDPH

- Health Literacy Standards and Policies
 - plain language; appropriate visuals; easy-to-read design
- Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services
 - provide effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs
- Community Health Workers
 - promote the professional identity and role of community health workers in clinical and community settings

Discussion Groups

- Patient Compliance
- Role of the Pharmacist
- Vulnerable Populations
- Community Health Workers



Thank you!