UConn Health Disparities Institute proudly presented the State of Health Equity Among Boys and Men of Color Summit. This unprecedented global Summit featured solutions-driven, interactive, and high-powered sessions that employed arts-based approaches along with intergenerational dialogues designed to amplify youth voice. The aim of this virtual convening was to ignite public discourse and action that will advance health equity, racial justice, and systems change for radical healing among boys and men of color. Our opening keynote address was delivered by Dr. Arthur Evans, Jr., Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President of the American Psychological Association.
PRE-EVENT PROMOTION

THE EVENT WAS PROMOTED INTENSIVELY THROUGH:

i. Five emails to the email lists HDI uses for its contacts (n = 735).

ii. Social media postings from May 1st–June 11th, 2021
   a. Instagram: 89 posts, 3,443 reach, 7,634 impressions
   b. Twitter: 82 tweets and 300 retweets, 132,256 impressions
   c. Facebook: 113 posts, 3,006 reach, 5,196 impressions

iii. Posts on broad professional listservs/discussion forums:
   a. UConn Health Lifeline and Pulse newsletter
   b. UConn Storrs Daily Digest
   c. UConn Foundation
   d. NAPCRG - North American Primary Care Research Group
   e. SEMNET - Structural Equation Modeling Discussion Group (3721 Subscribers)
   f. Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
   g. Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
   h. Mental Health Connecticut
   i. Connecticut Hospital Association
   j. Black Business Alliance
   k. Connecticut Health Foundation
   l. Universal Healthcare Foundation of CT
   m. Greater Hartford Arts Council
   n. Connecticut Library Association
   o. Spanish American Merchants Association
   p. Center for Latino Progress

q. Relevant subject matter State Commissioners, to alert key staff (Cmmsr of Public Health, Mental Health & Addiction Services, Corrections, Children & Families, etc.)

r. Black & Puerto Rican Caucus (state legislators)

s. Connecticut Nonprofit Alliance

t. Institute for Diversity and Health Equity

u. GNHCommunity

v. Promundo

w. Aegis Trust, London

x. White Ribbon Campaign, Ghana

y. University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa

z. University of Global Health Equity, Rwanda

aa. American Psychological Association - Division 51, Equity Flattens the Curve

bb. NationSwell

c. CT Multi-Sector Alliance for Health Equity among Boys and Men of Color

dd. National Alliance for Boys and Men of Color

e. UConn InCHIP

ff. UConn Provost

gg. UConn Scholars House

hh. BMe Community

ii. Echoing Green

jj. Forward Promise

kk. Ministerial Health Fellowship

ll. Hispanic Health Council

Of note, another national equity conference occurred during the same days in the US, the Virtual National Health Equity Summit, June 7 - 10, 2021, https://healthequitysummit.com/
2 FEEDBACK TO DAYS 1 & 2: REACTIONS

Activity sectors of respondents to end-of-day evaluations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were 33 responses submitted after day 1 of the event. Most represented ‘community organizations’, followed by ‘academic’ and ‘other’.

Most respondents agreed ‘a great deal’ that the summit achieved the following the first day:

- The Summit...  
  - ...shone a light on how structural racism impacts the health and well-being: 9% Somewhat, 91% A Great Deal
  - ...ignited public discourse on health equity and racial justice: 6% Somewhat, 91% A Great Deal
  - ...provided me with solutions for my work (health equity): 27% Somewhat, 70% A Great Deal

There were 10 responses submitted after day 2 of the event. Most respondents on day 2 agreed ‘a great deal’ that the summit achieved the following, though with fewer (50%) agreeing with ‘Provided me with solutions for my work (health equity)’.

- The Summit...  
  - ...shone a light on how structural racism impacts the health and well-being: 100% A Great Deal
  - ...ignited public discourse on health equity and racial justice*: 90% A Great Deal
  - ...provided me with solutions for my work (health equity): 50% Somewhat, 50% A Great Deal

*One respondent answered ‘Not at all’
There were 33 responses submitted after day 1 and 10 responses submitted after day 2 of the event. Respondents generally agreed (average scores between Agree [4] and Strongly agree[5]) that the summit achieved the following:

**Average Responses to End-of-day Summit Evaluation Questions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>n1</th>
<th>n2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The event today re-energized me to tackle more vigorously the health inequities problem in my current work</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I cannot wait to share the insights I gained today with my co-workers</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I plan to reach out to collaborators and discuss some new projects</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Qualtrics HDI survey
**SUMMIT FEEDBACK**

**DURING EVENT METRICS**

### Twitter URL clicks, retweets and user profile clicks

- **URL clicks** (n = 211)
- **Retweets** (n = 300)
- **User Profile Clicks** (n = 214)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source: Qualtrics HDI survey 8/3/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **Tweets**: 82
- **Retweets**: 300
- **Impressions**: 132,256
- **Engagements**: 1,313

### Facebook clicks, engagements, likes, and shares

- **Clicks** (n = 117)
- **Shares** (n = 44)
- **Engagements** (n = 210)
- **Likes** (n = 31)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source: Qualtrics HDI survey 8/3/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **Daily Engagements (ave)**: 7
- **Daily Impressions (ave)**: 124
- **Engaged users**: 222
- **Post impressions**: 5,196

- **Reactions**: 80
- **Post reach**: 3,006
- **Page & Post engagement**: 279
- **Link Clicks**: 20

- **Impressions/tweet**: 1,613
- **Engagements/tweet**: 16
- **Clicks/tweet**: 3

- **New fans**: 29
- **Posts**: 113
AFTER EVENT REACTIONS

THERE WERE 50 RESPONSES SUBMITTED AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE SUMMIT.

Most respondents found the Summit 'better' and 'much better' than 'most seminars like this' (92%), and even than 'the best seminars like it' (83%).
The ease of registration process

Most respondents found the registration easy, 90%.

The content was presented in a well-organized manner

Nearly all respondents found the content to be well-organized (96%).

Ease of using the online virtual platform

The majority of respondents found the online virtual platform to be easy (75%), and only 14% found it ‘difficult’ or ‘very difficult’.
Most respondents agreed ‘a great deal’ that the summit achieved the following:

The Summit...
- ...provided me with solutions for my work (health equity related) 52% (48%)
- ...ignited public discourse on health equity and racial justice 16% (84%)
- ...amplified youth voice 16% (82%)
- ...inspired arts-based and transdisciplinary health equity innovations 16% (84%)
- ...shone a light on how structural racism impacts the health and well-being of Boys and Men of Color (BMoC) 6% (94%)
- ...provided ample opportunities for collaboration and innovation on health equity among boys and men of color

I will use the information presented in the summit for...

- ...Advocacy 38% (38%) 14% (10%)
- ...Service delivery 36% (28%) 16% (10%) 10% (10%)
- ...Research 14% (28%) 24% (18%) 2% (2%)
- ...Grant writing 8% (24%) 24% (20%) 8% (8%)
- ...Other 4% (12%) 52% (52%)
- ...Legal work 2% (40%) 38% (38%)

Source: Qualtrics HDI survey 8/2/21

N = 52
Most participants said they ‘will definitely take back’ to their organization/workplace/school the following…

**Concrete takeaways that you plan to take back to your organization/workplace/school**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concrete Takeaways</th>
<th>Will Take Back (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intent/plans to expand health equity work</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of myths and stereotypes about health inequity and BMoC</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 1 newly identified less obvious risk factor of health inequities</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of radical healing principles</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concrete solutions to address behavioral health needs among BMoC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A clear view of the role of art-based activities in building bridges across generations and professional groups</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A clear view of the role of art-based activities in telling inequity stories</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A better sense of the power of stories of boys and men of color</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong determination to collaborate to advance health equity</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A broader view on the power intergenerational dialogue between youth and adults</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Will Not Take Back* | *Will Definitely Take Back*  | *N* = 52

**ARTS-BASED COMPONENTS**

| **14** | artist/performer exhibition booths in virtual art gallery |
| **728** | total views of virtual art gallery |
| **18.71** | average views per art gallery booth |

**Engagement on Day 3 - Arts-Focused Content:**

| **105** | live views of arts-based keynote |
| **77** | live views of spoken word panel |
| **79** | live views of moonshot panel |

**Participant Takeaways – a clear view of the role of art-based activities in:**

- **100%** telling inequity stories
- **94%** building bridges across generations and professional groups
The end of the overall Summit evaluation asked for open-ended reactions and comments from attendants. These are all listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Entire Summit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. LOVED DAY 1!!!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Great ignite sessions! Powerful, stirring words for which our charge is to continue to take action. The transitions with meditation were perfect point for a moment of reflection.</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The young voices were refreshing.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Great speakers! Q Boogie had me boogie-ing.</td>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. what a wonderful first day. I loved getting to hear first-hand perspectives and experiences today, especially from the youth. I’m so excited for tomorrow!</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Looking forward to the rest of the Summit AND the Ideas Lab!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. This was a very informative day. I enjoyed all of the presenters!!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. For me the keynote speaker’s address was particularly impactful. His examples can be replicated to impact many communities in need of mental health support. However, all of the presenters provided something insightful or powerful and my heart is full, knowing there is so much being done around this nation to uplift people and families of color. Thank you for bringing this to us.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. A stellar conference and can’t wait to share the wealth of knowledge that each speaker brought.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. @DrWizdomisms AWESOME VISION!! Thank you for including all of us along your continuous path toward GREATNESS and RADICAL HEALING!!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Thank you!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Fantastic 2nd day. Full with love, compassion, energizing moments, that are healing while affirming in our collective pursuits. The collective work that is taking place, the driving factor that we must change the systems of oppression in all aspects. We have the tools, we have the people, change begins with us. We need to create systems of care that mean bringing full liberation to boys and men of color. Let’s keep going! #DontStopWontStop</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This was a super great much needed event. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this movement.

I would have loved to have more of Day three, the arts promote great conversation! overall it was an amazing experience!

Good morning. Seriously the best virtual event I have ever attended. I was excited to attend each day and be emersed in the topics discussed. The pace is great, Sessions are just the right length. There was lots to interact with and yet with structure and guidance. Knowledge, advocacy, voices of the people, the arts, and Zen moments all in one. Really good.

Thank you so much for this amazing learning opportunity. I am grateful for the platform to learn more about such an important topic. I am also appreciative of the grant extended to me to afford my attendance to attend this conference.

Thank you for organizing an amazing, heartfelt summit!

This summit was amazing! Thank you so much for hosting it!

This summit was amazing! I can’t wait until the next one!

Excellent, Excellent, Excellent. The best virtual event I have ever attended. Lots of learning, lots of voice, creative outlets, just everything and more.

I am thrilled that I chose to register for this summit. I attended a number of health equity seminars and webinars over the years but none like this one. This was different. Love that you showcased folks of all ages and backgrounds. We can learn so much by listening to people who have something to say. Love that you shared new terms such as “radical healing” and that we should focus on being “healing centered as opposed to trauma informed”. Fear is a projection is a concept that really has me thinking. Many things I will take with me going forward.

Thank you so much for the platform to learn more about an important topic. I am also appreciative of the grant extended to me to afford my attendance to attend this conference.

Thank you. My why has been affirmed over and over again these last 2.5 days. Two words. Genius and Transformational. Genius in every moment in the room and transformational in heart, mind, soul, the collective consciousness and actions. This event, this event is how we know what love is. A privilege met with purpose to keep going to ensure that boys and men of color thrive/ are liberated. That the systems for which we are embedded are dismantled, that our memories are written down (into policy and practice) as they are to be told and shared, that the way forward is the path that is already being created with daily mindful practices and solutions from and alongside BMOC. Valen and Trisha—your courage, creativity, commitment, and consistency is admirable, it is a privilege to work alongside you.

I am hopeful we will have some way to access the content again to review/watch and learn from. I wish there was a digital notepad of some sort incorporated to be able to take real time digital notes.

I am hopeful we will have some way to access the content again to review/watch and learn from. I wish there was a digital notepad of some sort incorporated to be able to take real time digital notes.
Hands down this is THE BEST summit I have ever attended. The level of excellence of the presenters, the material presented and the fabulous use of technology was bar none.

DJ Q Boogie was the right choice to have a Queen usher in and guide us throughout the day very well done. Let’s keep the conversations going.

The summit was so well planned out and executed. Can’t wait for next year!

Notwithstanding the technical challenges, the summit was excellent. The platform was difficult to navigate. It was not intuitive.

I thought the Summit was an amazing demonstration of the work that can be done to effect change and the important need to do more work in this area. It was a phenomenal 2.5 days and I was so very glad that I had the opportunity to participate!!!

Please continue to move forward with similar webinars

Many missed opportunities because of competing presentations

I ended up not joining an Ideas Lab seed grant group because the topic decided upon by the larger group didn’t fit with my expertise or interests. I wish that we had an opportunity to split off and create more groups and more research ideas. I might also suggest a process more like facilitative leadership (see Interaction Institute in Boston) for deciding the direction of the seed grants. More outspoken members of the small group led the group in a certain direction and there may have been other ideas that could have had merit too.

What a powerful and inspiring conference! Loved the format - mix of speakers, ignite talks, breakouts, music, meditation, artists. The pace and visual structure kept it moving throughout the day. The variety of speakers and styles. The strength and authenticity of each presentation. Q Boogie’s presence was a special touch - thank you for the anchor back to main stage and the relaxing pause with music to process the info between sessions. Loved the personal stories, the inter-generational connection, youth voice, the expressive arts, spoken word, visual arts... The message to be creative and outside the box with interventions. I’m filled up with gratitude for the experience. Heartbreaking, heart-opening, and uplifting, inspiring me toward action and service. Thank you - and congratulations on a great summit!

Notwithstanding the technical challenges, the summit was excellent. The platform was difficult to navigate. It was not intuitive.

It was a great conference and must continue annually. Thanks for such an eye opener!