

# To Improve the Oral Health of All: Pathways and Partnerships to Overall Health

DentaQuest  
FOUNDATION

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# Sensemaking

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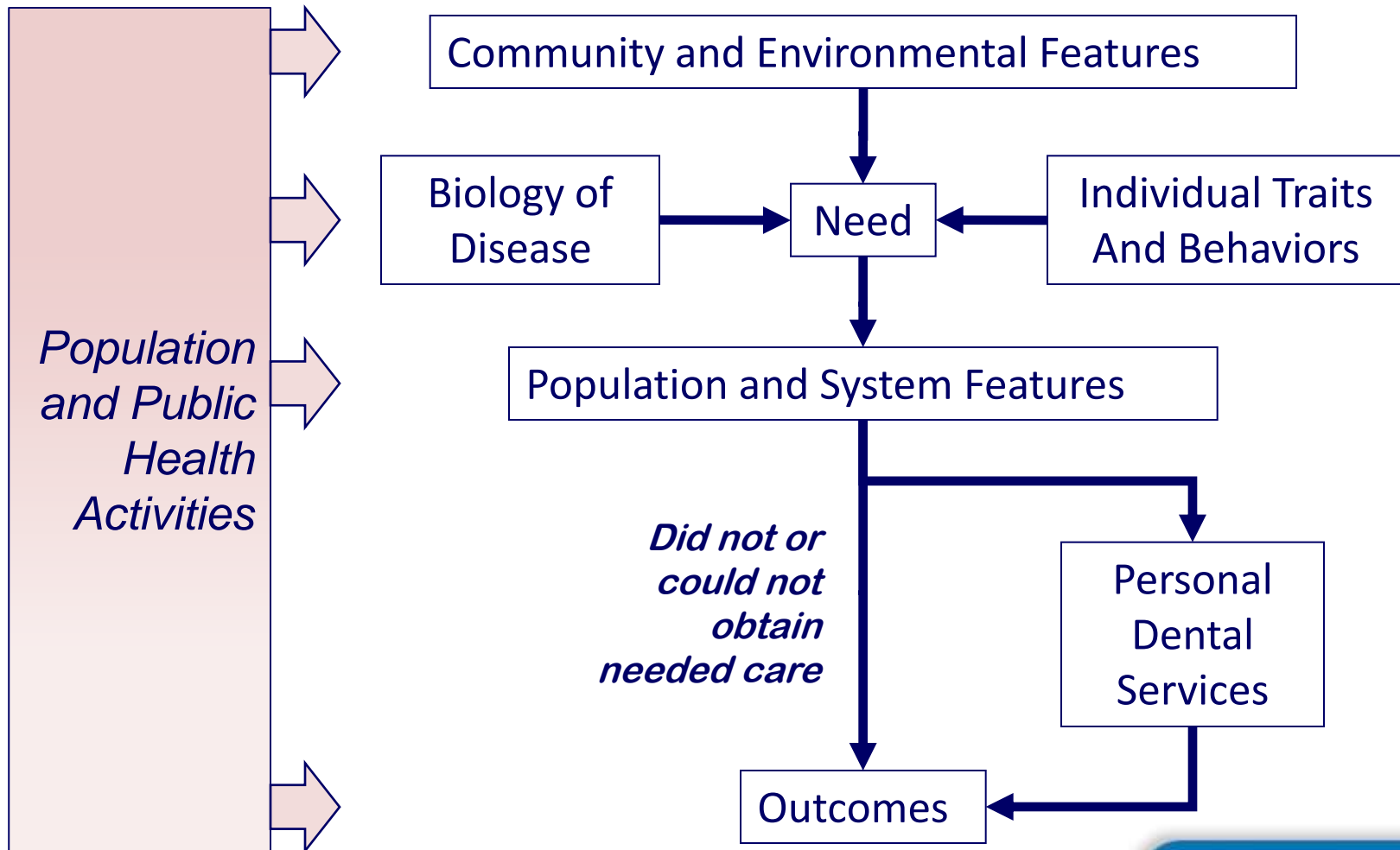
A set of processes that is initiated when an individual or organization recognizes the inadequacy of their current understanding of events.

Sensemaking is an active process of fitting data into a frame (mental model) and fitting a frame around the data.

Neither data nor frame comes first; data evoke frames and frames select and connect data.

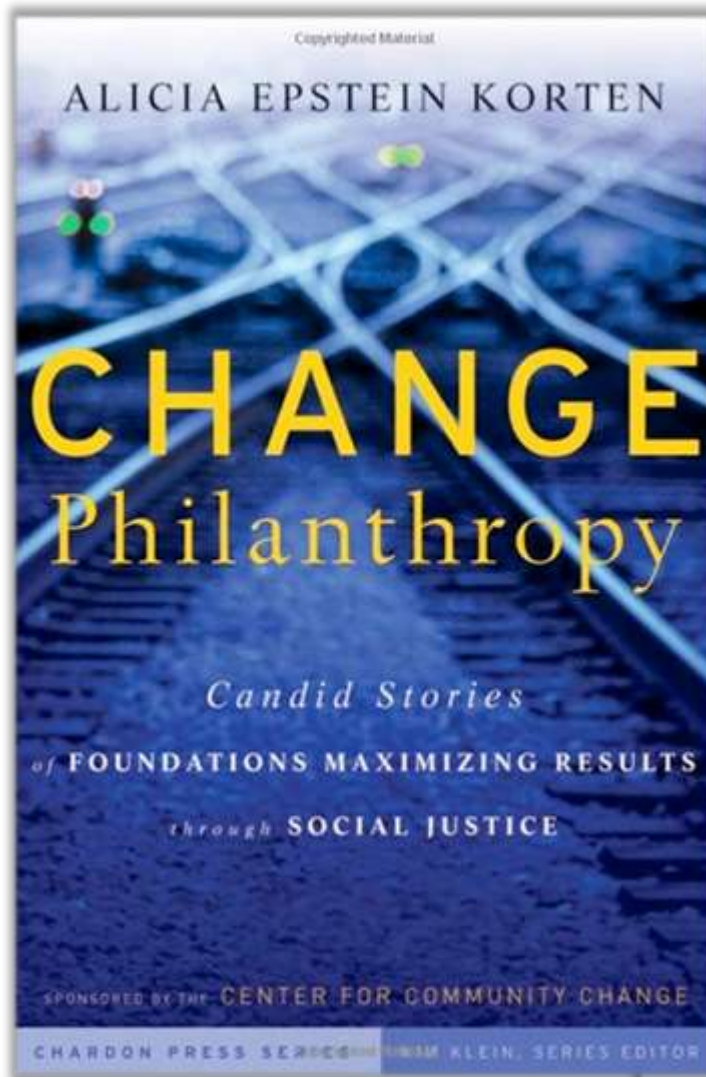
When there is no adequate fit, the data may be reconsidered or an existing frame may be revised. (Cohen 2006)

# Addressing a Chronic Condition: Oral Diseases



# Philanthropic Role: Active Engagement in Community Solutions

- Seek to understand community needs and environments
- Serve through multiples roles
- Identify change drivers
- Invest through trust building & shared ownership
- Monitor process and outcomes
- Focus on mission



Stanford **SOCIAL**  
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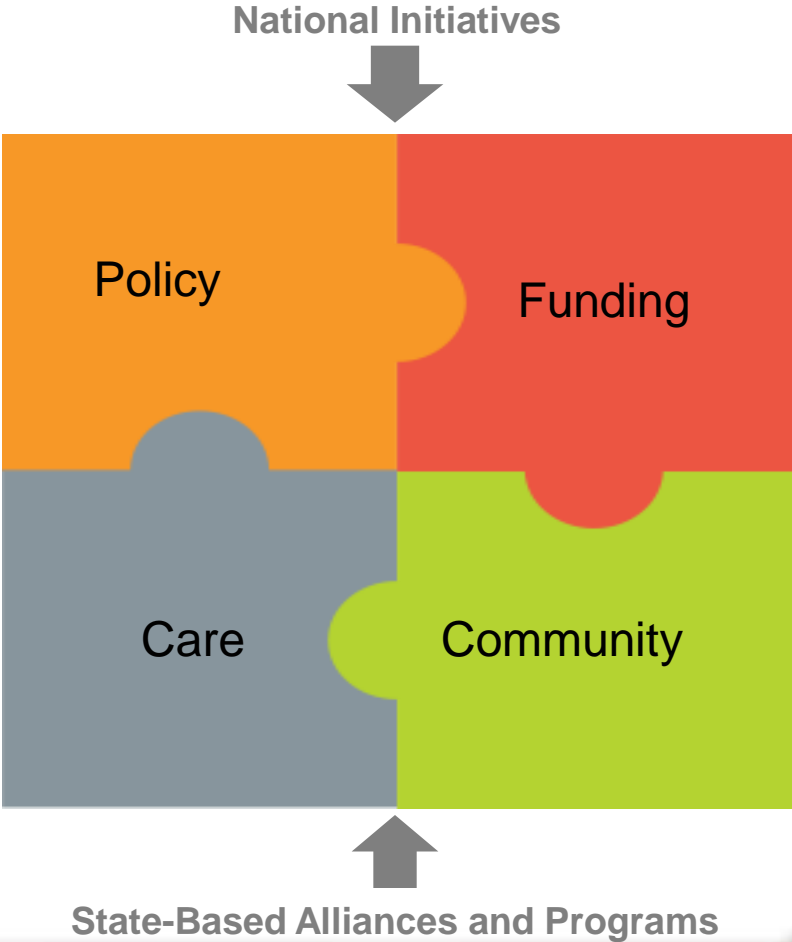
**Collective Impact**  
By John Kania & Mark Kramer

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# DentaQuest Foundation Systems Change Approach



# Making Sense: Ideal Systems Impact for Optimal Oral Health

<b>POLICY</b> Oral Health as a key component of Health Policy Oral Health Measurement Systems in Place Oral Health Policy consistent at Federal, State, and Local levels	<b>FINANCING</b> Sufficient funding to support Care and Prevention  Alignment of payment with evidence, prevention, and disease management
<b>CARE</b> Sufficient and Equitable access to appropriate care Care based on evidence, prevention, and disease management Oral Health integrated into all aspects of health care	<b>COMMUNITY</b> Oral integrated into education and social systems Optimal Oral Health Literacy Strong community prevention and care infrastructure





U.S. NATIONAL  
ORAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

National *Interprofessional Initiative*  
on Oral Health *engaging clinicians,  
eradicating dental disease*



ORAL<sup>7</sup>  
HEALTH  
2014

Advancing local leaders  
for national impact

## Strengthening the Oral Health Safety Net

# Collective Impact

PA Engagement

PAEA  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

ARG-PA  
American Academy of  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS  
Advancing the Profession's Role

NCCPA  
National Commission on  
Certification of Physician Assistants

**OHNEP**  
Oral Health Nursing  
Education and Practice

Smiles for Life  
A national oral health curriculum

National *Interprofessional Initiative*  
on Oral Health  
*engaging clinicians  
eradicating dental disease*

**U.S. NATIONAL  
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**ORAL  
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# Oral Health Partnerships

- **Establish a Process for Organizing with the community**
- **Foster participation**
- **Embrace Planning as a key to success**
- **Identify Tools for Mobilizing & for Taking Action**
- **Foster Accountability**
- **Celebrate gains – Learn from losses**

- **Does it Make Sense?**

- **Let's Help One Another  
Make Some Sense**

It will be our Pathways and our Partnerships  
that will create Optimal Oral Health  
for our children, our neighbors, and our Nation



# NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION

to End Health Disparities







# Disparities in America



Young people from racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States suffer disproportionately from a number of preventable diseases and health problems.

America's estimated 2.5 million gay seniors are twice as likely to live alone, four times less likely to have adult children to help them, and far more fearful of discrimination from health care workers.



Older adults may not be aware of the services recommended for their age group or may not know that the services are covered by Medicare.



American Indians and Alaska Natives have a lower life expectancy than other Americans perhaps due to economic adversity and poor social conditions.





## Health Equity

“**Health equity** is attainment of the highest level of health for all people. Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and the elimination of health and healthcare disparities.”

-National Stakeholder Strategy, Healthy People 2020 and Health and Human Services (HHS) Plan





# Social Determinants of Health

External factors that influence health outcomes are known as the **Social Determinants of Health**. Examples include:





## The Federal Commitment

- The NPA involves government agencies through the [Federal Interagency Health Equity Team \(FIHET\)](#)
- Collaborating agencies include:
  - ✓ Agriculture
  - ✓ Commerce
  - ✓ Consumer Product Safety Commission
  - ✓ Defense
  - ✓ Education
  - ✓ Environmental Protection Agency
  - ✓ Health and Human Services
  - ✓ Housing and Urban Development
  - ✓ Justice
  - ✓ Labor
  - ✓ Transportation
  - ✓ Veterans Affairs



## The HHS Commitment

<http://tinyurl.com/HHSActionPlan>

- HHS Action Plan - developed in response to the NSS
- Outlines HHS goals and actions to reduce health disparities
- Aligned with Healthy People 2020, the National Prevention Strategy and the President's National HIV/AIDS Strategy





## Regional Movements

Ten **Regional Health Equity Councils (RHECs)** have been established to:

- Mobilize regional action around common issues
- Leverage federal, regional, state, and local resources
- Infuse NPA goals and strategies into policies and practices
- Support and enhance state and community efforts
- Share stories and successes across the country







## Take Action in Your Community

- Plan or take part in community service activities to end health disparities
- Spread the word. Conduct community dialogues and awareness events - involve the media
- Connect and volunteer with an organization that is doing work in this area
- Post about the NPA and local health equity movements on blogs, Facebook, and Twitter
- Submit a press release or an Op-Ed to your local newspaper or magazine
- Visit the NPA Toolkit for Action at <http://tinyurl.com/NPAtoolkit-pdf>



## Join the NPA

**We're in!**

*We support a nation free of disparities in health and healthcare.*



**NATIONAL  
PARTNERSHIP  
FOR ACTION**

→ *Take the pledge*

→ *Learn about NPA*

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Support a nation free of disparities in health and healthcare:

- Learn about the NPA at <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/npa/>
- Take the NPA pledge at <http://tinyurl.com/NPAPledge>
- Call 1-855-JOIN-NPA
- Email [npainfo@minorityhealth.hhs.gov](mailto:npainfo@minorityhealth.hhs.gov)