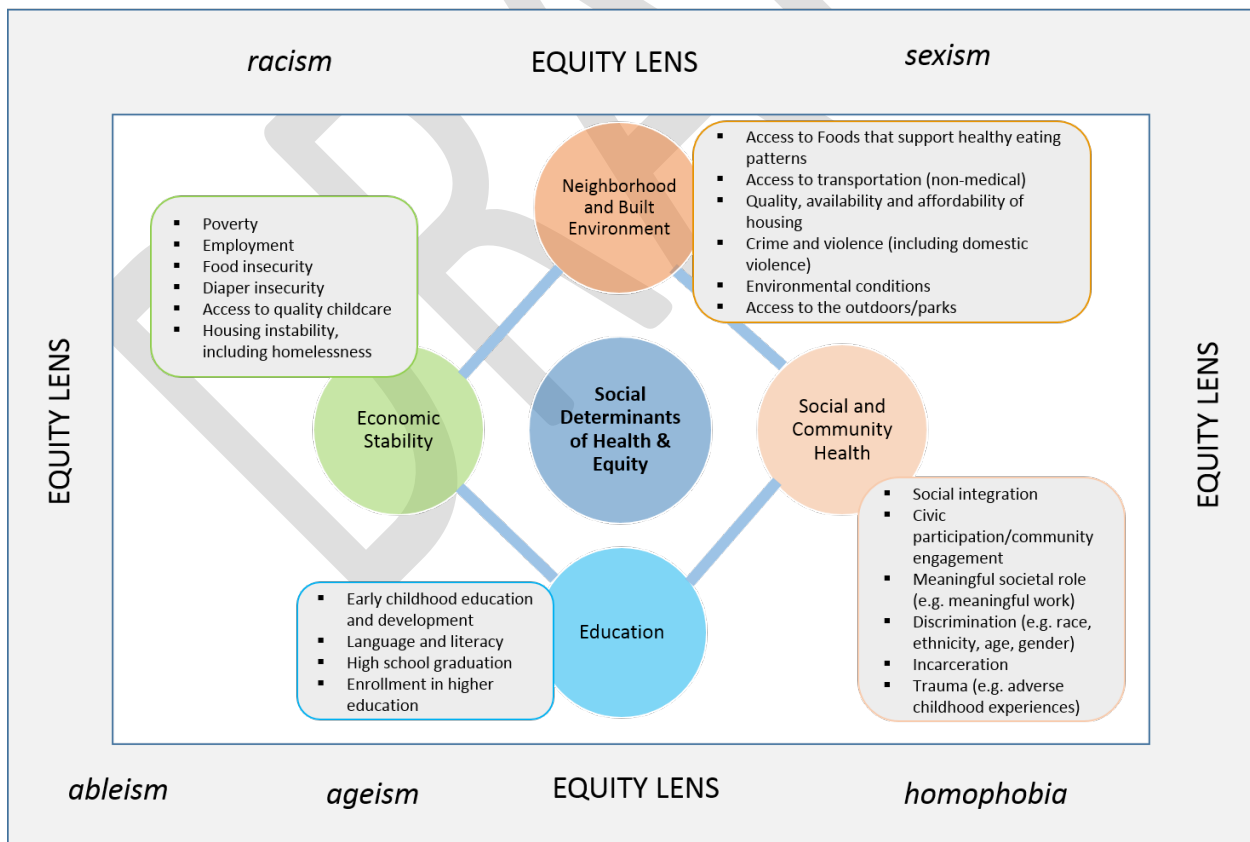


Definition of the Social Determinants of Health for Oregon’s Coordinated Care Organizations

Social Determinants of Health & Equity

Health begins where we live, learn, work, and play. The *social determinants of health* are the social, economic, political, and environmental conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age (see image 1). These conditions significantly impact length and quality of life and contribute to health inequities. The *social determinants of health* are not fairly distributed in communities. Distribution is shaped by a wider set transformation agendas and structures, such as norms, policies and political systems, both historical and current. The *social determinants of equity* are the structural factors, such as racism, that lead certain groups to face more social determinants of health than others.¹

Image 1. Social Determinants of Health & Equity



¹ Social determinants of health definition adapted from the World Health Organization; social determinants of equity definition adapted from Dr. Camara Jones.