Health inequities among specific population groups and geographic areas have long been identified as one of the major deficiencies of the U.S. healthcare system. It’s time for concerted action.

As a national leader in healthcare quality, Sutter Health considers health equity a measurable, key component of quality healthcare. We are committed to eliminating health disparities within our system and beyond by engineering data-driven, innovative solutions. Sutter’s Institute for Advancing Health Equity has been created to enhance this commitment—building on the benefits of our integrated, coordinated network of care to further health equity for our patients and those across the country.

What is the Institute for Advancing Health Equity?
Sutter’s Institute for Advancing Health Equity is an innovation incubator, facilitating pragmatic research that can be directly applied into clinical settings to foster more equitable outcomes for all.

A Convener
The Institute serves as a convener of experts, advocates and patients to identify inequities, explore ideas and create solutions.

An Innovation Incubator

![RESEARCH & DATA](image1)

![CLINICAL & COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES](image2)

![TRAINING & CONSULTATION](image3)

![COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS](image4)

HEALTH EQUITY SOLUTIONS & SHARED EXPERTISE TO IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES

Sutter’s Unique Position
Sutter is well positioned to become a national leader in advancing health equity.

Leader in Quality:
As a recognized national leader in healthcare quality, we consider health equity to be a key measurement of care quality. Our work to continuously improve the quality and value of care we provide our patients has resulted in Sutter hospitals consistently ranking in the top 10% in the U.S. for overall healthcare quality.

An Experienced Team:
Sutter has an experienced team of clinicians, researchers and administrators focused on advancing health equity across our integrated network. Over the past several years this dedicated team has developed a proven track record in generating data-driven insights, groundbreaking methodologies and pragmatic solutions to improve outcomes for all patients.

Diverse Patient Population:
Sutter serves more than 3 million patients in a wide variety of care settings across 22 Northern California counties, arguably the most geographically and demographically diverse region in the country. We are a microcosm of the nation.

Strength of the Integrated Network:
Through our integrated network, Sutter Health has the resources, data and reach to generate robust findings and test new models and innovations that can be shared and implemented nationally.
A Proven Track Record

Sutter Health has been working for more than a decade to advance health equity through research and patient-focused care. Over the past several years, a dedicated health equity team has examined our own data to identify ways we can provide better outcomes for all patients in a number of areas, including maternal health, chronic disease management, opioid prescribing behavior, cancer screening and, most recently, COVID-19.

Developing Data-Driven, Innovative Solutions

COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Solutions

We've developed a novel metric, the COVID Vaccine Equity Index (CVEI), to track and achieve vaccine equity among vulnerable populations. Our system has used this index to inform our targets for vaccine equity, adjusting goals to reflect the disproportionate burden of infection and hospitalizations by some patient groups. We are implementing targeted, meaningful strategies to address and close the identified equity gaps. The CVEI can be of great value to other health systems and county or state agencies as they create strategies for mass vaccination.

COVID-19 Disparities in the Community

Sutter's Community Health and Health Equity efforts have led to collaboration with and support of community-based programs that expanded testing, contact tracing and vaccination for the most vulnerable in our community.

Asthma in Oakland's African American Community

The HEI identified higher than expected rates of emergency visits for asthma among African American patients. To address this, Sutter collaborated to create an innovative, community-based program for African American patients in East Oakland and Berkeley to support asthma management.

Unconscious Bias Training

We are leading efforts throughout the Sutter network to provide access to unconscious bias training for clinicians in order to promote awareness and cultural humility. We also aim to improve effectiveness through rigorous evaluation. Sutter Health is committed to collaborating with healthcare partners throughout the state and nation in these efforts.

Diabetes in Salinas’s Latino Community

Sutter’s HEI helped Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System identify patient populations at higher risk for diabetes, leading to investments in programs like new diabetes clinics and bilingual certified diabetic educators.

Contact us to learn more about opportunities to partner and connect.

The philanthropy of our donors helps drive our health equity research and clinical and community-based solutions that are saving lives. Learn more about ways to contribute to Sutter’s health equity work.

Learn more at www.sutterhealth.org/healthequity or email us at healthequity@sutterhealth.org