



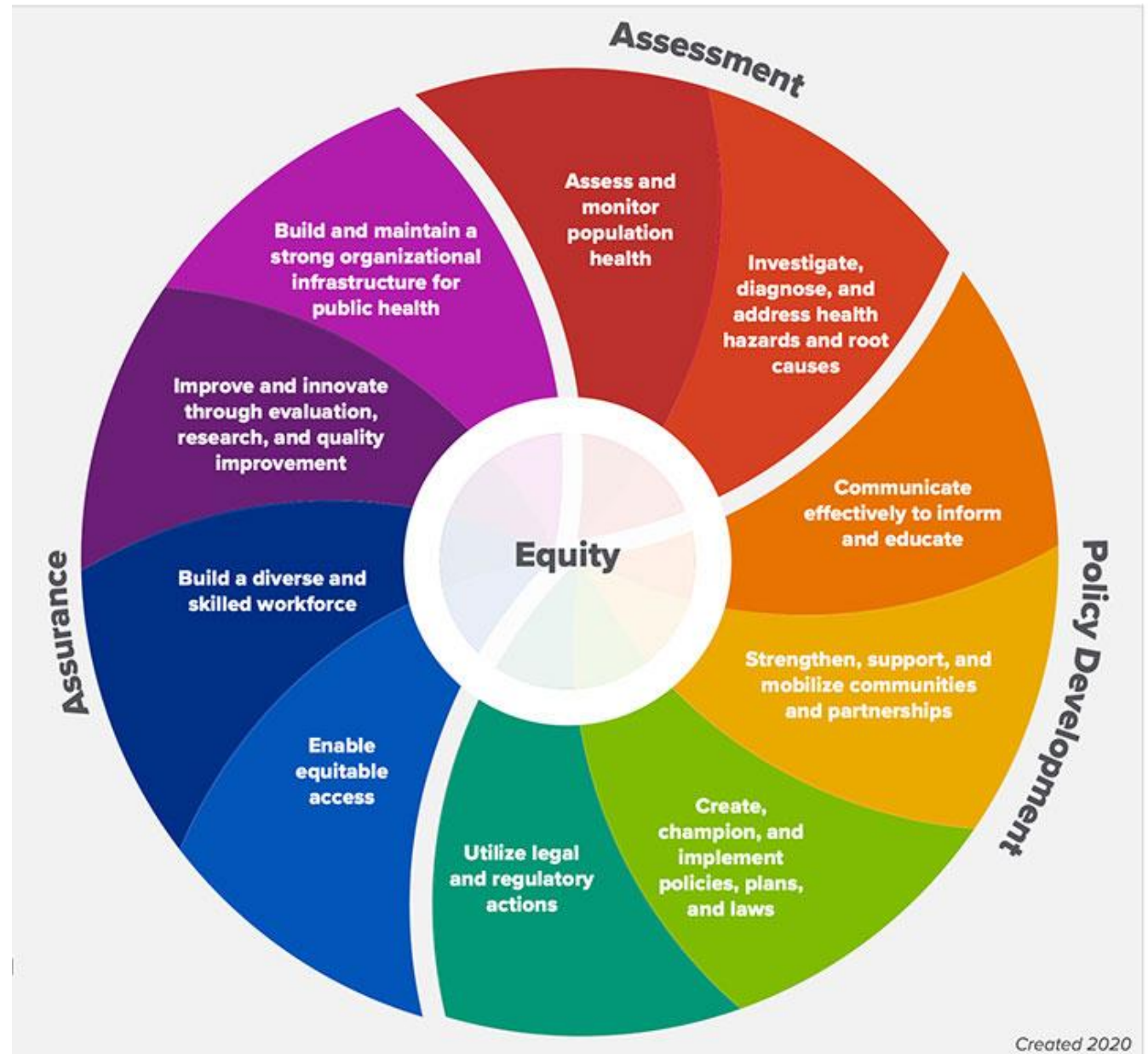
Silicosis Response

Los Angeles County Department
of Public Health

May 2024



DPH is addressing *Equity* and the *10 Essential Public Health Services* with current Silicosis Prevention Activities



Government Partners

Local

- Department of Public Health (DPH)
- Department of Health Services (DHS)
- Department of Mental Health (DMH)
- Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)
- Department of Consumer & Business Affairs (DCBA)
- Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA)

State

- Cal/OSHA
- CDPH

Elected Officials

- House Congressional (29th District)
- California State Assembly (43rd District)
- California State Senate (20th District)
- Supervisorial District 3

Community Stakeholders

Engaged Stakeholders (through initial BOS motion)

- Stone fabrication workers
- Silicosis patients
- Community-Based Organizations (in SFV)
- SMEs- Industrial Hygienists, Occupational Health Physicians, CDPH, Cal/OSHA, Georgia Tech, Worksafe
- Labor unions (building trades, carpenters, bricklayers)
- Academic & occupational safety and health advocates
- Manufacturers & trade associations
- Employers & business owners (in SFV)
- Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development interests (in SFV)

Recommended Stakeholders (For DEO ongoing stakeholder engagement)

- Neighbors exposed to environmental hazards
- Community based organizations (outside of SFV that work with immigrant populations, e.g., CARACEN, CHIRLA, BAILA network)
- Faith leaders and communities
- Labor unions (representing medical providers/clinicians)
- Distributors & wholesalers
- Tool suppliers
- Contractors & developers
- Architects & interior designers
- Employers & business owners
- Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development interests
- Consumers & homeowners

Communicate Effectively to Inform and Educate

ACTIVITIES

- Developed silicosis webpage on the DPH website
- Developed trainings, materials, and talking points
- Established and manage silicosis contract for worker outreach and engagement
- Convene PH programs & SME for knowledge sharing
- Delivered trainings to County partners
- Visited 218 registered stone fabrication businesses
- LAHAN alert sent out with information to clinicians

GAPS/CHALLENGES

- Lack of awareness among health care providers
- No existing strategy for consumer messaging: product safe for consumers, dangerous for workers



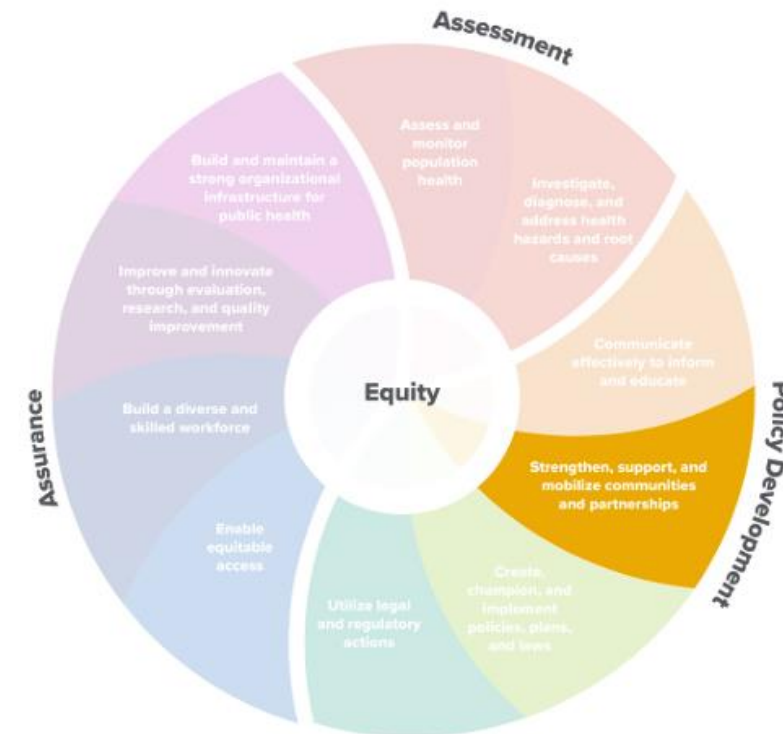
Strengthen, Support, Mobilize Communities & Partnerships

ACTIVITIES

- Expanding worker outreach beyond SF valley
- Collaborating with Cal/OSHA Bilingual Education Unit on outreach
- Partnering with CBOs for worker outreach & community engagement
- Supporting CASS study through CDPH/UCLA (study of stone cutting workers) and qualitative worker study
- Convening all agencies/teams working on silicosis prevention

GAPS/CHALLENGES

- Recommended that DMH develop mental health materials and resources for silicosis patients and their families at Olive View Hospital
- Coordination and involvement of high-level stakeholders (DEO)
- No coordinated/organized body of stone fabrication workers (no union)
- Educating and motivating employers to implement safety measures and comply with regulations



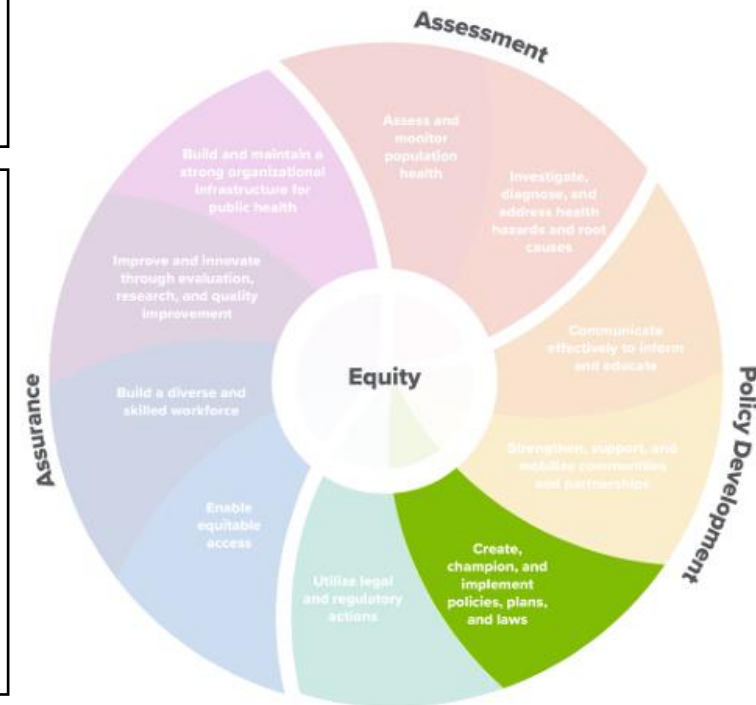
Create, Champion, and Implement Policies, Plans, & Laws

ACTIVITIES

- Met with elected officials' offices to raise awareness
- Supported efforts to pass the new Cal/OSHA Silica ETS (2023)
- Supporting DEO to identify a range of stakeholders per board motion
- Participating in silicosis convening in May at UCLA

GAPS/CHALLENGES

- No identified county-wide strategy to reduce worker exposure to RCS
- Unintended consequences of new ETS on smaller businesses
- Manufacturers and industry support of new ETS but could force smaller shops and owner-operators out of business



Assurance: Enable Equitable Access; Build a Diverse & Skilled Workforce; Improve & Innovate Through Evaluation, Research, and Quality Improvement; Build and Maintain a Strong Organizational Infrastructure for Public Health

ACTIVITIES

- Developing & providing educational materials and trainings (Sp/Eng)
- Explore hosting first worker training on engineering controls, and provide PAPR to conduct pilot study to assess if providing free/low-cost PPE improves workers' frequency and use of PAPR
- Developing an approach to prioritizing outreach for smaller and unlicensed businesses
- Training DPH workforce and other county departments, as requested
- Consult external partners to improve issue & industry knowledge

GAPS/CHALLENGES

- Educating clinicians on silicosis symptoms
- Educate employers about responsibility to conduct training & screenings
- Shortage of Industrial Hygienists and Occupational Health
- Lack of centralized coordination

