



## **SOC Monthly Membership Meeting**

**April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. on Webex**

Health disparities significantly harm communities by causing higher rates of chronic disease, increased infant/maternal mortality, and reduced economic productivity. These disparities—driven by inequalities in income, education, and healthcare access—burden marginalized racial, ethnic, and rural populations with systemic, multi-generational disadvantages and premature deaths.

Locally, residents in the 64113-zip code have an average life expectancy of 86.3 versus just 68.1 in 64128. Five to seven miles, **FIVE TO SEVEN MILES** and there is an 18.2-year difference in the span of life. It is critical that we work together to identify and eliminate avoidable and unfair health outcomes amongst our community members.

**April is “Minority Health Awareness Month”** and the SOC will be featuring multiple presentations taking a closer look at health care disparities from racial, ethnic, disability, and poverty perspectives. These powerful presentations will equip everyone with not just more knowledge, but knowledge combined with actionable steps to ensure that the focus on Minority Health is **NOT** limited to a single month.

***Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success-Henry Ford***

If you would like an invitation to this event, please email Jennifer L’Heureux at [Jennifer.LHeureux@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:Jennifer.LHeureux@dmh.mo.gov)

