

### Moving Toward Health Equity in Texas

The Office of Minority Health and Health Equity (OMH-HE) is dedicated to eliminating health disparities by working in collaboration with Health and Human Services agencies and programs, other public and private agencies, and community-based organizations to promote disease prevention and wellness. OMH-HE provides training and consultative services to assist agencies and programs in identifying and implementing strategies to eliminate systemic barriers in the access and use of health and healthcare services by racial and ethnic minority populations. The Office also supports the development and implementation of policies and programs that address social determinants of health. OMH-HE promotes programmatic initiatives for achieving health equity through:

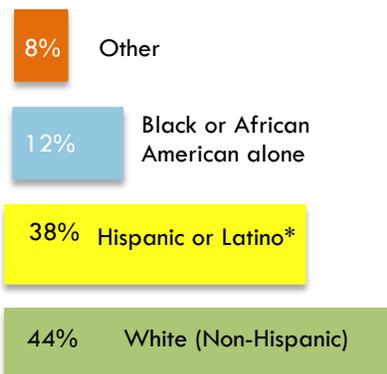
- **Knowledge and skills enhancement** – Create and disseminate informational guides and briefings that promote health equity in systems and communities.
- **Health information, data, and research** – Promote the collection, analysis and distribution of health data by race, ethnicity, disability status, primary language and other social and demographic factors for use in the development and implementation of health-related policies and programs.
- **Programmatic guidance, implementation, and evaluation** – Promote and facilitate the involvement of diverse, multi-level state, regional, and local partners in the design, implementation, and evaluation of health-related policies and programs.
- **Collaboration and networking** – Foster and strengthen networks, coalitions, and partnerships to identify health problems and support actions for eliminating health disparities.

#### CLAS Standards

The Office of Minority Health and Health Equity educates and encourages the adoption of the federal Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards. The CLAS Standards are intended to advance health equity, improve quality, and help eliminate health care disparities by providing a blueprint for individuals and health and health care organizations to implement culturally and linguistically appropriate services. The 15 standards are summarized in the Principal CLAS Standard: "Provide effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs."

### By The Numbers

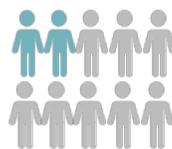
#### Texas Population (2013 Estimates): 26,448,193



\*Note: Hispanics may be of any race.

Source: Adapted from US Census Bureau, November 2014

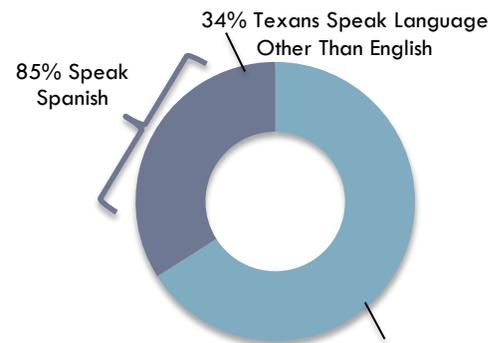
Almost  
**1 in 5**  
Texans Lives in  
Poverty



(2008-2012)

Source: US Census Bureau, November 2014

#### Languages Spoken Other than English in Texas in 2010



66% Texans Speak English

Source: American Community Survey, November 2014