Climate Change: Impact on Health and Equity

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Planning4Health Solutions

Overview

- Defining Key Terms
- What is Equity?
- Climate Change and Health Impacts
- Climate Change and Health Pathways
- Addressing Inequity

Definitions Overview

Health Disparities

- Health Disparities are ***differences*** in incidence and prevalence of ***health conditions and diseases*** between population groups and they are largely seen in groups related to socioeconomic status, education level, race/ethnicity, geographic location, gender, etc.

Social Determinants of Health

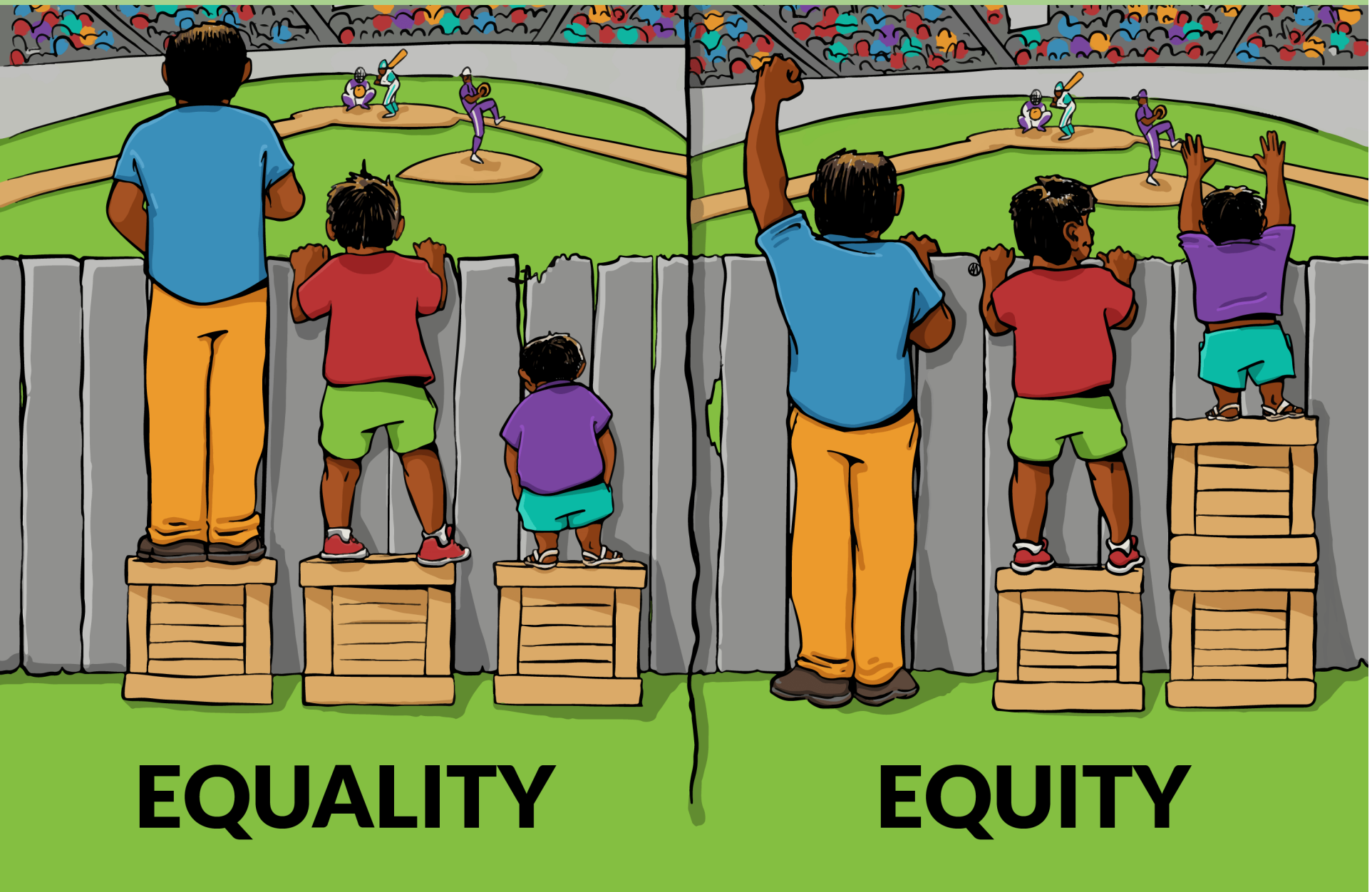
- Social Determinants of Health are ***resources*** that "***distribute* across populations and effectively determines length and quality of life."** Social Determinants of Health include food security/access to healthy foods, housing, transportation, education, income, safety, etc.

Health Equity

- Health equity is when individuals have the opportunity "**to attain their full health potential**" in which they are not "**disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of their social position or other socially determined circumstance."**

When there is a "systemic and unjust distribution" this results in health inequity and health disparities occur.

Creating an Opportunity for All



What factors into Equity…

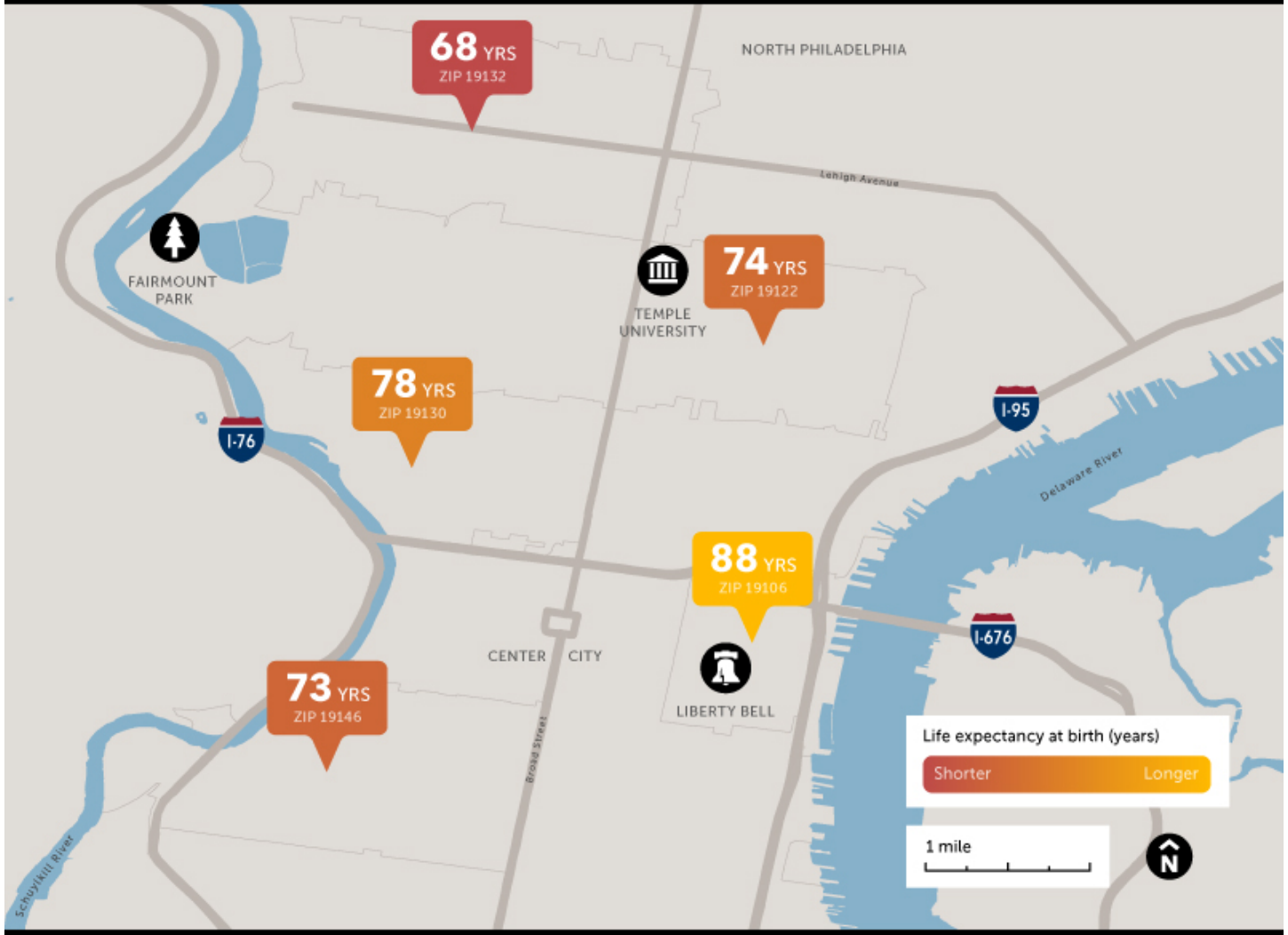
- Age
- Income Level
- Race/Ethnicity
- Disability
- Education Level
- Vehicle Access
- Families on SNAP and/or WIC

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Short Distances to Large Gaps in Health

Follow the discussion

#CloseHealthGaps



VCU Virginia Commonwealth University

Center on Society and Health

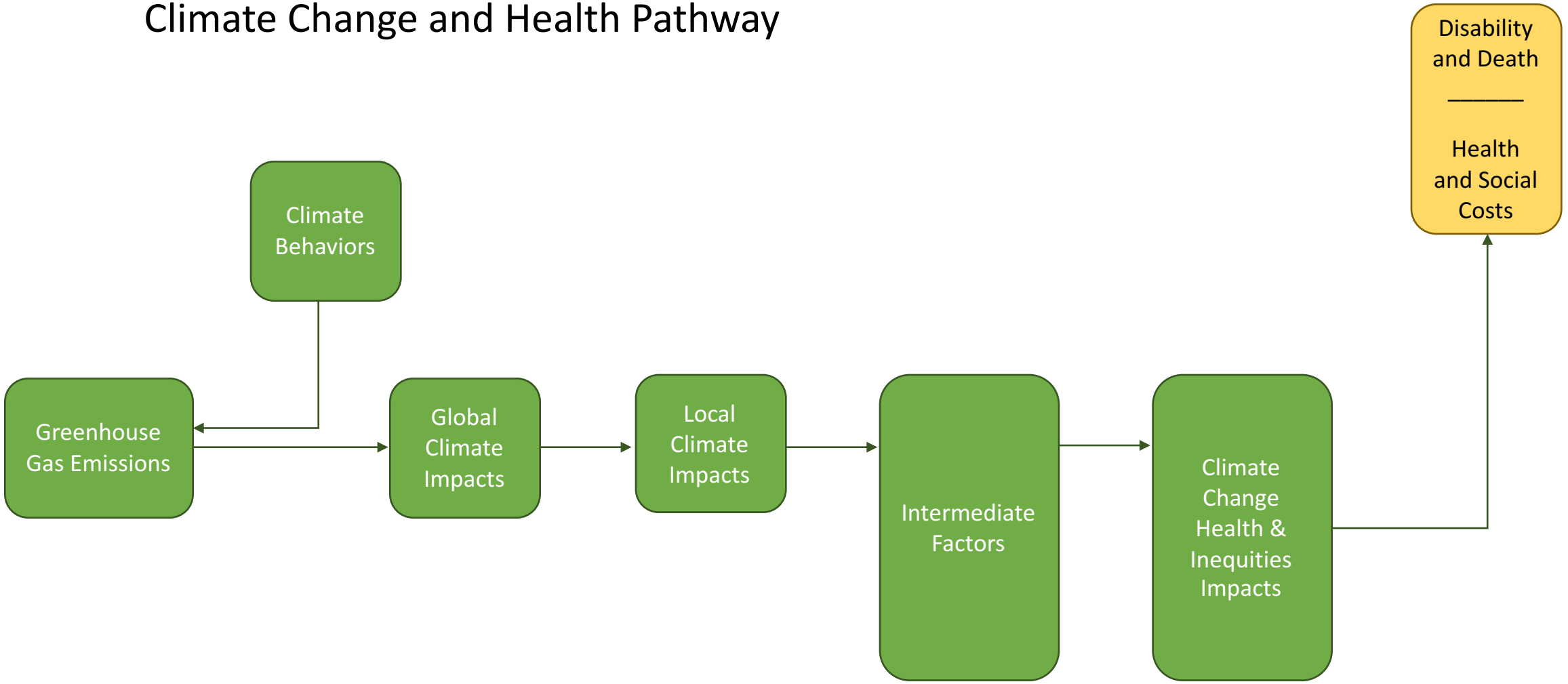
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Physical Environment
Access to Healthy Foods
Access to Recreation Facilities
Transportation
Safety
Environmental Quality
Social Environment
Violence
Racism
Social Network
Community Leadership
Health Equity
Economic Opportunity
Income
Education
Housing
Employment
Public Policy
Land Use Planning and Zoning
Economic Development
Tax Incentives

Climate Change Health Impacts

- Heat illness is greater in urban neighborhoods
- Limited access to transit impedes on evacuation
- People with cardiovascular and respiratory diseases have increased risk of heat illness and disease exacerbation due to increase ozone levels, wildfire smoke and increased pollen
- Poverty reduces capacity to afford rising food, water and energy prices

Climate Change and Health Pathway



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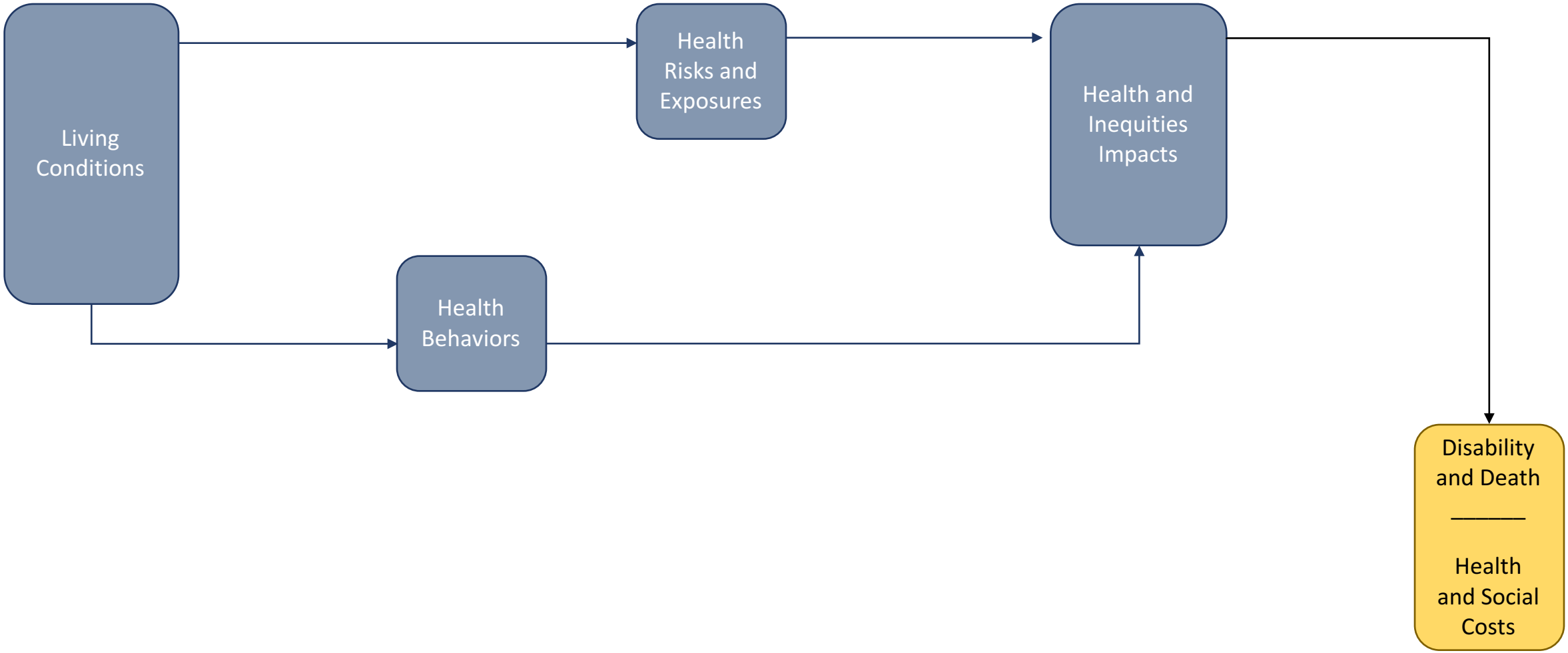
Health Pathway



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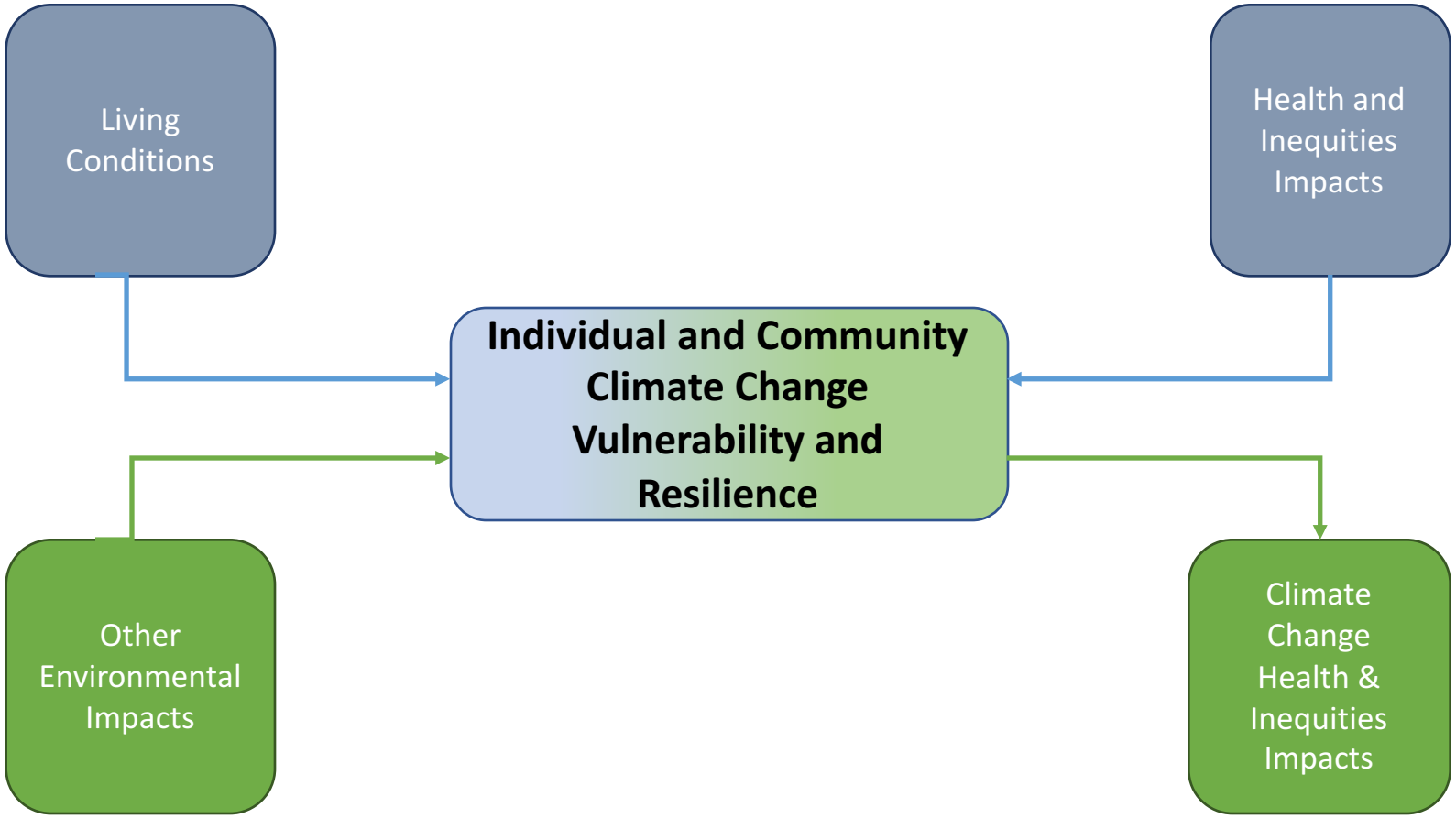
Climate Change Vulnerability and Resilience & Climate Health Inequities



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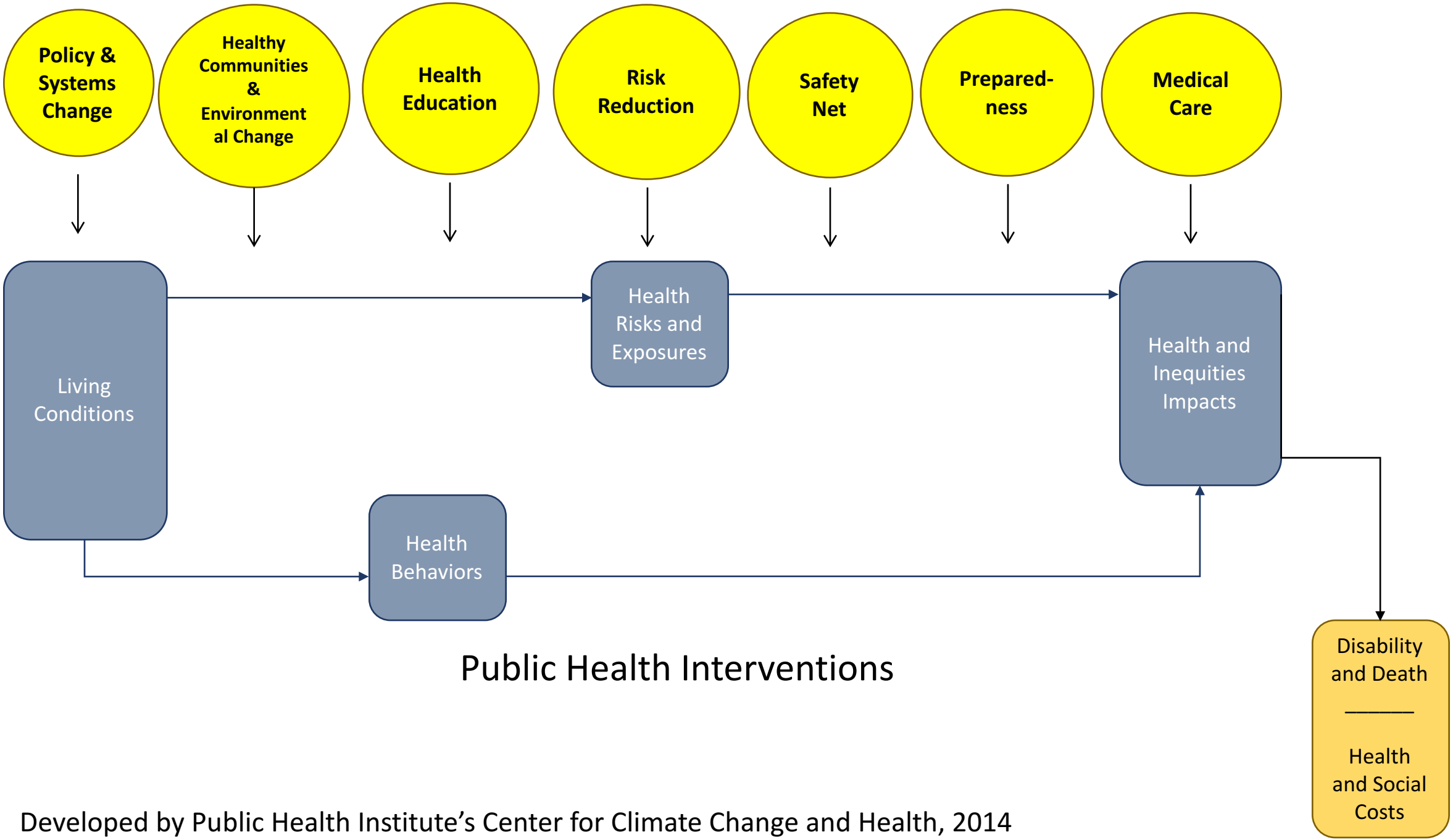

Public Health Interventions

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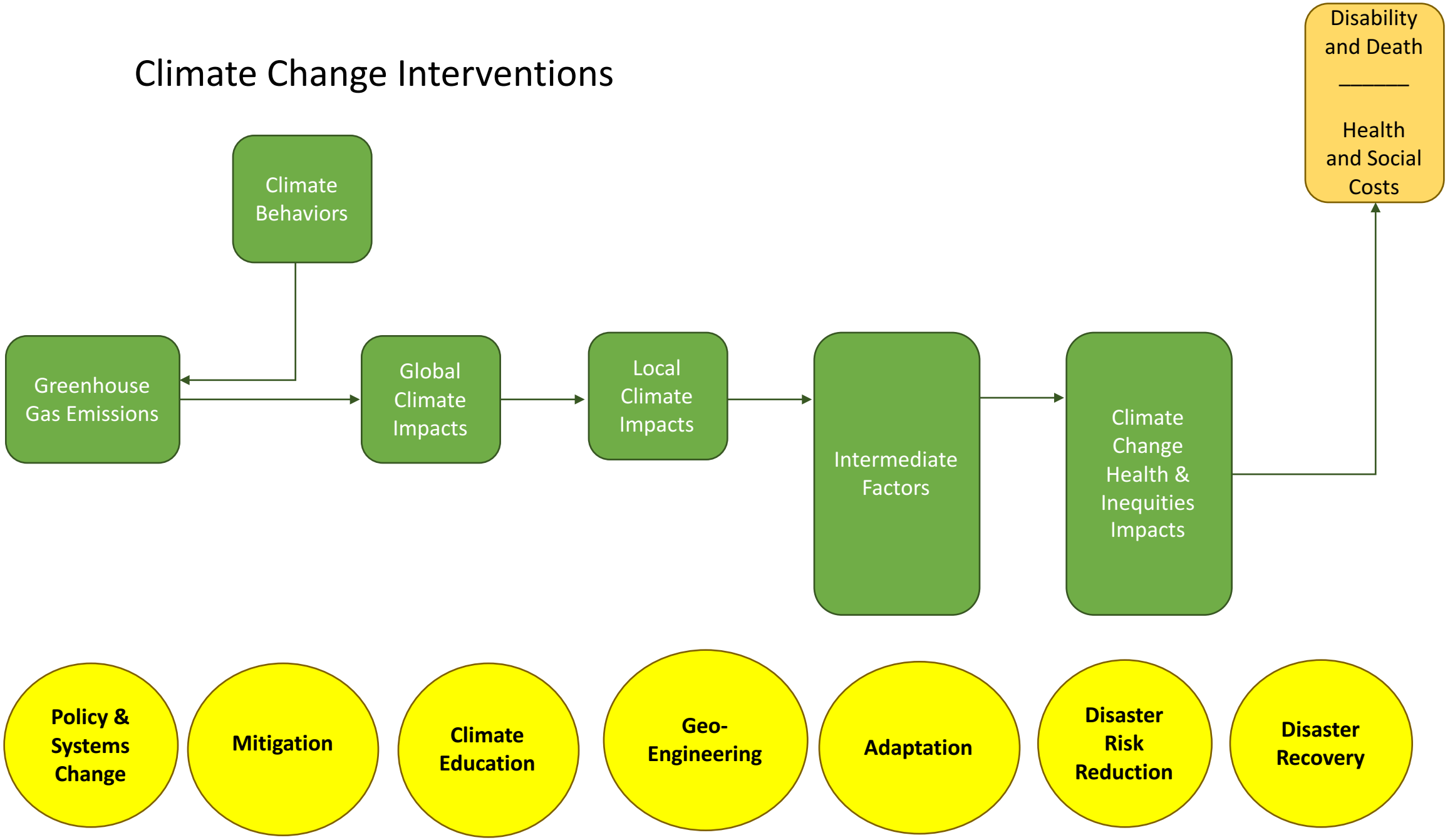
Climate Change Interventions



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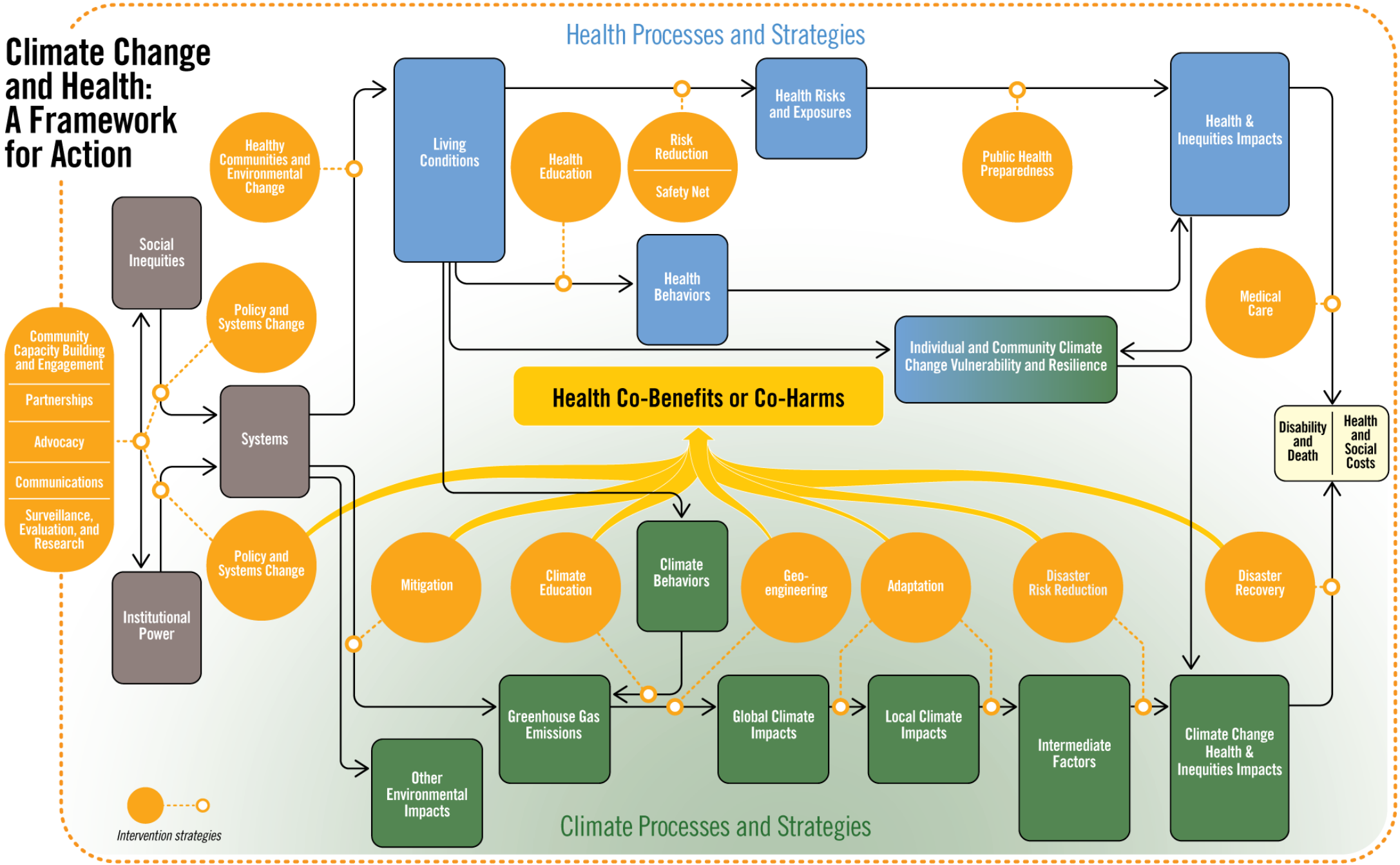
Climate Change and Health: A Framework for Action



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What's the Inequity?

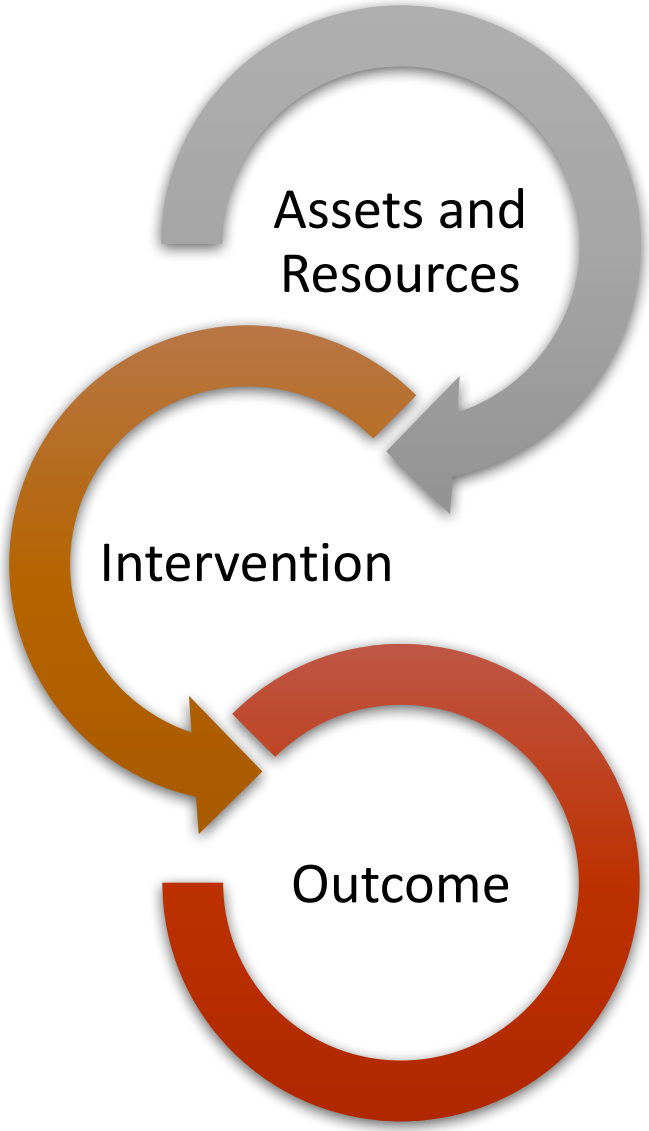
Targeted Outcome

Targeted Population Group

Targeted Intervention

Variables?
Influencing Factors?
Assets?
Barriers?

Thinking Outside the Box ⇨ Innovation



Addressing equity cannot be done using a checklist. There are many factors contributing to inequity. It is important to engage in non-traditional partners and understanding the community's assets and resources.

Interventions to Address Inequities

Things to Remember

Not being careful in planning and implementation can result in negative unintended consequences and worsen disparities

Do not assume what health inequities exist in your community

Have a comprehensive understanding of the identified health inequities; use appropriate tools to analyze and interpret data at the local level

Engage community members and partner organizations throughout the planning process; Work with local organizations to build capacity to support strategies

Questions?

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Planning4Health Solutions

Creating Healthy Environments