WHEREAS, health begins at home in our families, with a loving relationship between parents and their children, where kids can expect to be safe, nurtured and protected, and

WHEREAS, health begins with healthy communities, with safe streets and sidewalks, freedom from violence, and parks where kids can play, and

WHEREAS, health begins with a good education, where children learn not only how to read, write, and prepare for fulfilling, prosperous life, but how to treat each other with dignity and respect, and

WHEREAS, health begins with safe jobs and fair wage, where people derive a sense of personal satisfaction from their work and connection to their co-workers, and

WHEREAS, health begins with healthy relationships, healthy communities, and healthy jobs, which protect us from the stress of everyday life, and

WHEREAS, we can’t eradicate illness, but we can foster health by positively impacting the factors affecting health, and

WHEREAS, health equity is defined as when everyone has the opportunity to “attain their full health potential” and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of their social position or other socially determined circumstance, and

WHEREAS, Oklahomans with lower socioeconomic status die earlier and have more disability, and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma ranks near the bottom of the national health rankings, according to the United Health Foundation (46th) and the Commonwealth Fund State Scorecard (50th), and

WHEREAS, the 2008 State of the State’s Health Report confirms Oklahomans suffer more unhealthy days (mentally and physically) than adults nationally with suicide being the most common type of violent death, and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma consistently ranks among the lowest states in the consumption of fruits and vegetables and is ranked as the 8th most obese state, and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma was 49th in the nation in the ratio of primary care physicians per 100,000 population, and

WHEREAS, no institution alone nurtures families and communities to build a healthier Oklahoma, and so

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a healthy Oklahoma will require leadership, and a partnership of business, government, civic and religious institutions, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oklahoma Health Equity Campaign Partnership will collaborate with public and private organizations, governmental and community partnerships to build public commitment to achieve health equity and decrease the health inequities in Oklahoma. Our partners will include businesses, advocacy groups, community non-profits, environmental justice organizations, chambers of commerce, religious organizations, labor organizations, professional associations and others.

FINALLY, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oklahoma Health Equity Campaign requests the Oklahoma Public Health Association to become an active partner in this campaign and adopt this resolution as its health equity position statement.
Notes


