

# SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH SCREENING TOOL



## Strategic Initiative 3.1

**Lead:** CHO Nilesh Kalyanaraman

**Need to know:** All staff, especially staff using the EHR

**Launch:** December 2017

## WHAT

Protocol for Responding to and Assessing Patients’ Assets, Risks and Experiences (PRAPARE) is used by health centers to collect information on the social determinants of health—the structural conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

## WHY

Our clients have complex lives and complex health conditions. Housing, income and education are among the many factors that affect their health and wellness. **Social determinants** account for some 20% of health status, while health care accounts for just 10%. Understanding and addressing social determinants of health is critical to our ability to achieve our strategic goals of providing quality, whole-person health care and affordable housing, and meaningfully improving client health outcomes. A **social determinants tool** will help us standardize how we collect and document them.

At Health Care for the Homeless, we document social determinants, but which ones we capture, how we report them and how they inform our practice varies widely from clinician to clinician. For these social determinants to be effective and truly improve client care and outcomes, we must all be aligned. To do that, we will **standardize our collection and documentation** of the social determinants of health across all providers.

## HOW

This tool collects information on the following **CORE measures...**

Race	Education	Ethnicity	Employment
Migrant farm work	Insurance	Veteran status	Income
Language	Material security	Housing status	Transportation
Housing stability	Social support	Neighborhood	Stress

And **OPTIONAL measures...**

Incarceration	Safety	Refugee status	Domestic violence
---------------	--------	----------------	-------------------

PRAPARE will standardize what we ask, and how we ask and document it. It will give all clients access to the same services and resources, and help us quantify what we already know: that we must consider many external factors when addressing our clients’ health.

**NEXT...** In 2018, we will create assessments that delve deeper into the above social determinants to develop informed, client-centered treatment plans.