



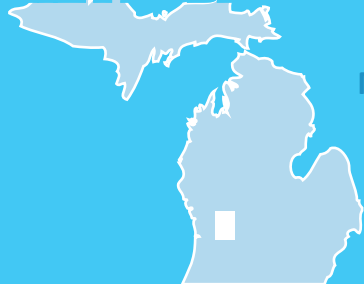
GRAND RAPIDS

African American Health Institute

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

# HEALTH INEQUALITIES *in Michigan and Kent County*

## THE PROBLEM



Health inequalities in Michigan and Kent County cost upwards of **\$100 million** every year.

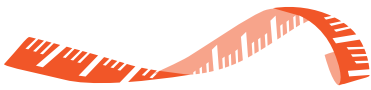
Medical costs

Lost workdays

Working while ill

*An economic impact analysis was conducted to determine the societal and monetary impact of health inequalities for Blacks in Michigan and Kent County.*

## KEY FINDINGS



Obesity accounts for more than **50%** of health inequality costs.



Of all cancers, lung cancer has the highest average yearly per person cost at **\$19,500.**



Of the 10 health conditions studied, the highest rate of inequality for Blacks in Kent County is HIV at **10X the rate of whites.**

## CALL TO ACTION

Three health behaviors are tied to almost all health conditions studied - sedentary lifestyle, poor nutrition, and smoking.



Addressing these three behaviors can help to reduce heart disease, stroke, cancer, obesity, and diabetes.

For every **\$1** spent on community-based programs that focus on improving physical activity, nutrition, and smoking prevention, **\$5.60** is returned to the community.

