



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Animal Care Expo Online

**Why access to animal care resources
is a social justice issue**

Amanda Arrington, Senior Director Pets for Life, The Humane Society of the United States

Lori Hensley, Director of Operations, Beyond Fences

Gabrielle Chapman, Pets for Life Senior Analyst, Social Justice, The Humane Society of the United States



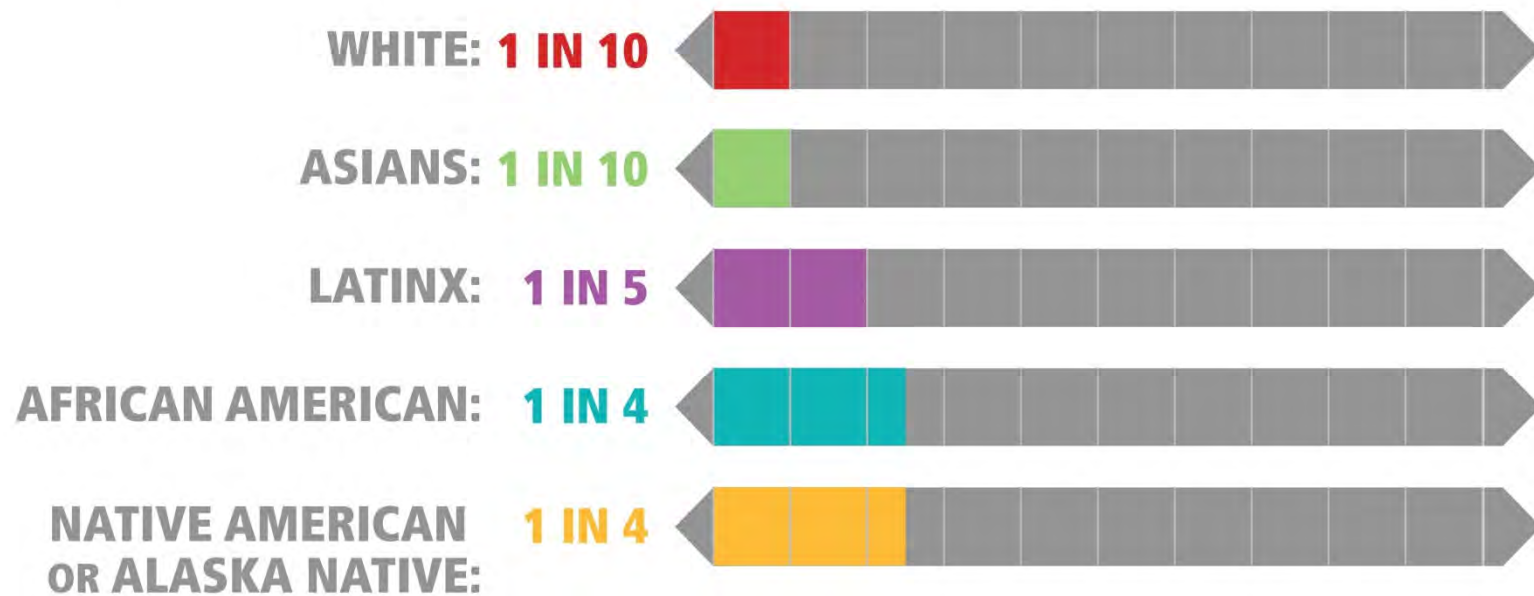
- Improve our learning and understanding of history and what is still happening today
- How past and present are interconnected
- What role do we each have to play in addressing how things came to be and how things can be different moving forward
- How do we speak out on and do our part to address racial and economic injustice



**Animal welfare
is connected to
larger systemic
challenges for
people and
their pets**

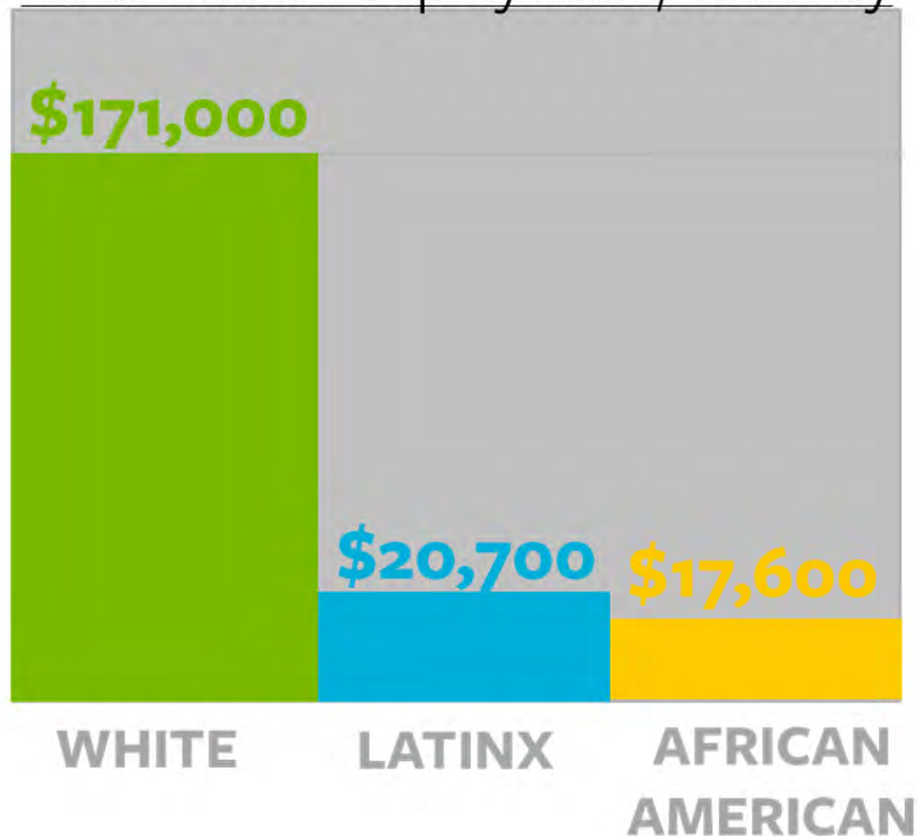


UNITED STATES RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (BY RACE/ETHNICITY)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

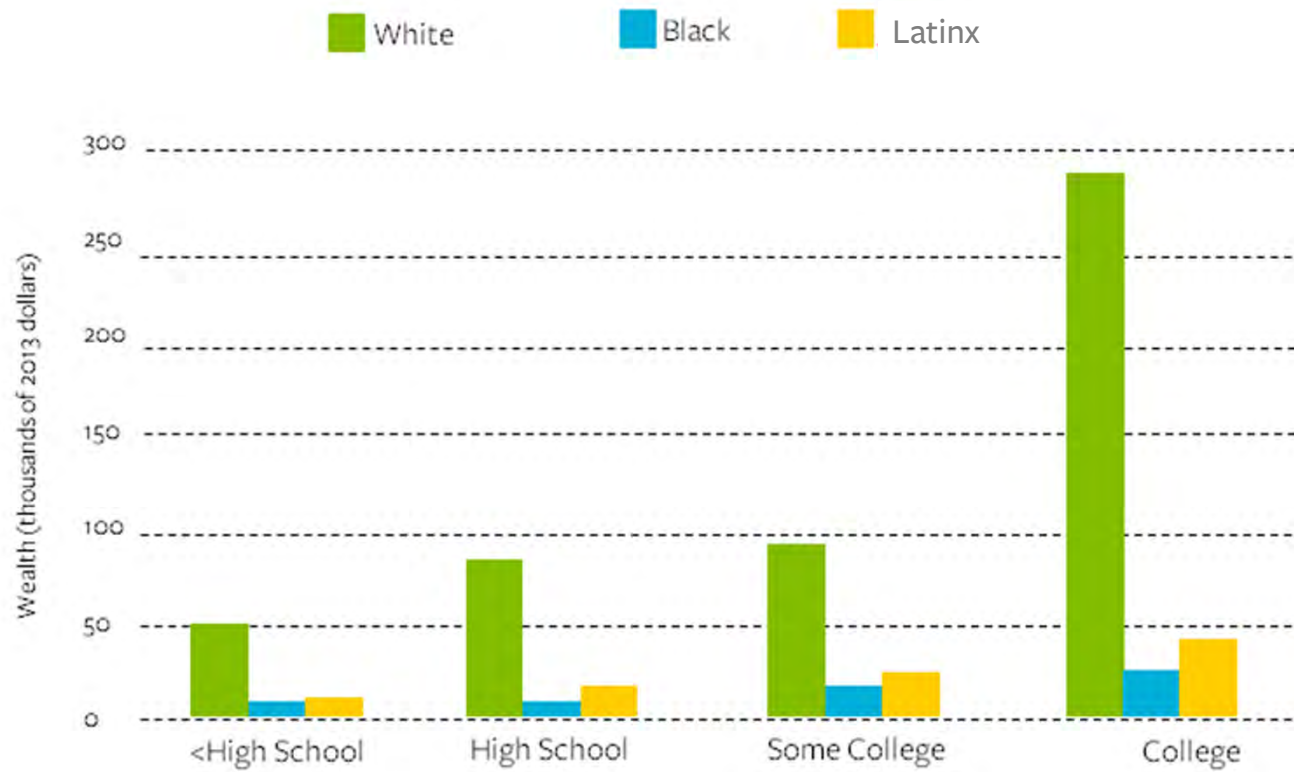
2016 Wealth Gap by Race/Ethnicity



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

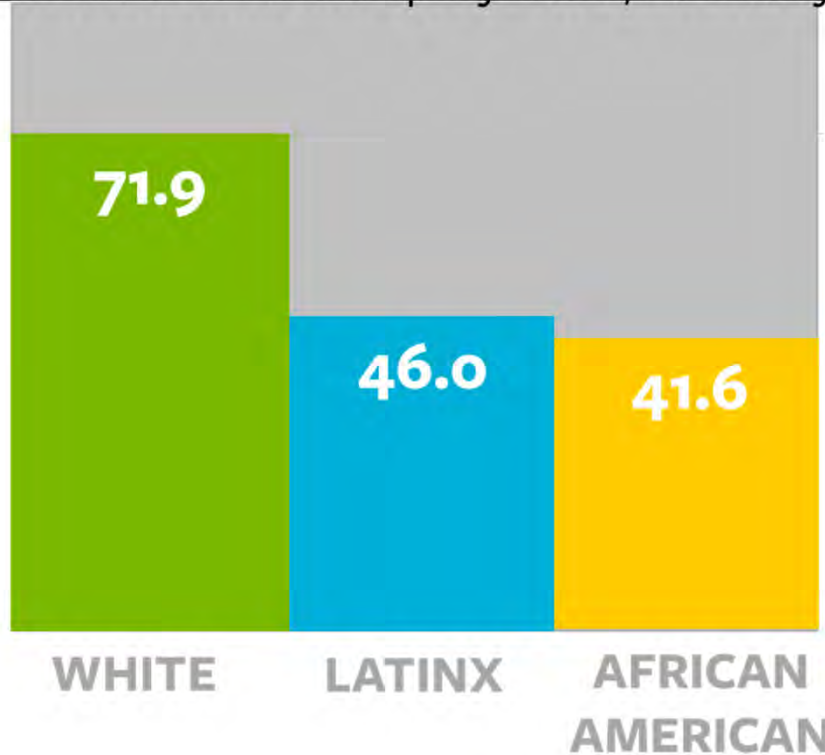
- Economists estimate that 80% of lifetime wealth accumulation depends on where you start and intergenerational transfers.
- Advantage is passed down generation to generation.
- Over the last 30 years White wealth has grown at 1.2 times the rate of Latinx wealth and 3 times the rate of Black wealth

Median Wealth by Race & Education (2013)



Source: Federal Reserve

% Home Ownership by Race/Ethnicity



“Residential segregation is the glue that holds the whole system of racial oppression together.” – Douglas Massey

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

- Redlining - segregated neighborhoods today with high concentrations of poverty are by design, not by accident
- With the New Deal, people of color were excluded from receiving mortgages while white people received them and prospered
 - Over \$120 billion in home loans, 98% whites (equivalent to \$2.2trillion today)
- African American and Latinx mortgage applicants are still 60% more likely than whites to be turned down today, even after controlling for employment and finances

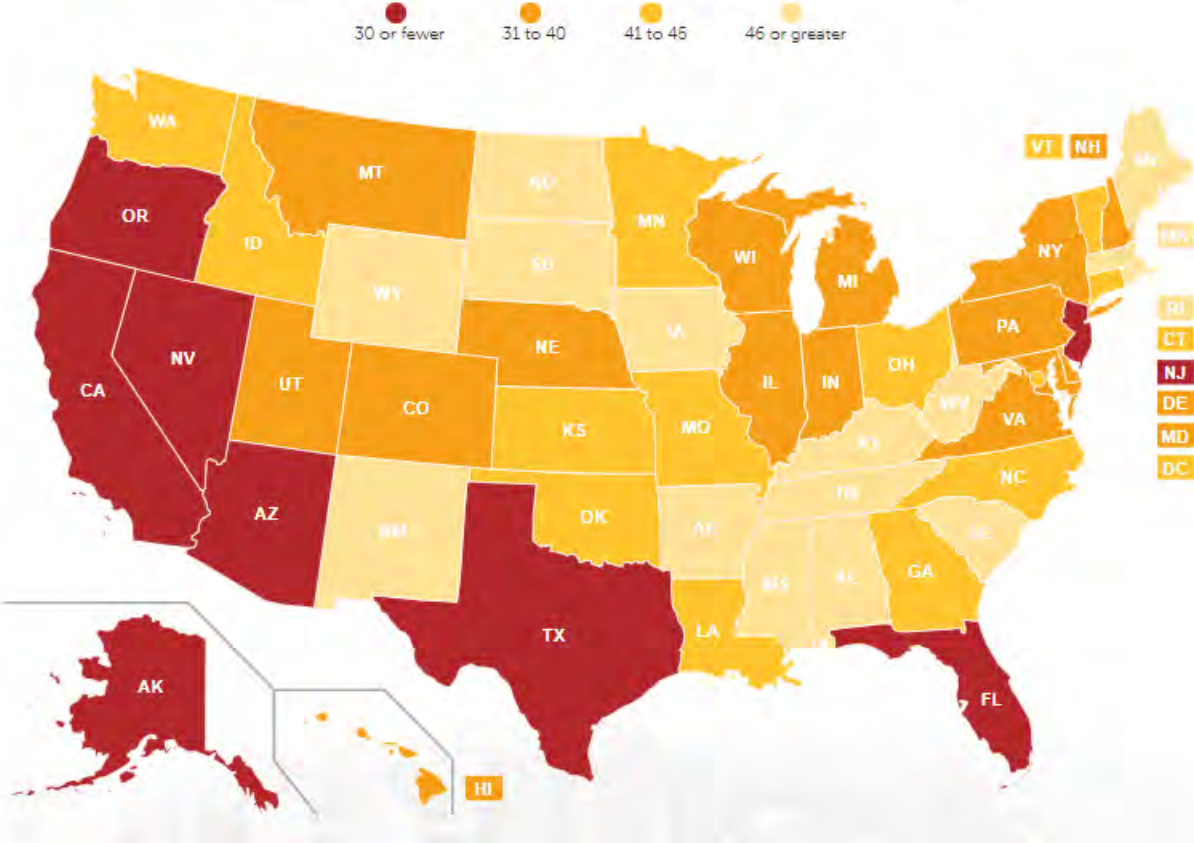


Lasting Impact of Redlining

- 75% of redlined areas are still the most economically distressed today
- 66% of redlined areas have mostly minority residents today
- 91% of areas marked as ‘best’ are middle to upper class today
- 85% of areas marked as ‘best’ are still predominantly White today

No State Has an Adequate Supply of Affordable Rental Housing for the Lowest Income Renters

Affordable and Available Rental Homes per 100 Extremely Low Income Renter Households



Source: The National Low Income Housing Coalition

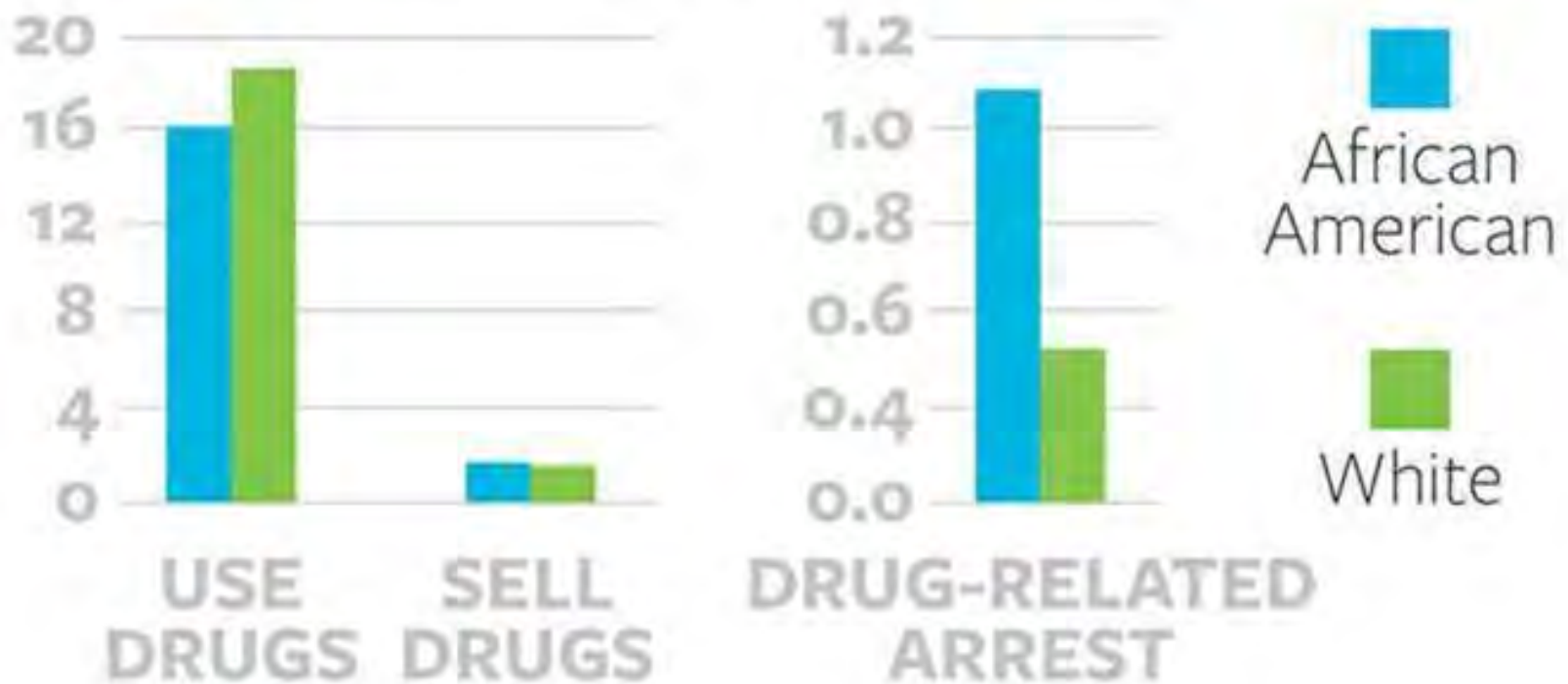


% U.S. Students in High-Poverty Public Schools



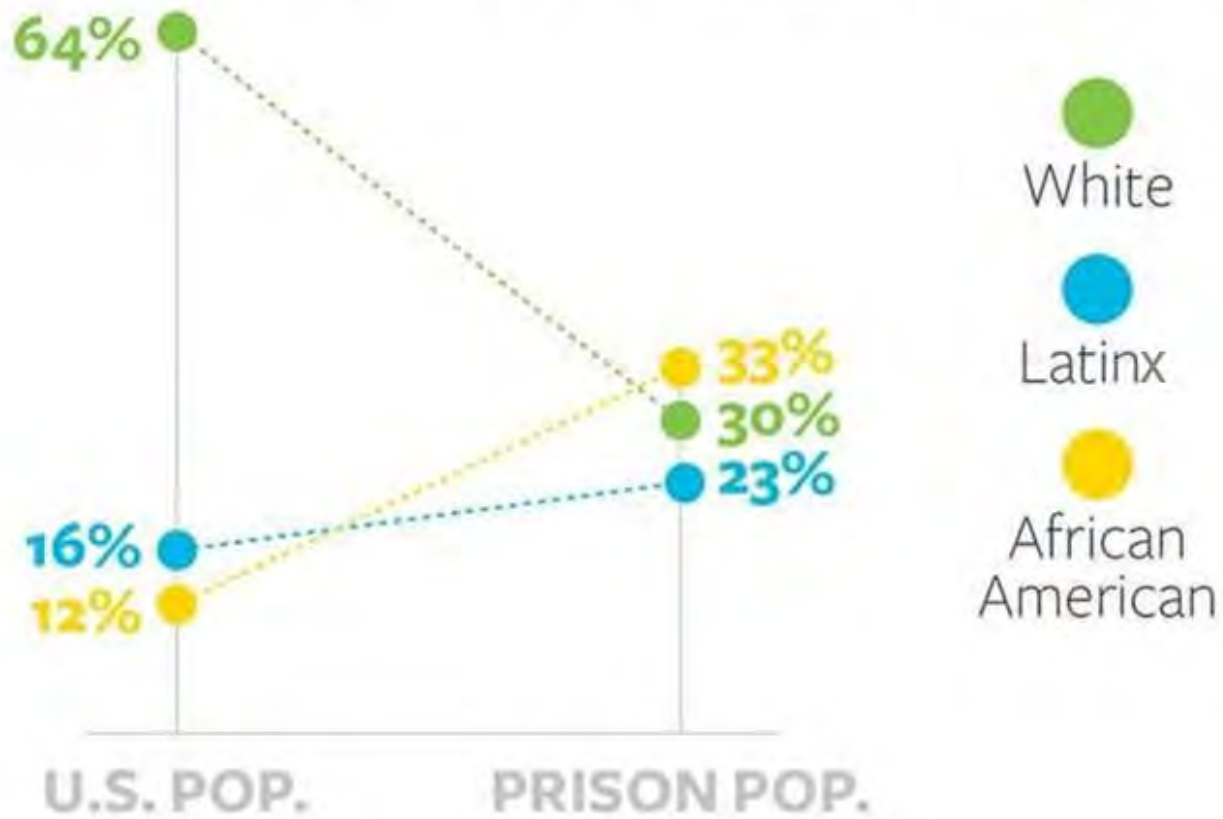
Source: U.S. Department of Education

% of Population: Drug Use, Sales and Arrests

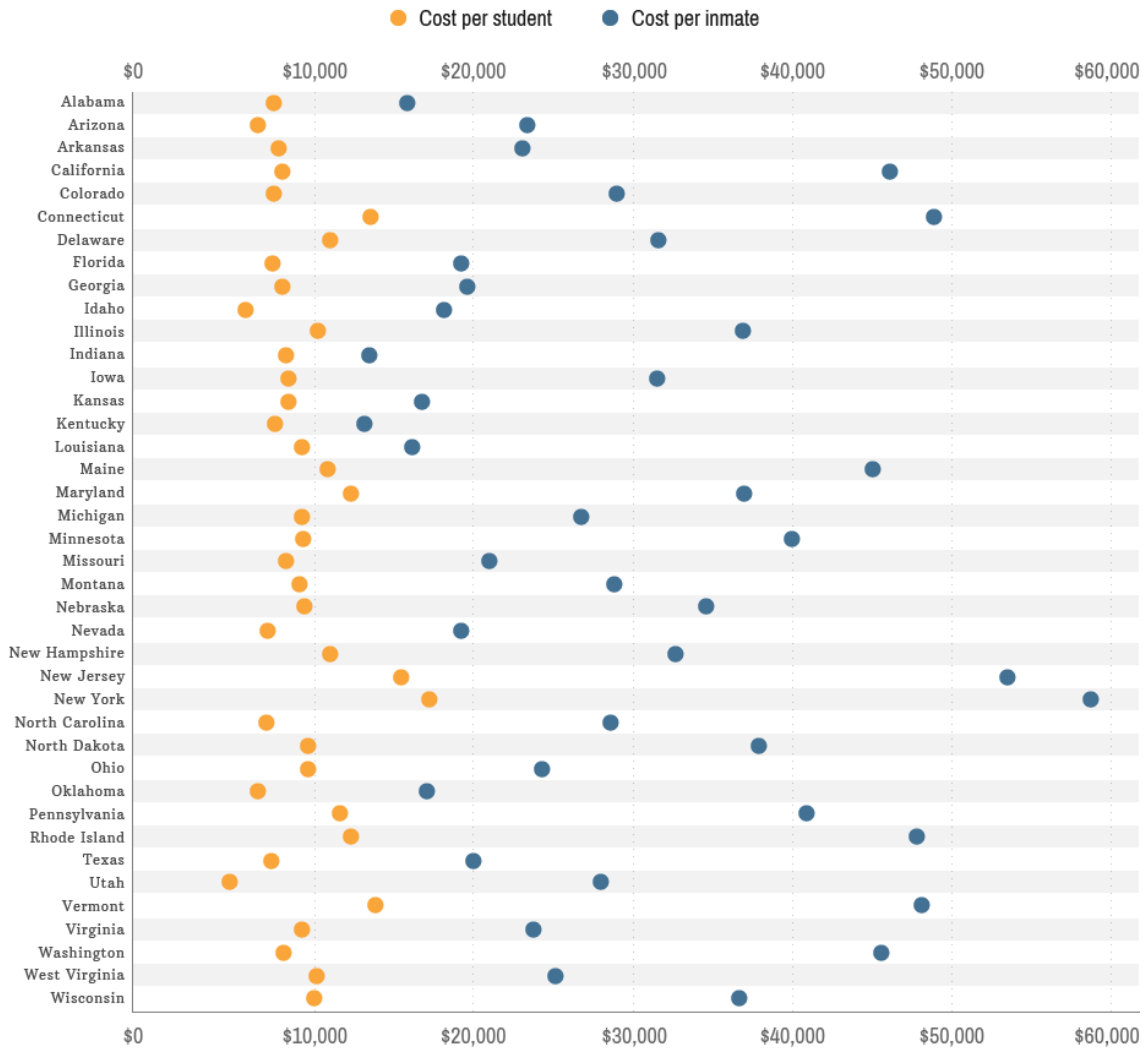


Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

2016 U.S. Adult Population vs. Prison Population



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

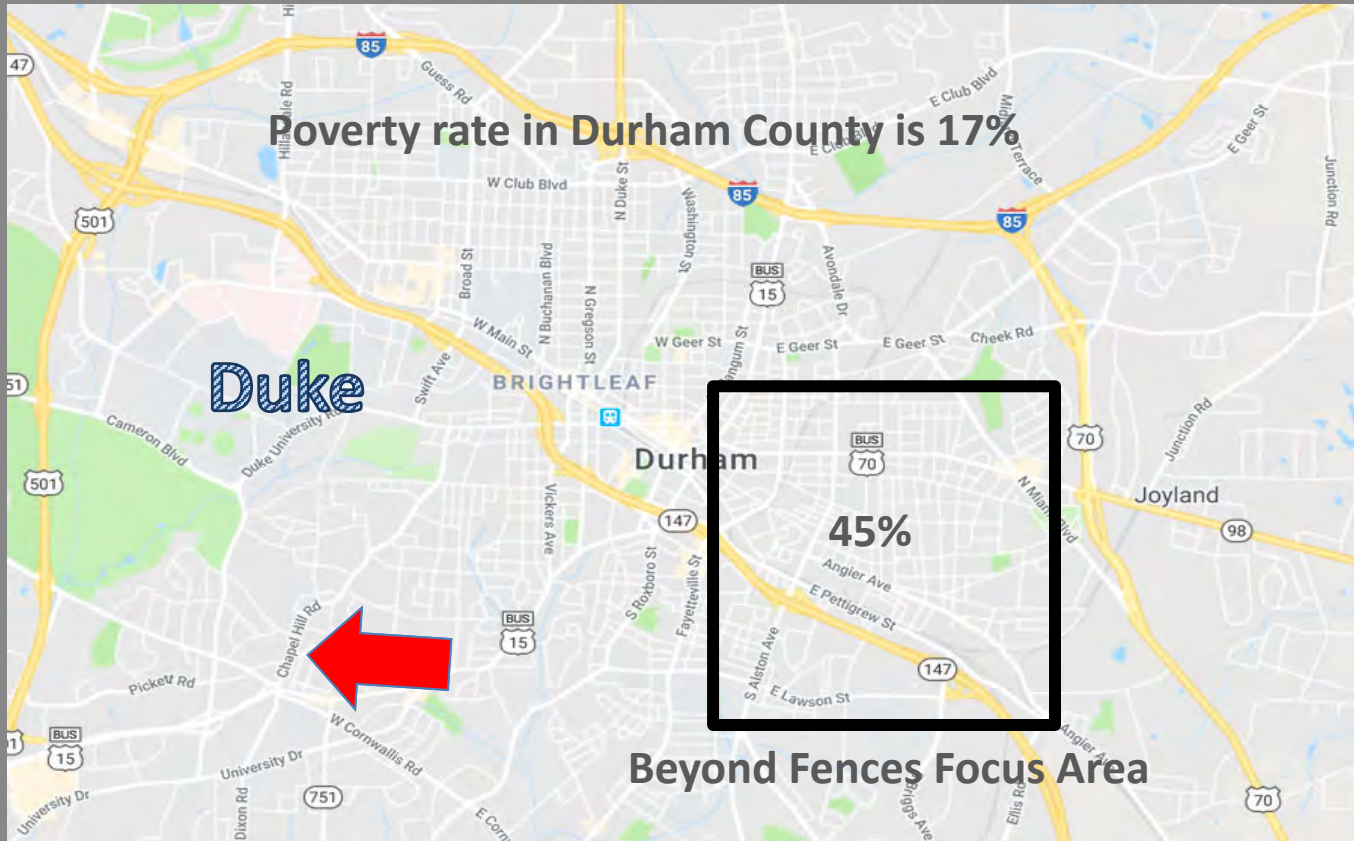


Source: Prison Policy Initiative

- We deliver free services, supplies, information and support to people and their pets.
- We work within the animal welfare field to bring attention to how poverty and structural inequity create obstacles to accessing affordable veterinary and pet wellness services.
- We participate in and bring our experience to efforts addressing larger systemic issues on institutional discrimination and injustice.



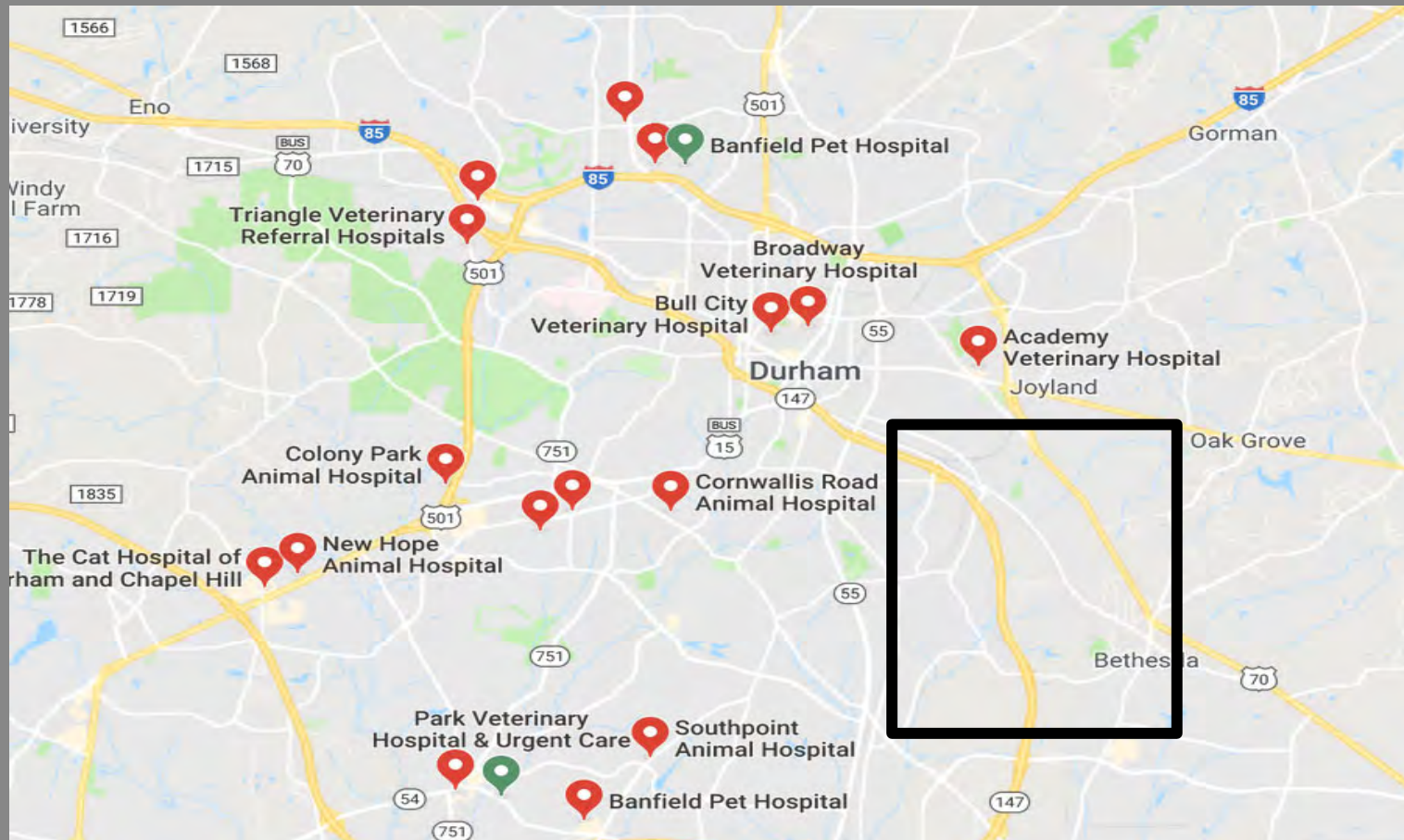
Durham, North Carolina



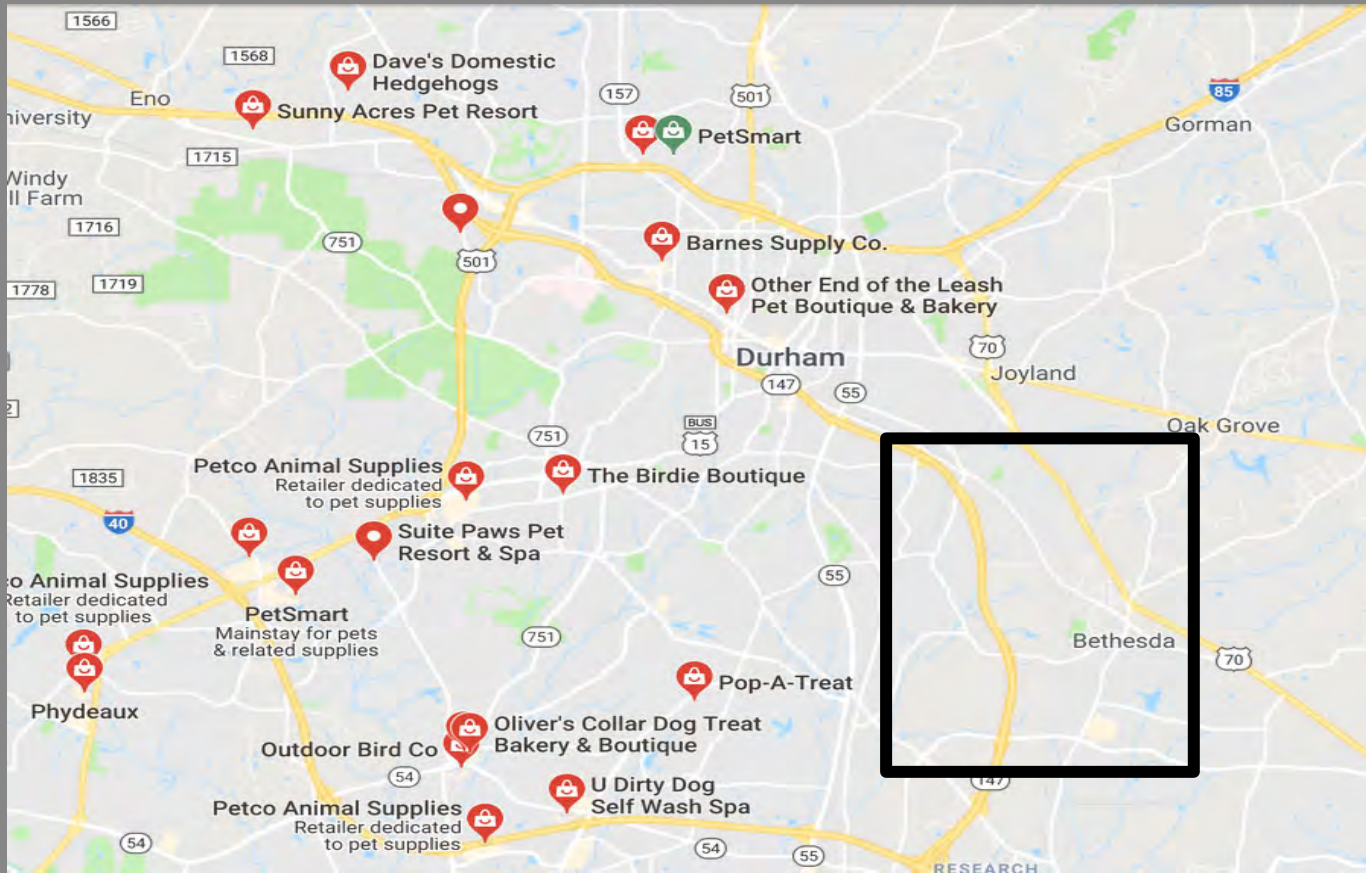




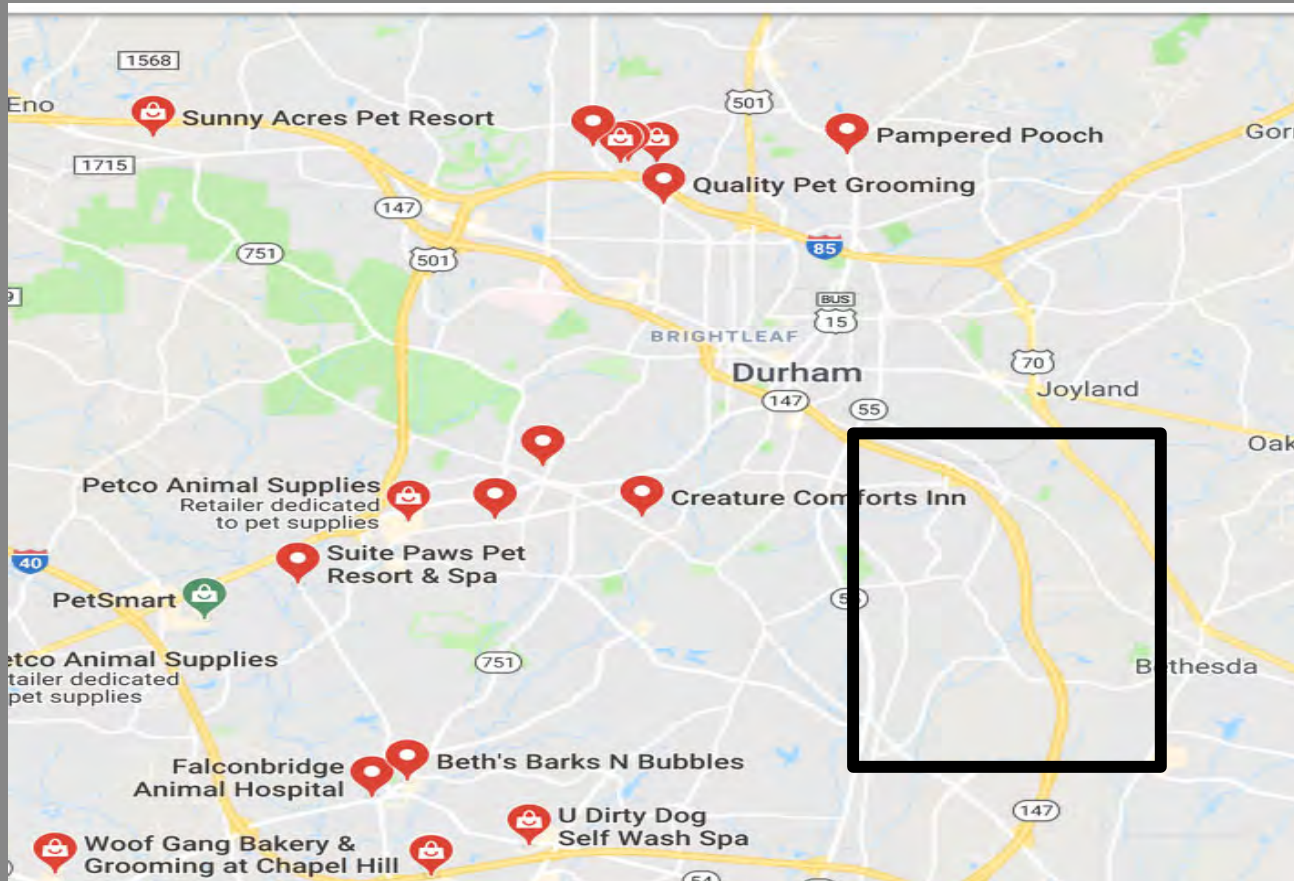
Resource Desert - Veterinarians



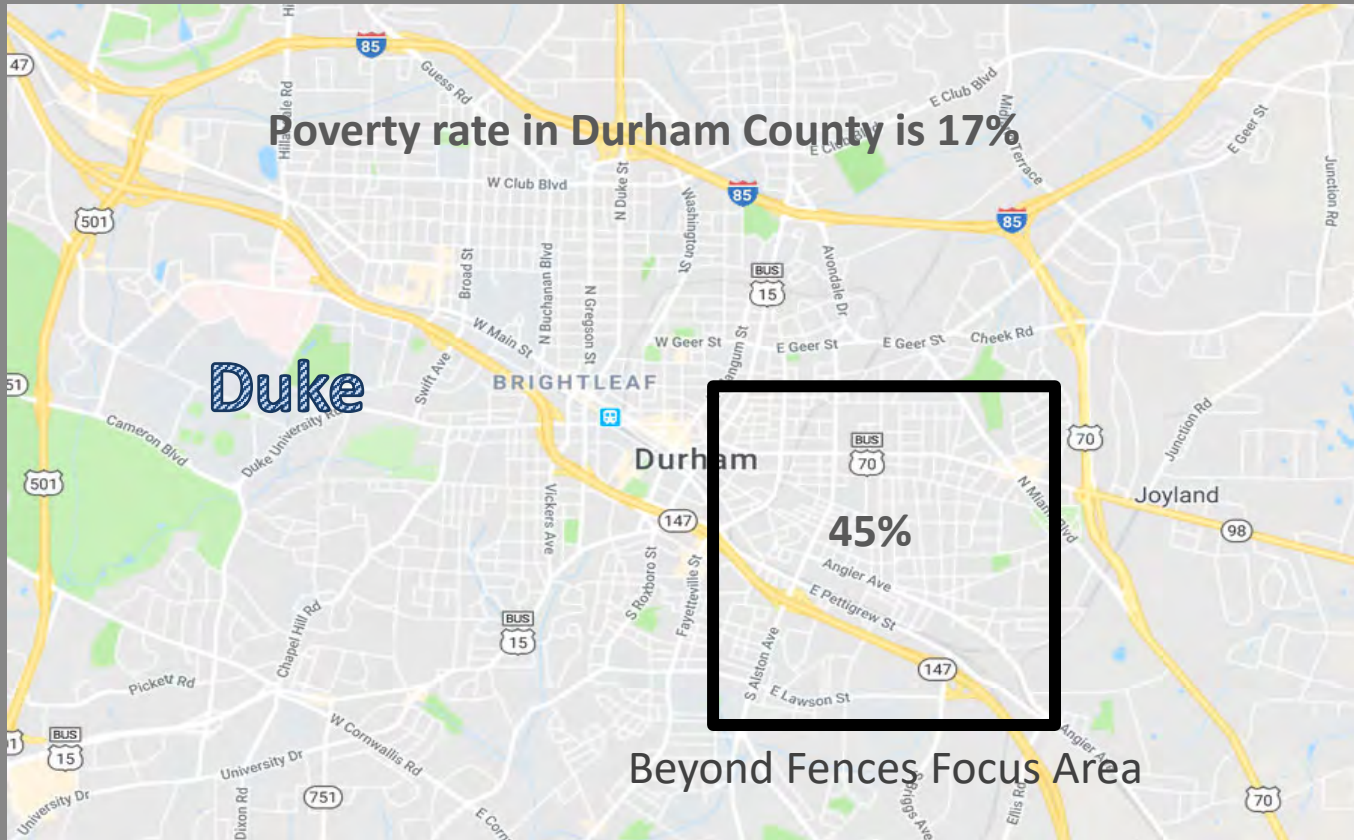
Resource Desert – Pet Supply Stores

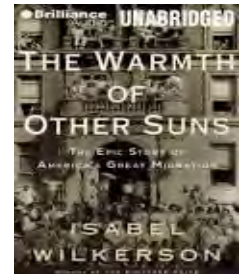
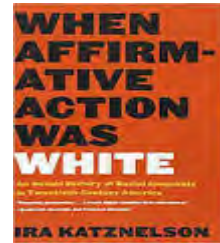
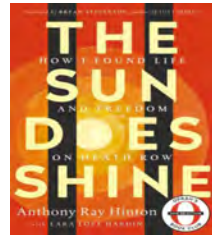
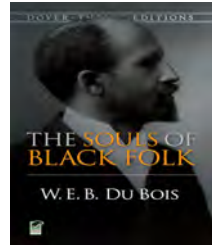
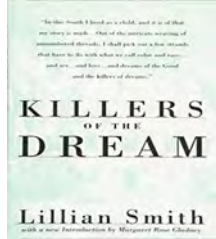
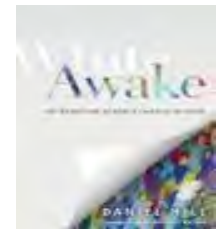
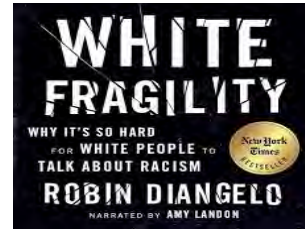
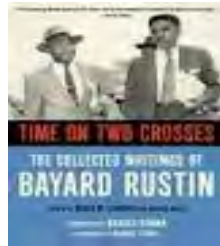
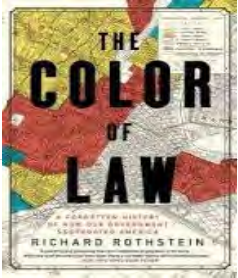
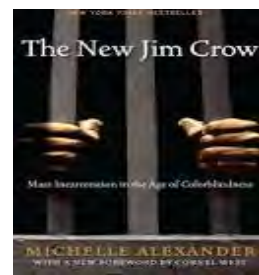
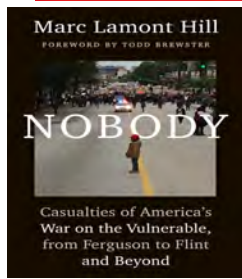
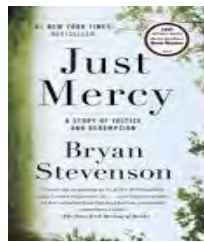
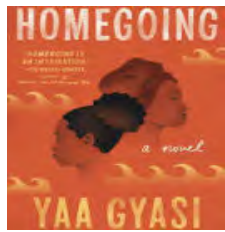
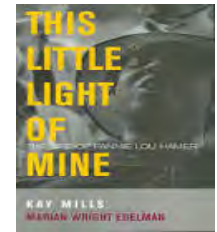
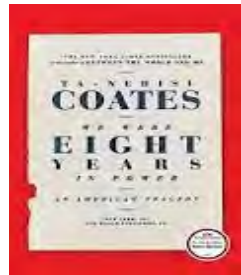
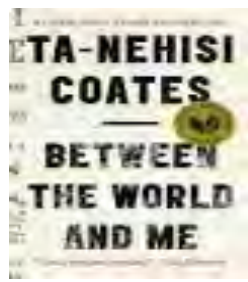
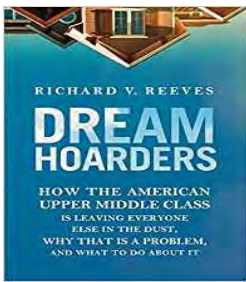
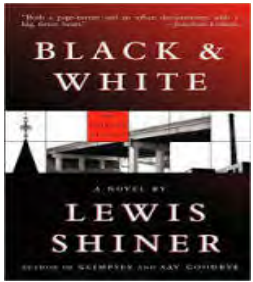


Resource Desert – Groomers

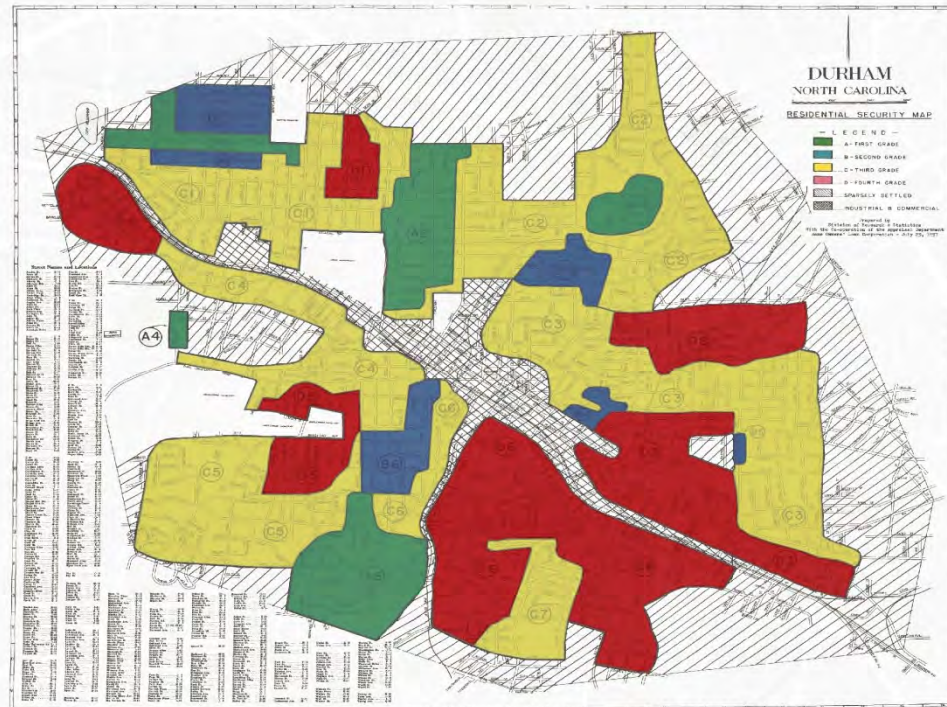


Durham, North Carolina





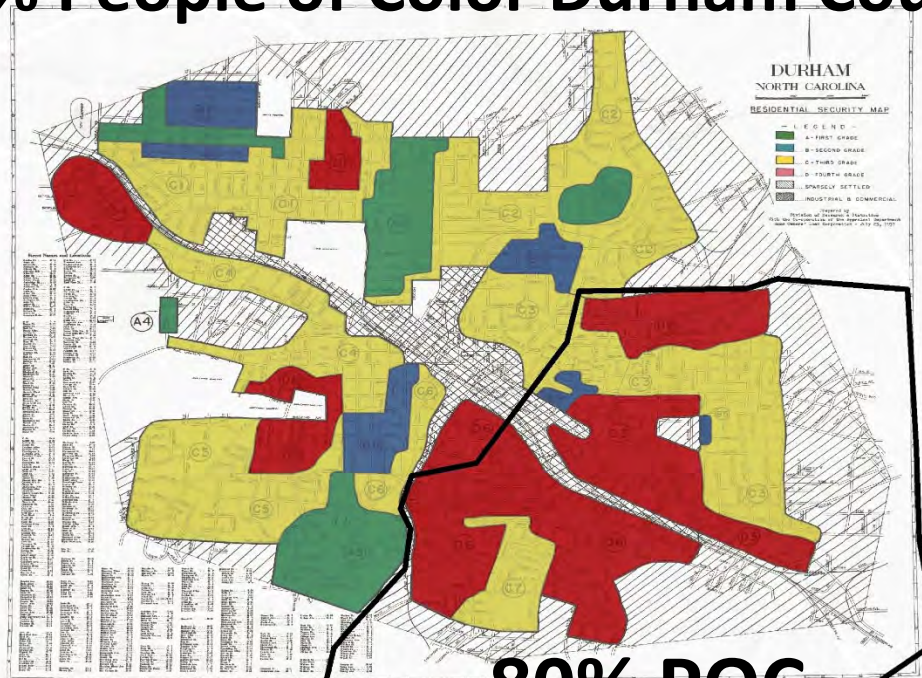
Durham's Red Lined Neighborhoods - 1937



- Best
- Still Desirable
- Definitely Declining
- Hazardous

Beyond Fences Focus Area - 2019

50% People of Color Durham County

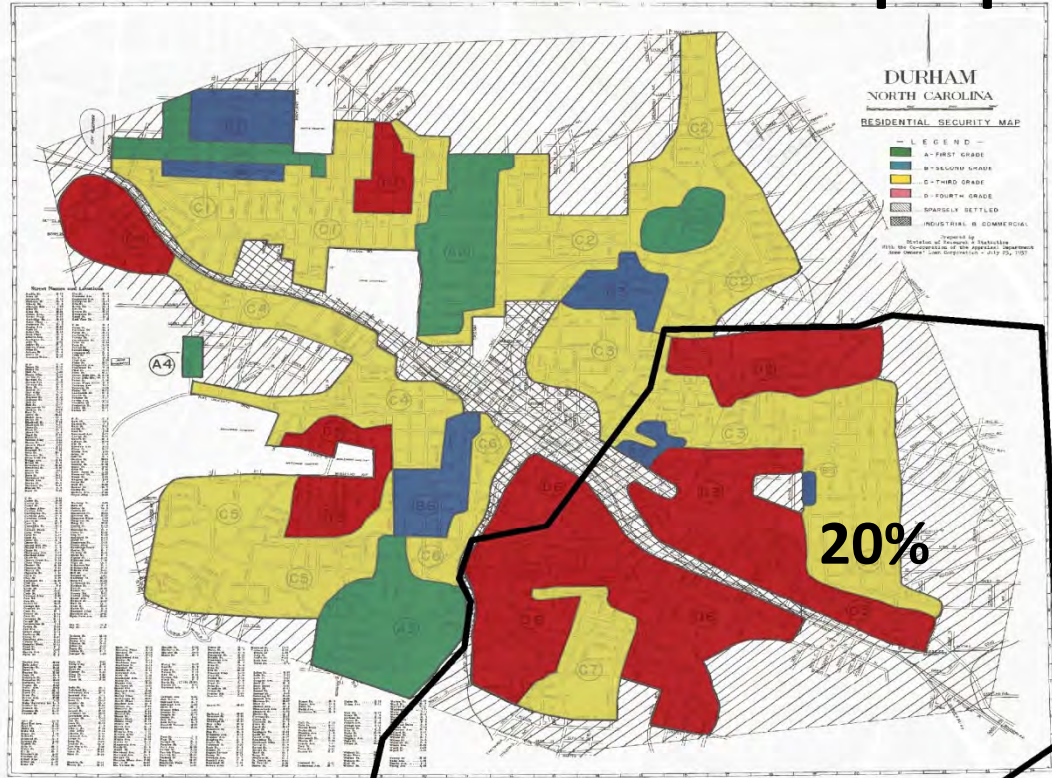


- Best
- Still Desirable
- Definitely Declining
- Hazardous

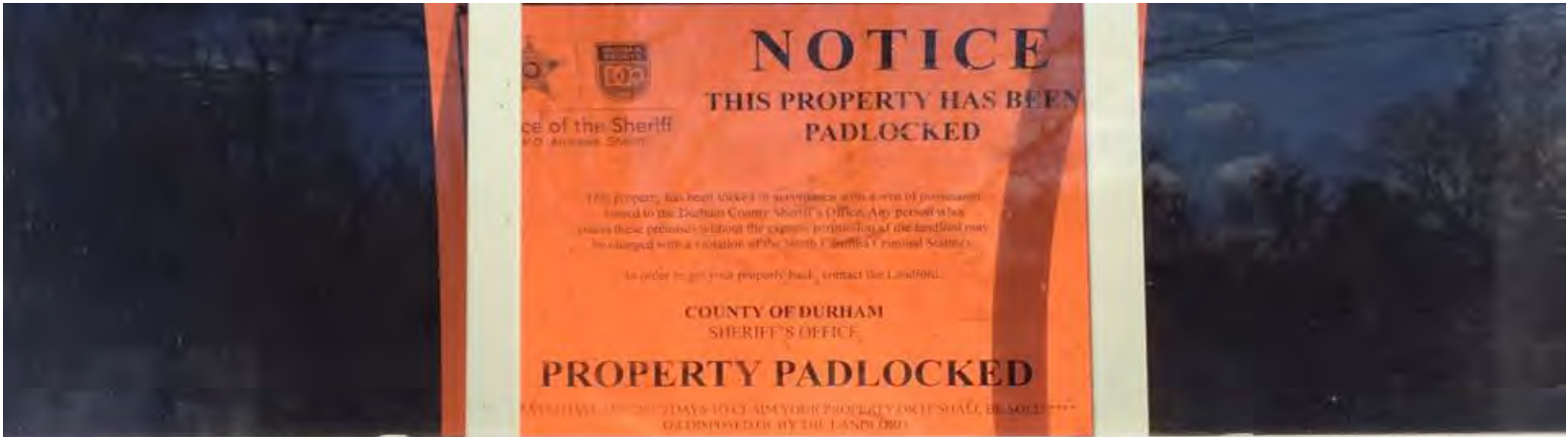


Beyond Fences Focus Area - 2019

60% of Durham residents own property



Best
Still Desirable







You can't understand most of the important things from a distance. You have to get close. To be change agents we need to "get proximate" — that is, get closer to the issues we are trying to address.

"The opposite of poverty is not wealth. The opposite of poverty is justice."

--Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*



Beyond
Fences

People • Pets • Community

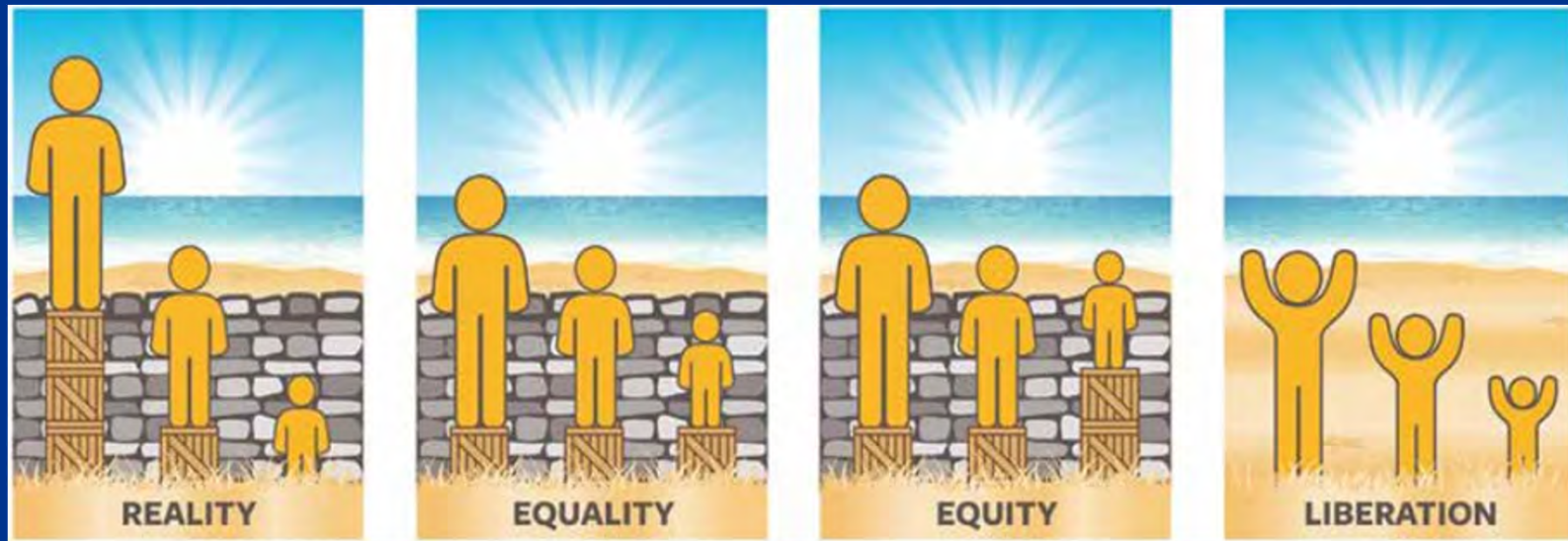


Racial and Economic Equity in Animal Welfare

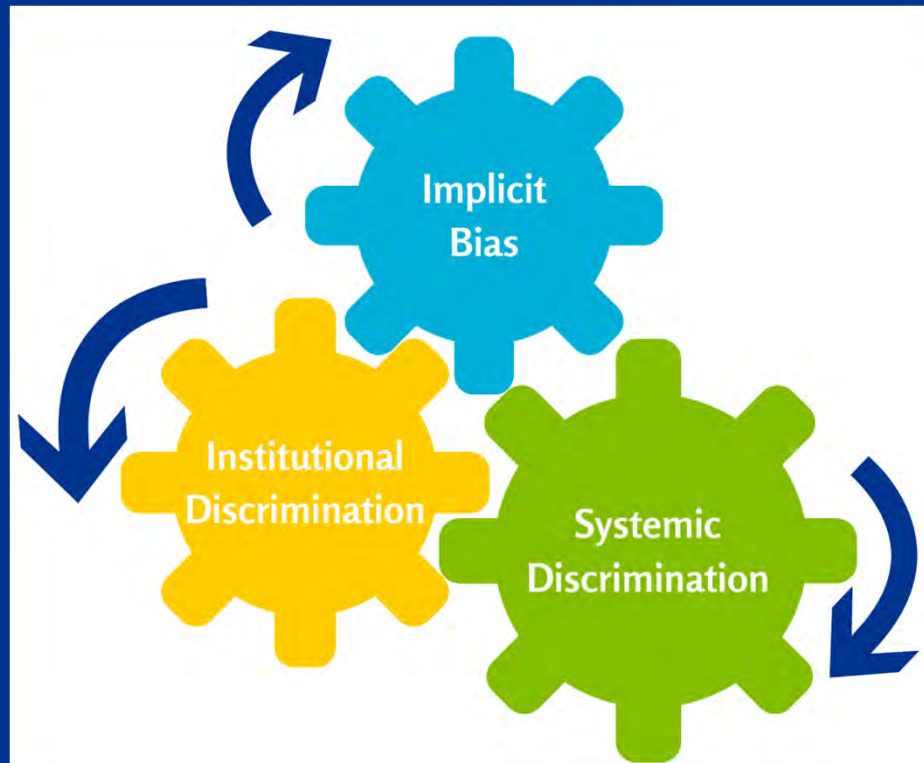


**If you want
something in your life
you've never had,
you'll have to do
something you've
never done. -JD
Houston**

Equity: A fair and just distribution of resources and opportunities



Implicit Bias: Attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner



How We Address Bias (Internally)

- Acknowledge your own biases
- Interact with other people
- Look for examples that break stereotypes
- Pay attention to messaging

How We Address Bias (Externally)

- Call Out Messaging
- Call Out People Reinforcing Stereotypes
- Amplify Stories that Break Stereotypes
- Be Aware of Choice Points



Considerations

- Are we criminalizing poverty
- Are we maintaining and perpetuating systems of discrimination and oppression
- Is animal welfare at odds with other social justice movements
- How can we increase DEI in our organizations and in the field



What You Can Do

- Extend compassion and understanding to people
- Become informed on issues of racial inequity
- Identify and remove barriers to services and engagement
- Connect with other movements that are creating equity and access
- Commit to the hard and long-term work



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Animal Care Expo Online

Amanda Arrington aarrington@humanesociety.org

Lori Hensley lori@beyondfences.org

Gabrielle Chapman gchapman@humanesociety.org