



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

# **Animal Care Expo Online**

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

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- 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

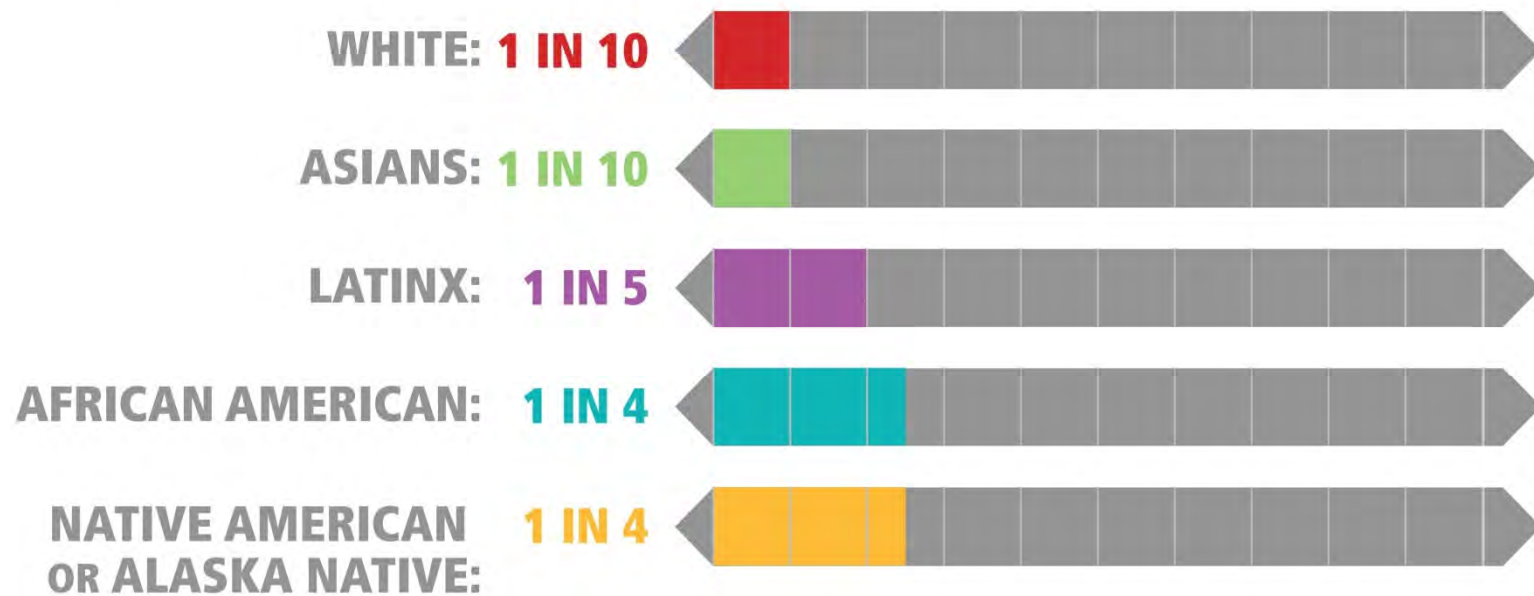


**Animal welfare  
is connected to  
larger systemic  
challenges for  
people and  
their pets**



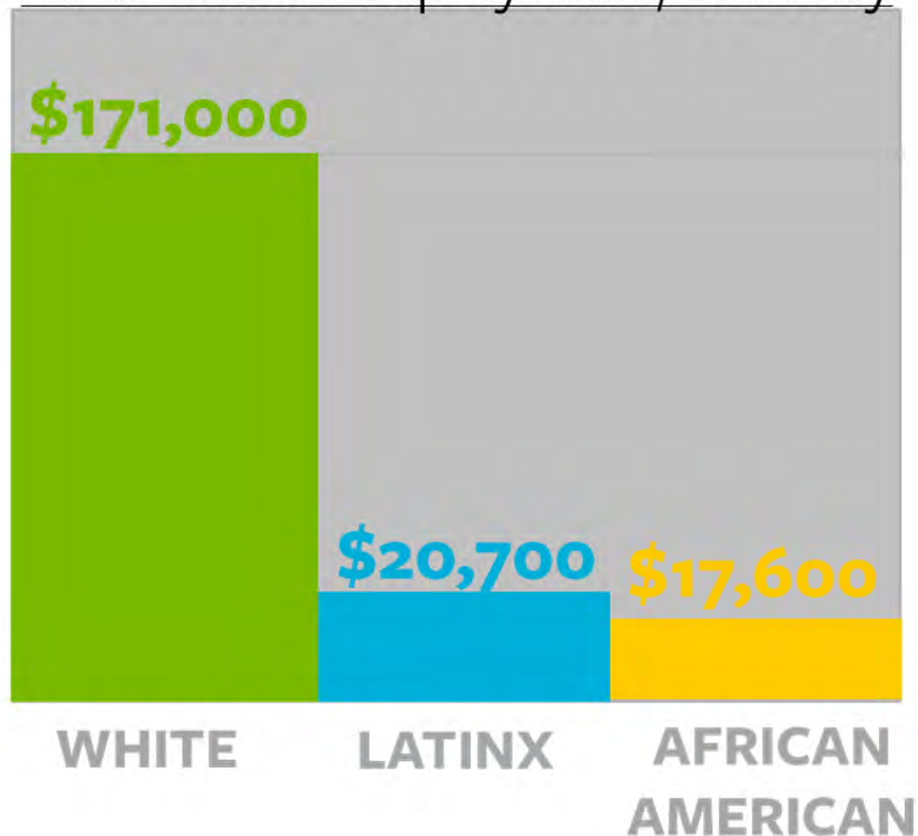


# UNITED STATES RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY (BY RACE/ETHNICITY)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## 2016 Wealth Gap by Race/Ethnicity

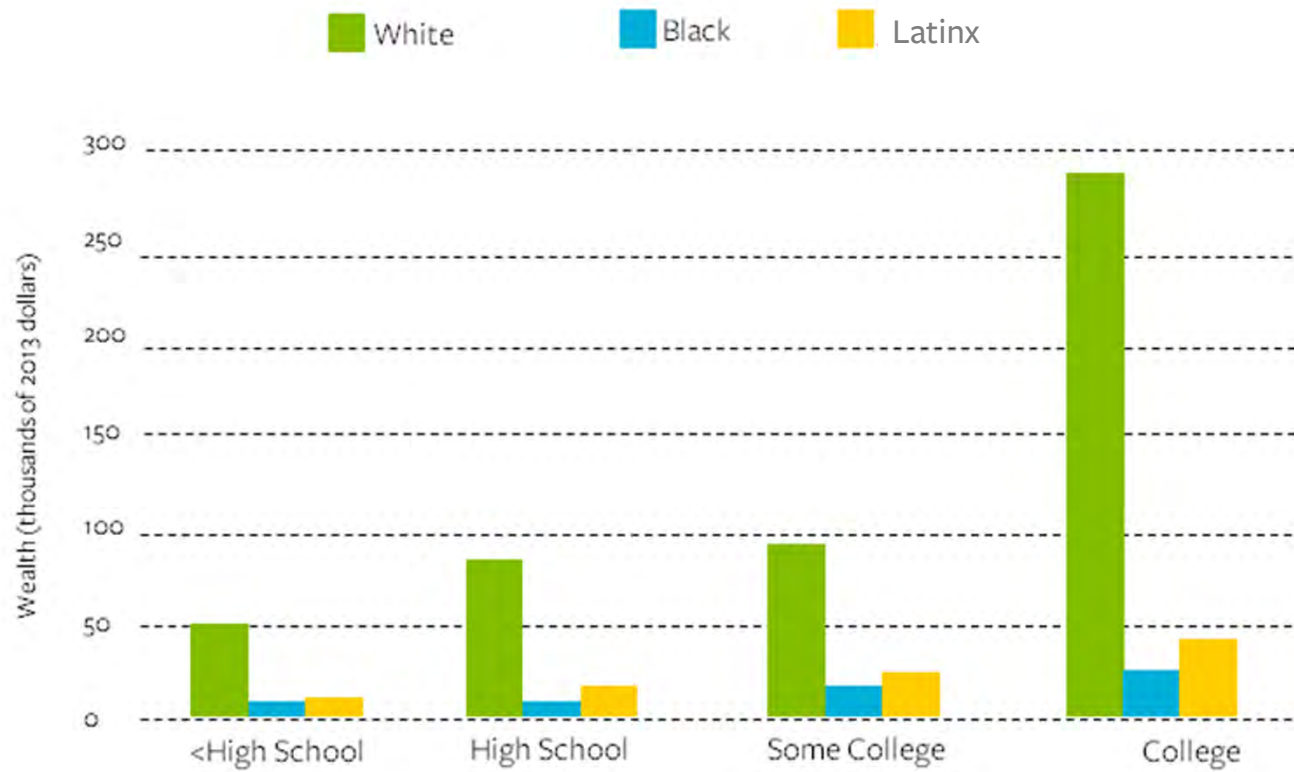


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

- 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

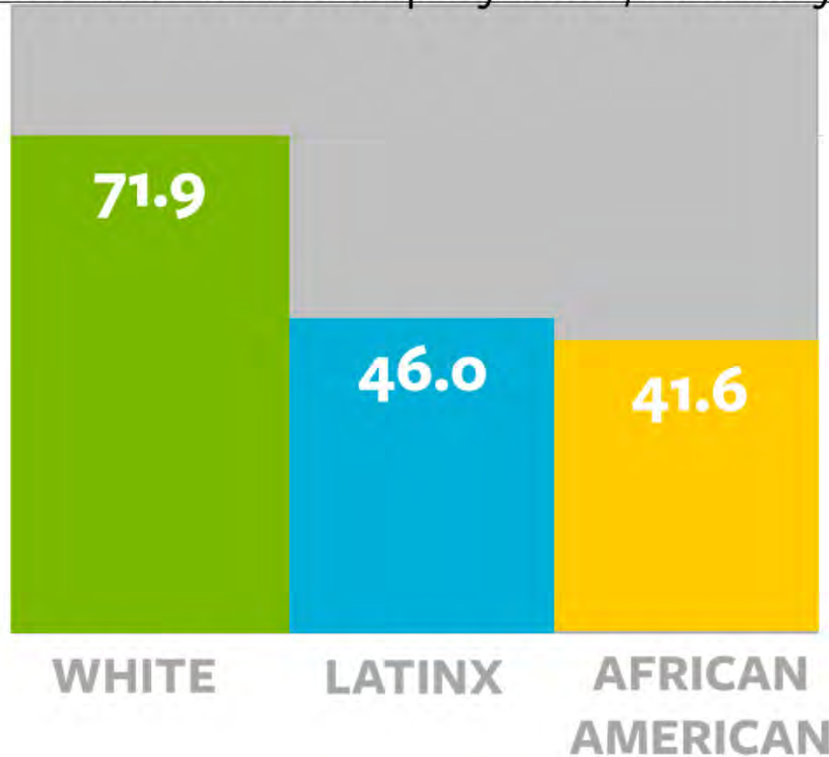


## Median Wealth by Race & Education (2013)



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



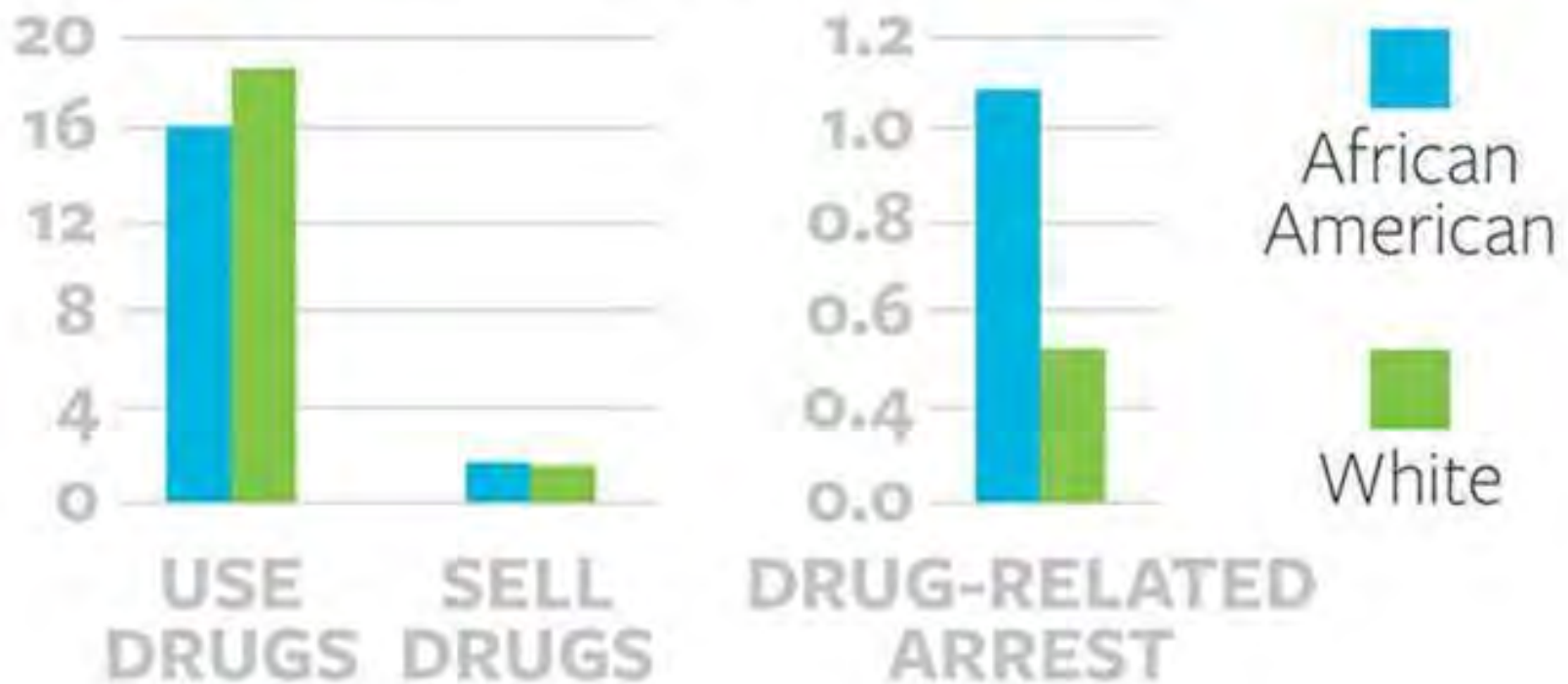
## % U.S. Students in High-Poverty Public Schools



Source: U.S. Department of Education

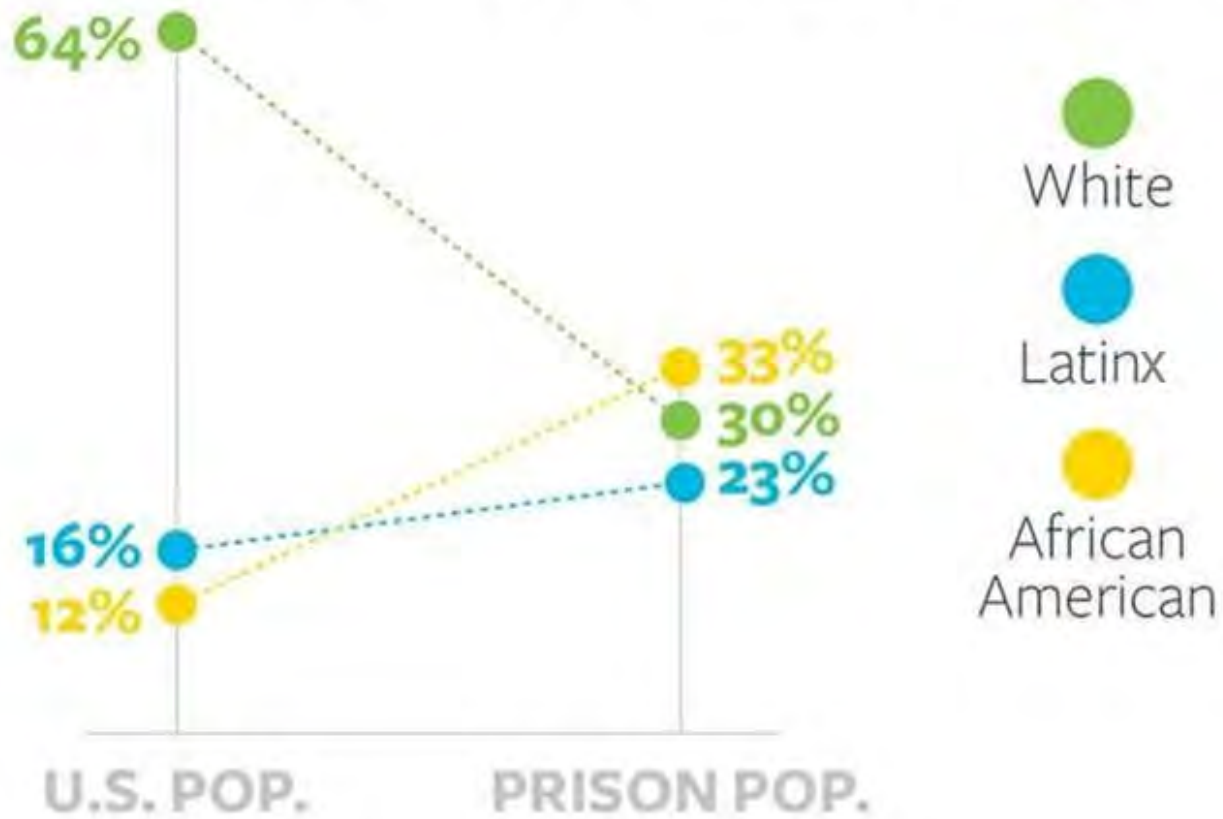


## % of Population: Drug Use, Sales and Arrests

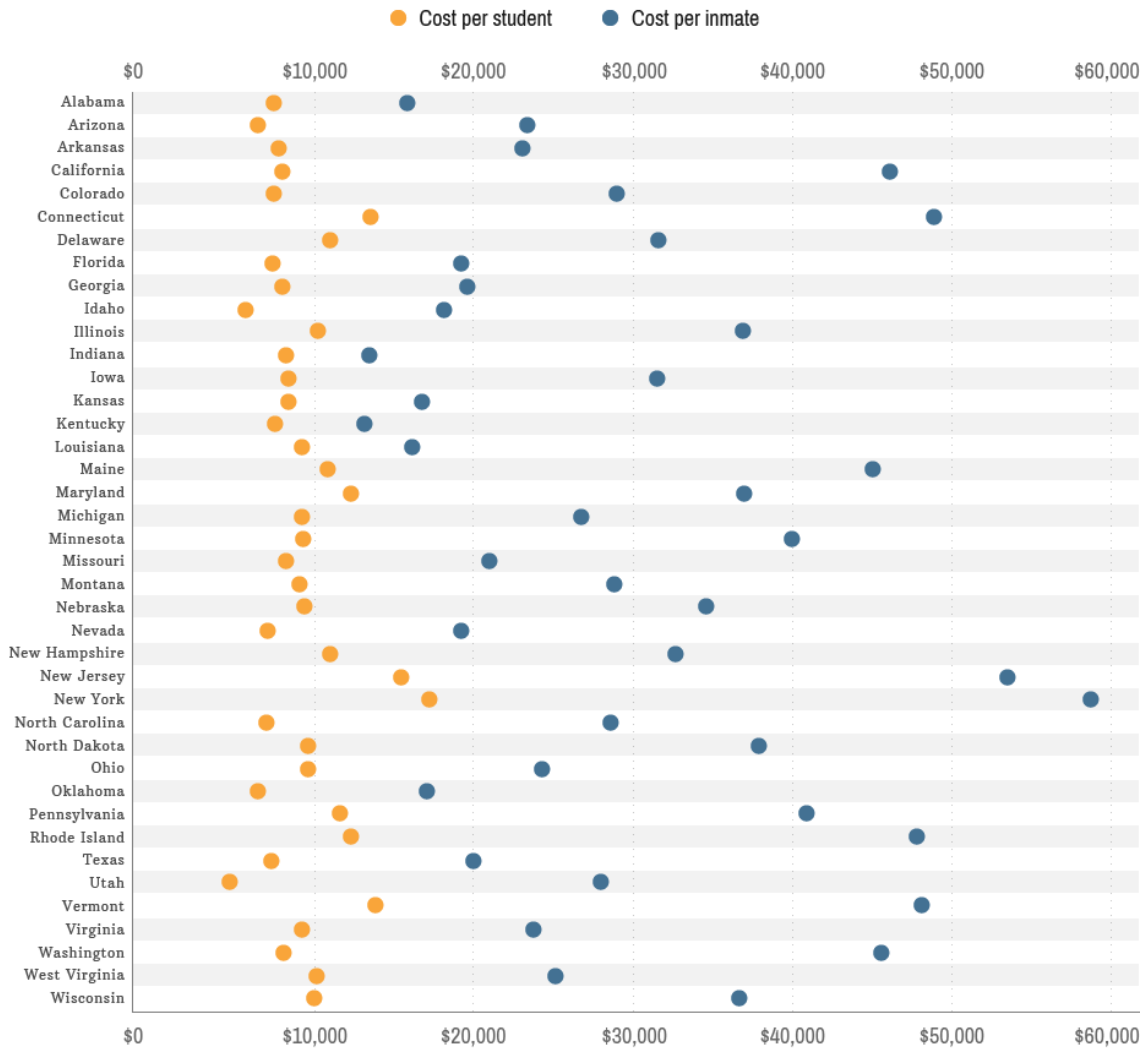


Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

## 2016 U.S. Adult Population vs. Prison Population



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics



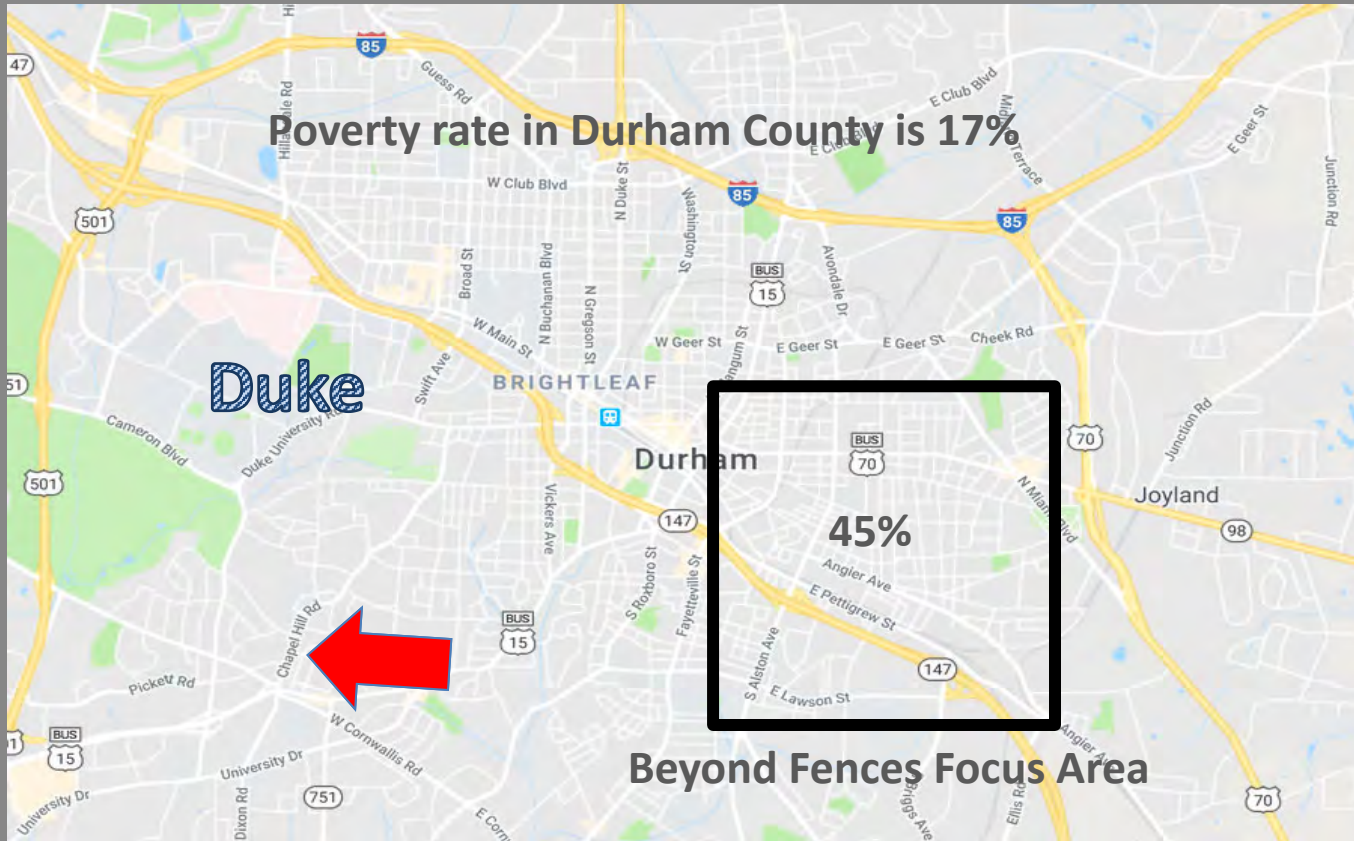
Source: Prison Policy Initiative



- 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

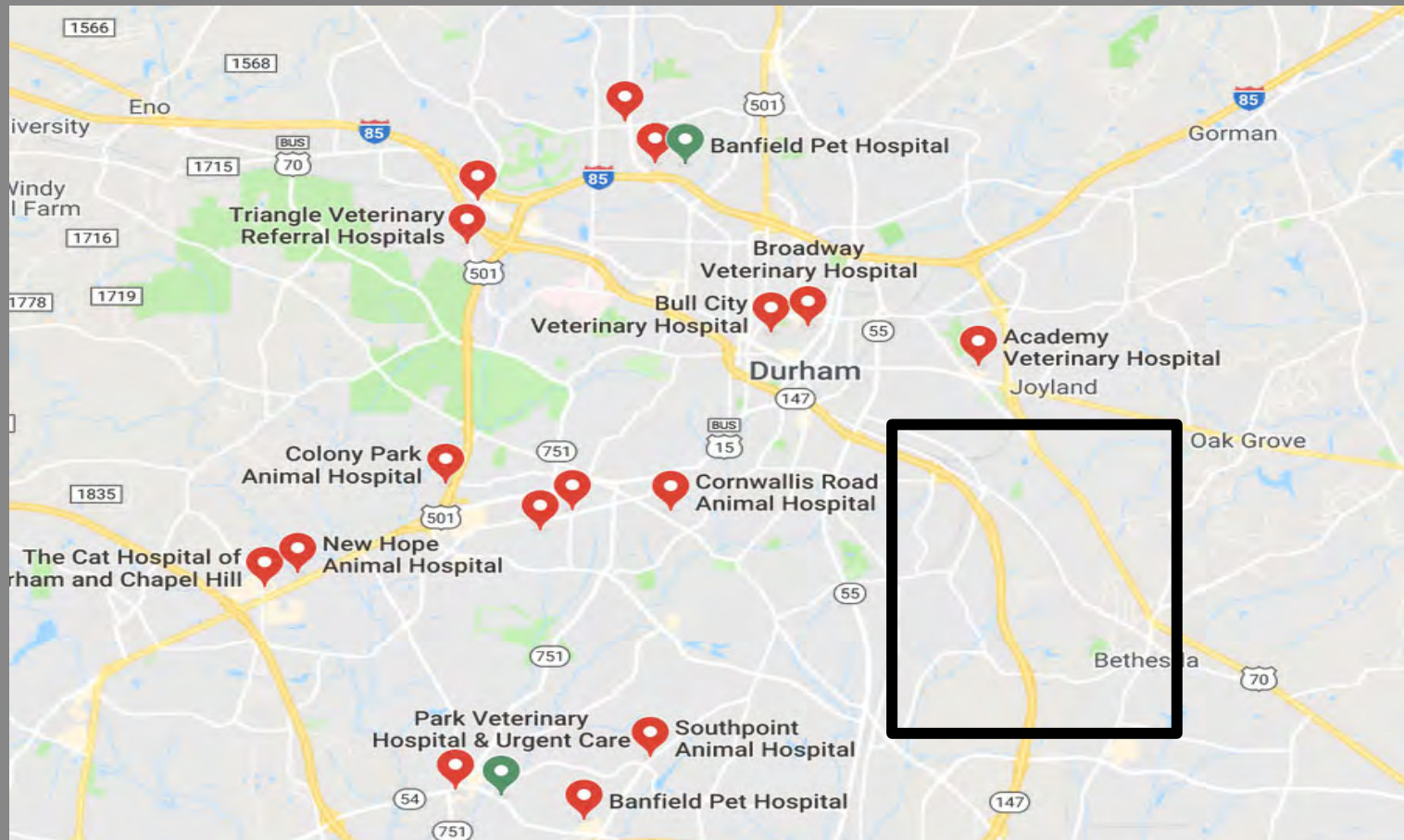




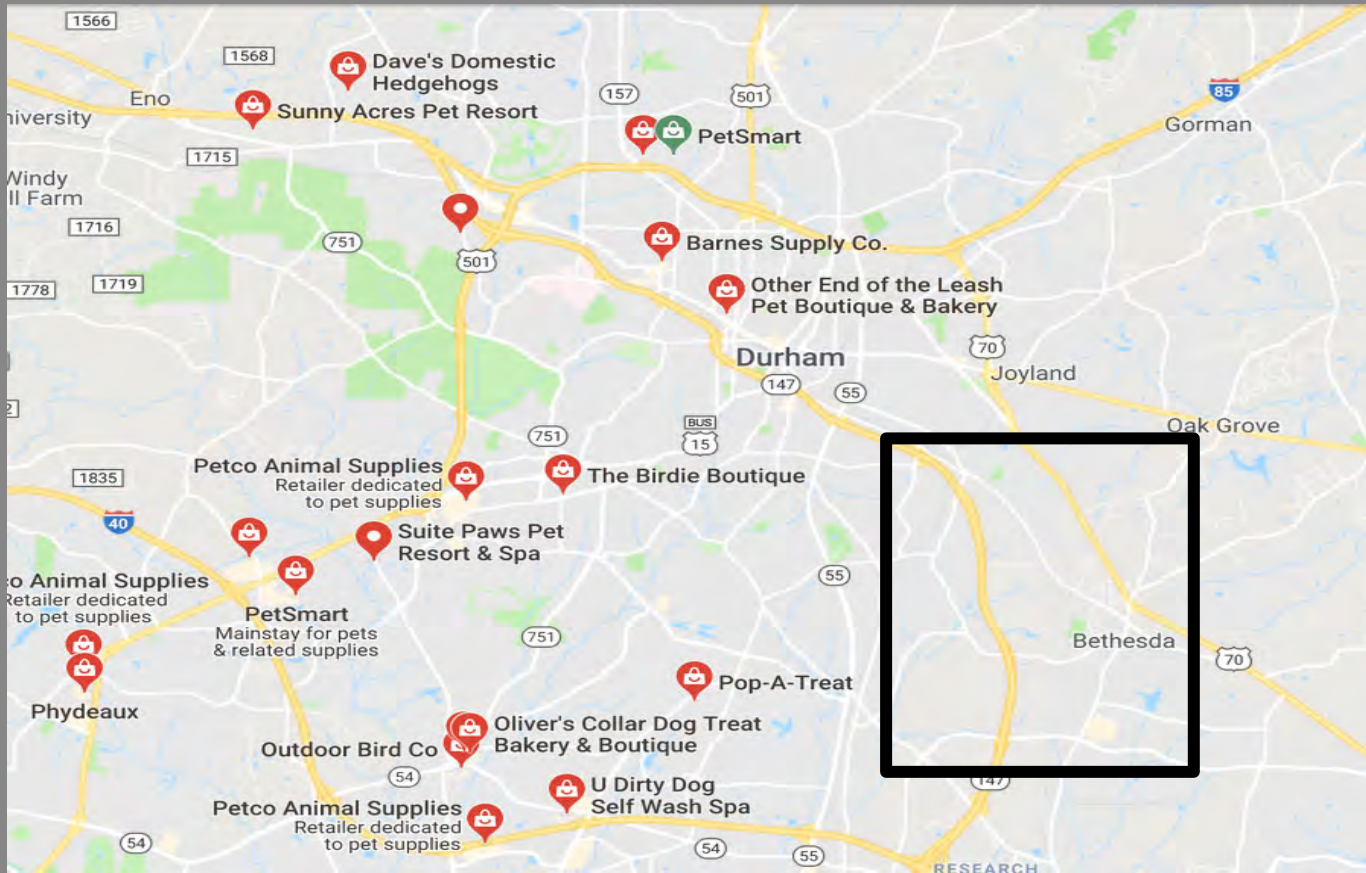




# Resource Desert - Veterinarians

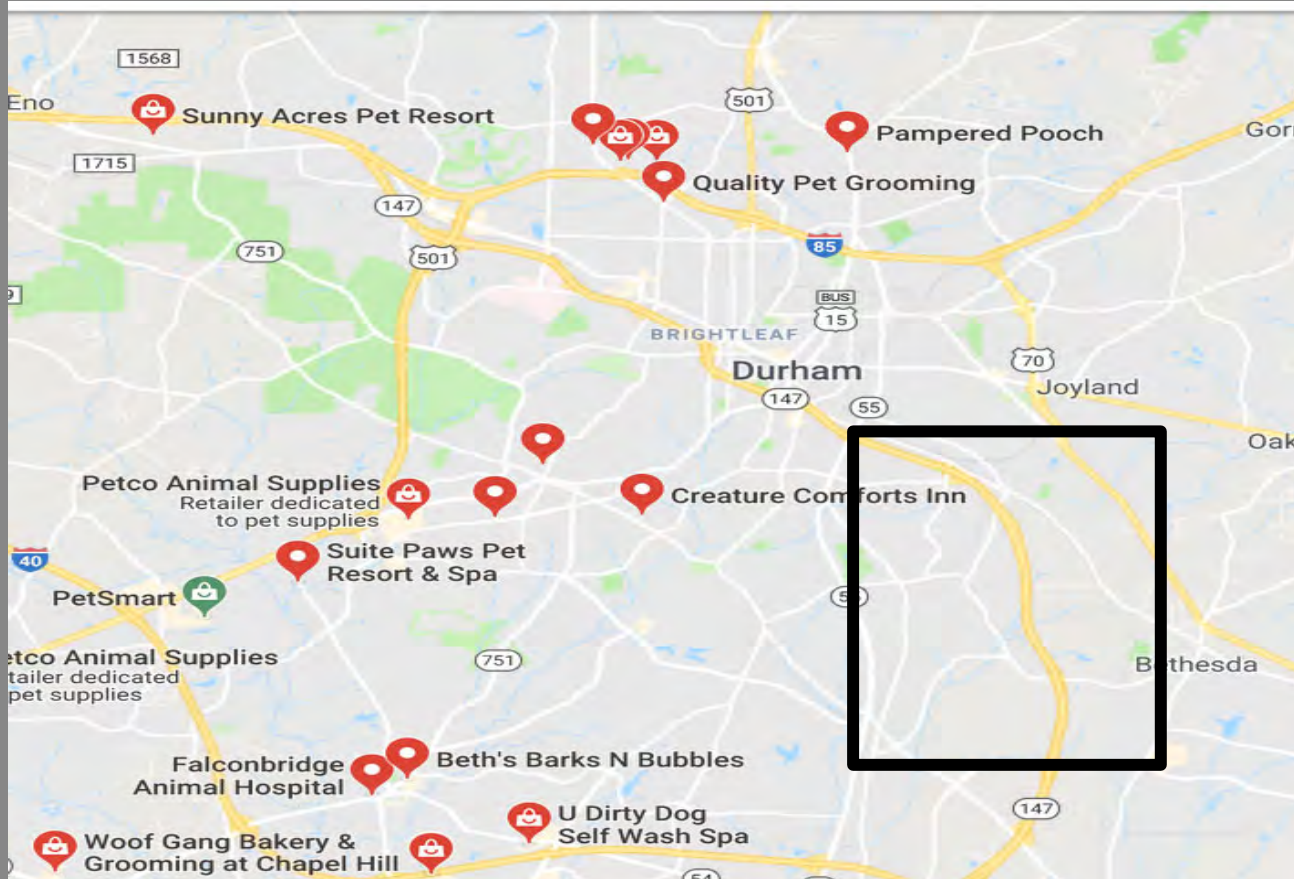


# Resource Desert – Pet Supply Stores



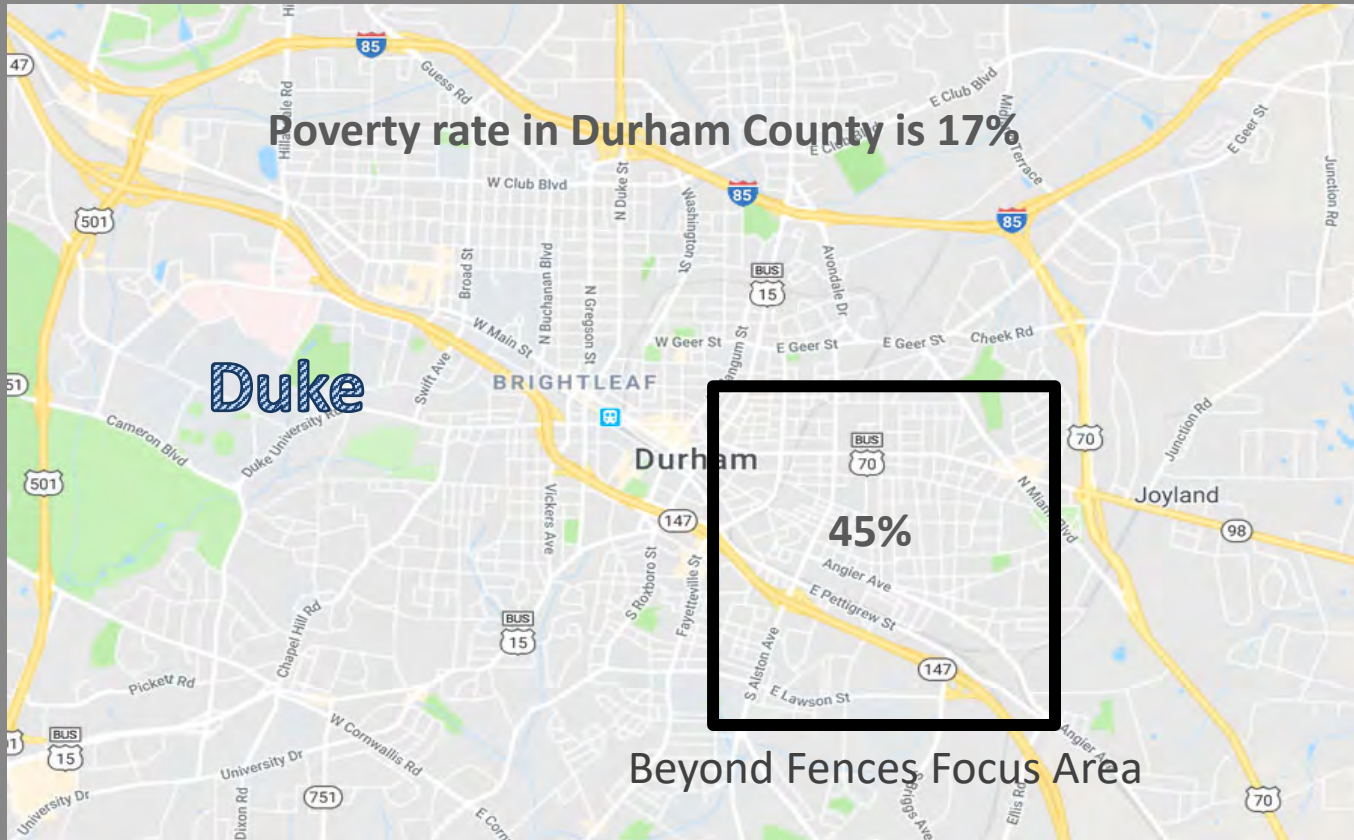


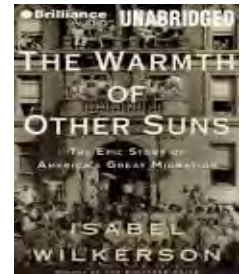
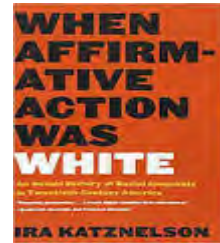
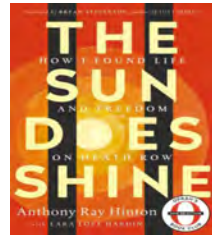
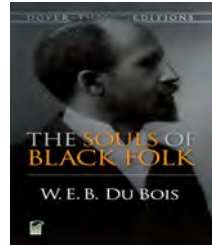
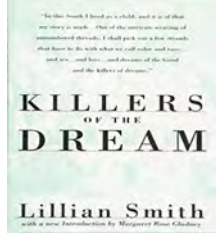
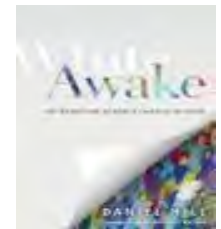
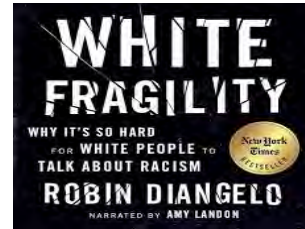
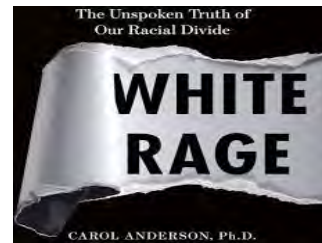
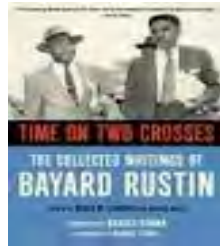
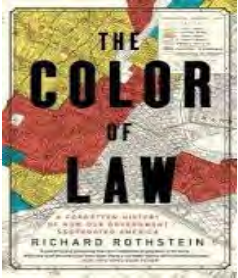
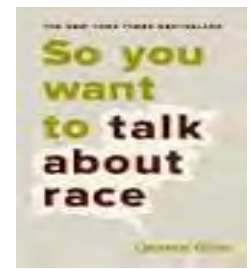
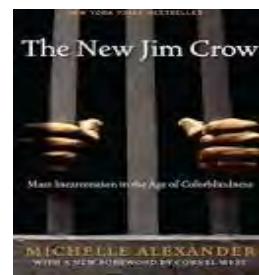
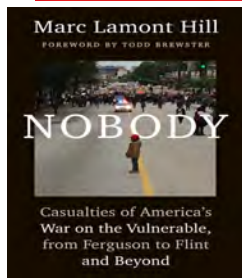
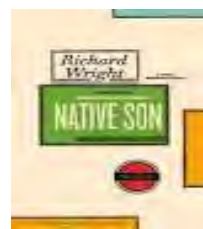
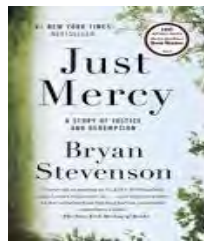
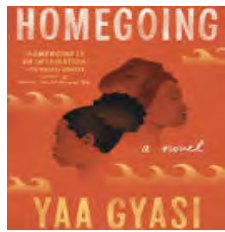
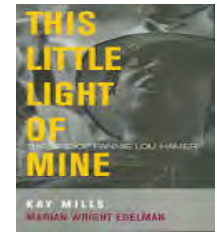
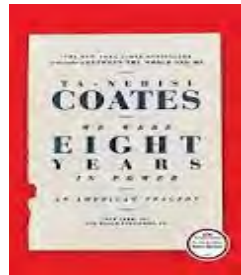
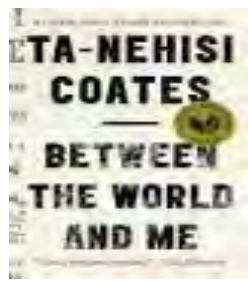
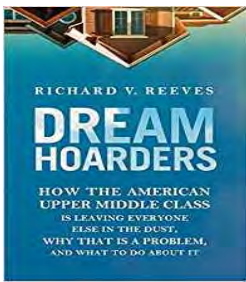
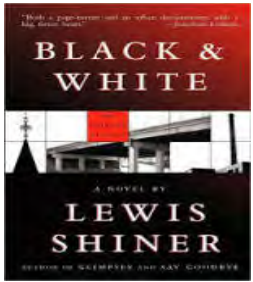
# Resource Desert – Groomers





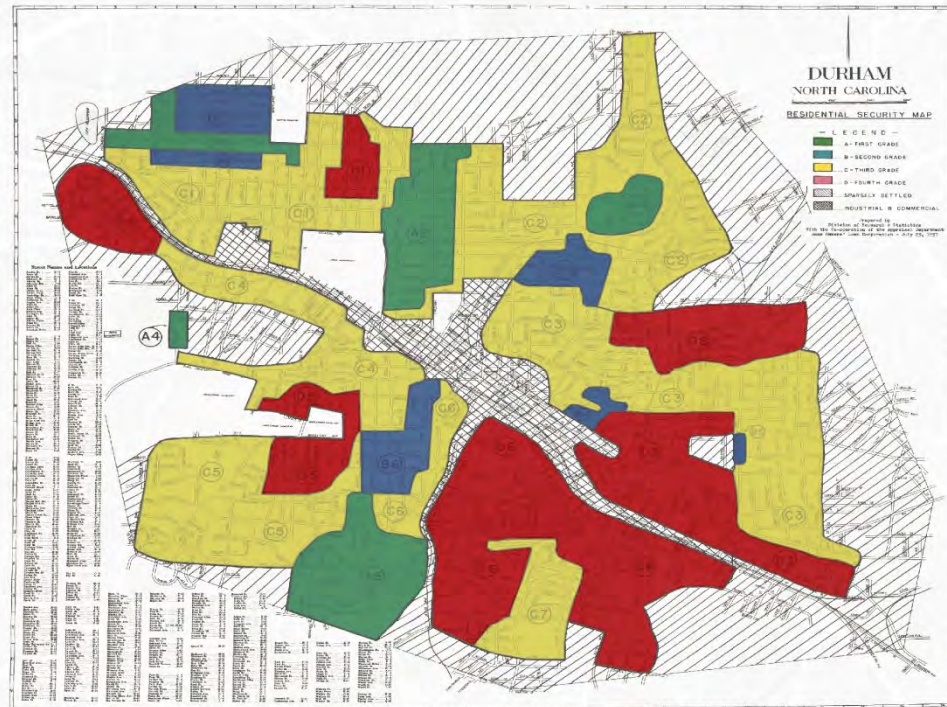
# Durham, North Carolina







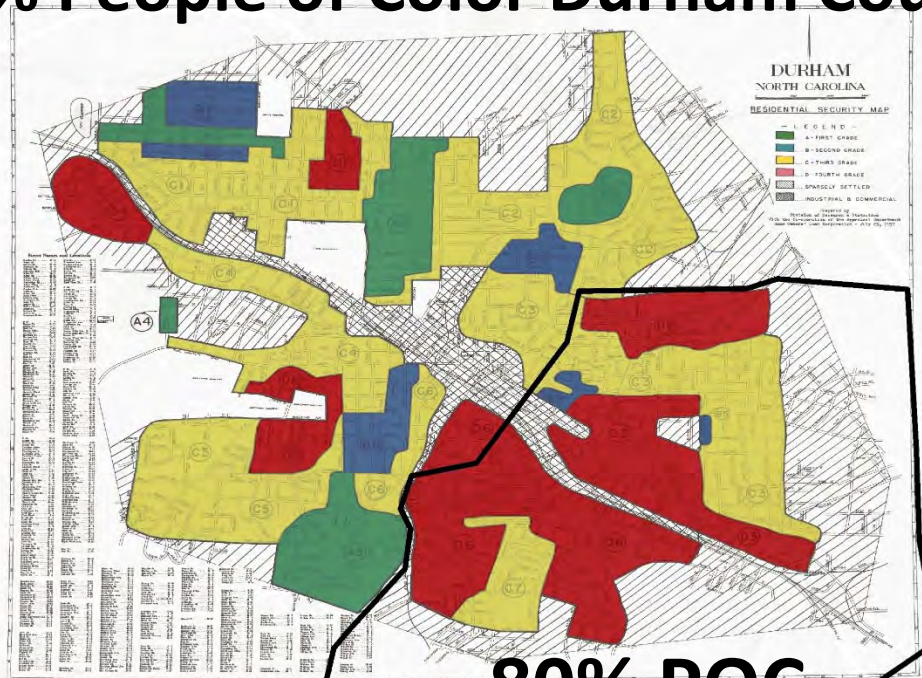
# Durham's Red Lined Neighborhoods - 1937



- Best
- Still Desirable
- Definitely Declining
- Hazardous

# Beyond Fences Focus Area - 2019

## 50% People of Color Durham County



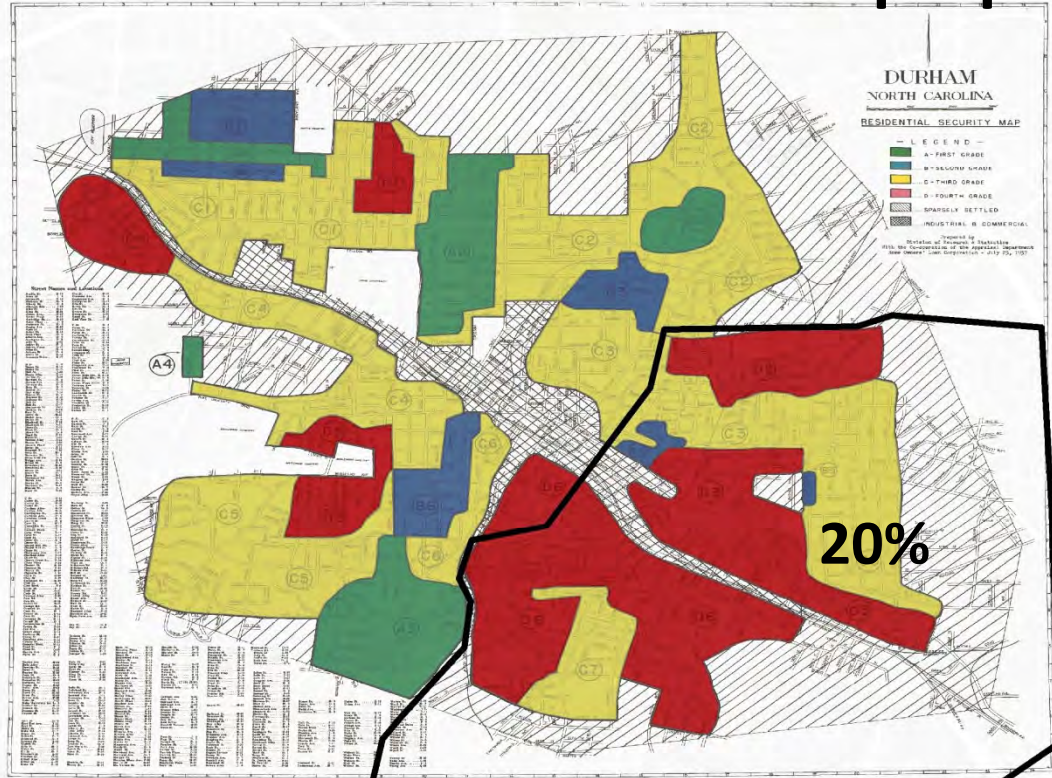
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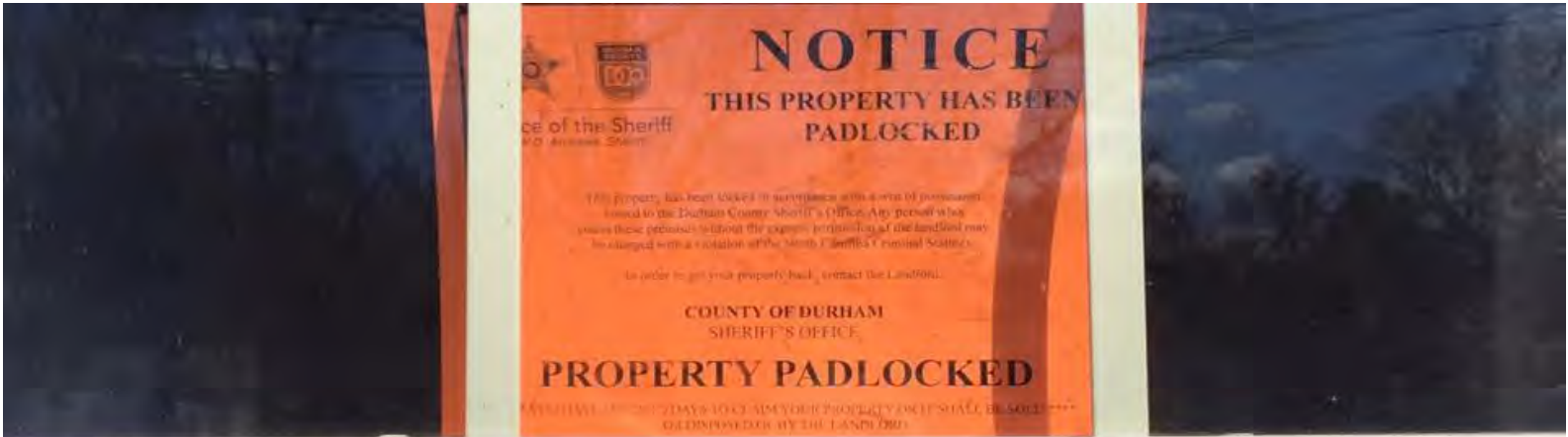


# Beyond Fences Focus Area - 2019

## 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



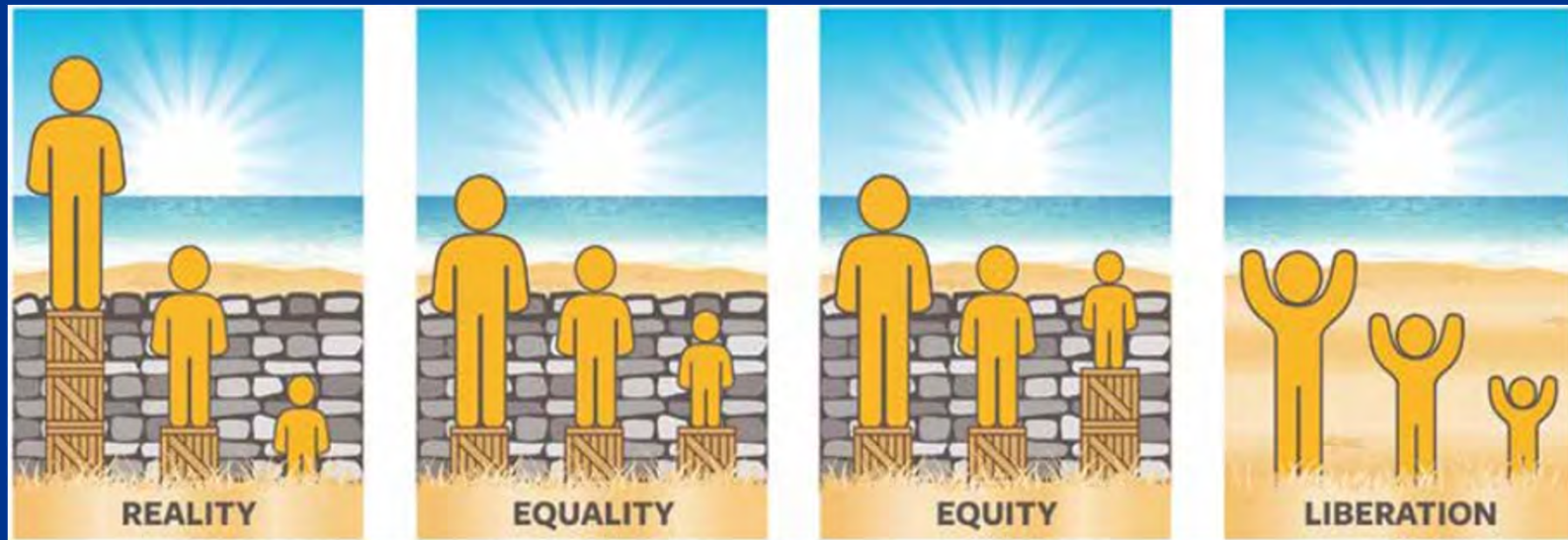
# Racial and Economic Equity in Animal Welfare



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

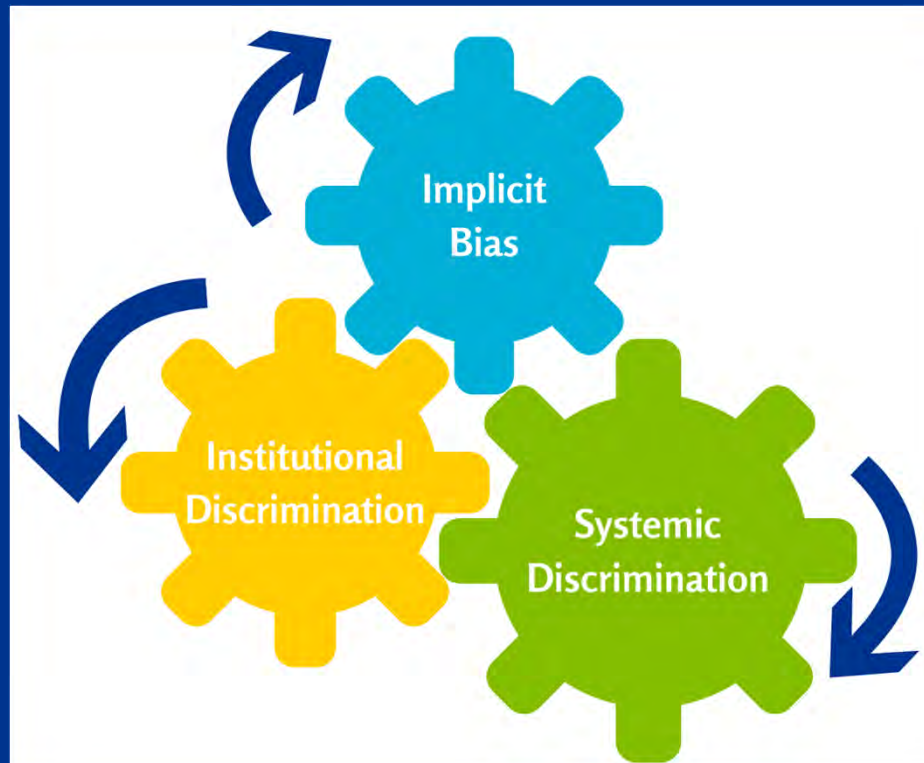


# Equity: A fair and just distribution of resources and opportunities





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



# How We Address Bias (Internally)

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

## How We Address Bias (Externally)

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- 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



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