How is genomics relevant to our health and our communities?

The way genomics gets researched, applied and understood, will either benefit or harm individuals facing health issues and groups currently experiencing health disparities, discrimination or stigmatization. It is important for people from diverse backgrounds to understand and influence how genomics gets studied and used.

Potential Benefits:

- Family health histories can identify risk and help prevent diabetes, stroke, and heart disease, conditions responsible for health disparities.
- Genetic population studies are showing how all of us are inter-related and may lead to increased appreciation for human diversity.

Potential Harms:

- Marketing of genetic test kits directly to the consumer may result in people getting inaccurate information about the meaning of their own genetic profile.
- Race-specific medicine like BiDil can reduce risk of heart disease in some African Americans, but will use of race in medical marketing label groups as having inferior traits?

For more information, please visit: www.GenoCommunity.org

CENTER FOR Public Health and Community Genomics

National Community Committee
Preventing Diseases through Partnerships
In Partnership with the CDC's Prevention Research Centers' Program

GenoCommunity Think Tank

Coordinated by the National Community Committee of the Prevention Research Centers and the Center for Public Health and Community Genomics at the University of Michigan

GenoCommunity Think Tank

www.GenoCommunity.org

What is Genomics?

Genomics is the study of all of the genes in your body and how they interact with your environment to contribute to your health, appearance and behavior.

What is Geno-Community Think Tank?

There is a website where you can continue the discussion and learn more. On the website you can watch animated stories about Genomics and share your opinions and stories with others.

www.GenoCommunity.org

How can I get involved?

Visit www.GenoCommunity.org to:

- Learn more about genomics through animated stories
- Find community events related to genomics in your area
- Find out how your organization can organize and host an event related to genomics
- Access resources about genomics to learn more about the topic

Why should I get involved?

- No matter what level of knowledge you have in genomics you will be able to learn something
- Your voice is important, so come take part in an ongoing discussion about genomics.
- If you have questions about genomics or how it is being researched or used, this is the place to get them answered.