RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS COALITION (RAPHC-C)

Presentation to the Health, Human Services & Arts Committee

Monday, May 23rd, 2022
WHAT IS RAPHC-C?

- A public-private partnership between the City of Cleveland and the Cleveland community, established by Resolution No. 296-2020
- RAPHC-C is a coalition that was formed to develop a framework or strategic plan to address racism and its impacts in the city of Cleveland.
- Our goal is to identify where racism is operating in policy, process and practice and to develop innovative solutions to address it.

**Mission** To improve the quality of life for black and brown communities in the City of Cleveland (particularly African American and Latinos, but also including Native Americans, Asians Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders) by addressing racial inequities historically embedded in local systems. We will achieve this by addressing the underlying root causes within systems and defining the standard for equitable treatment and service delivery in the City of Cleveland.

**Vision** To eliminate racism in all its forms in the City of Cleveland. Equity is recognized as a core value that drives decision-making, resource allocation, and the development of all processes, policies, practices, and procedures across sectors. We envision thriving communities where all community residents will have equitable opportunities and resources, leading to optimal health and well-being.
BRIDGEWORK

RAPHC-C Internal & External Work

HESJ
Internal Policies & Procedures: City of Cleveland

External Policies & Procedures: RAPHC-C

Desired State of Racial Equity
RAPHC-C PILLAR STRUCTURE

1. Health; Public Health
2. Housing; Environment & Infrastructure
3. Education
4. Economic Mobility; Wealth Creation & Workforce Development
5. Criminal Justice
In addition to the Co-Chairs, each pillar has 5-7 Pillar Strategists who will be engaged in the pillar work. The Strategists are not a part of the Steering Committee.
2021-2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Exploration of relationship with GARE (Milwaukee County’s Government Alliance on Race and Equity)
- Meeting with Nicole Brookshire (Director of Milwaukee County’s Office on African American Affairs) to explore the use of their Equity Budget Tool
- Negotiated and confirmed 6-month consultant contract with ThirdSpace Action Lab (TSAL) through June 30th 2022
- Recruitment and confirmation of Pillar Co-Chairs
- Development and adoption of core RAPHC-C documents
- Developed first official draft of RAPHC-C’s policies and procedures
2021-2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT.

• Began recruitment of a full-time Project Manager  
  o Interviews began in April 2022  
  o Hiring scheduled for June 2022
• Recruitment of Pillar Strategists by the Pillar Co-Chairs in progress
• Proposed 7-month accelerated plan (*Beginning June 2022)  
  o Work to be done within the 5 pillars:
    ▪ Selection of 3 primary population indicators within each pillar that contribute to racism as a public health crisis  
      • EX: Infant mortality, lead, homeownership etc.
    ▪ Development of “Turn the Curve Plans” for each indicator  
      Creation of scorecards to track metrics (will be hosted on an online dashboard)
RAPHC-C FUNDRAISING

Fundraising (ULGC as fiscal agent)

- CHASE grant received – 125k (2021)
  - Confirmed renewal of 125k for 2022
- Identified budget requirements for RAPHC-C program operations
- Researched and submitted ARPA recommendations to City Council and administration
- Submitted and received grant from the City of Cleveland – 200k (2022-2023)
- In kind support from ULGC for 1 year
  - Part-time admin. support for 1 year (in kind value $24,000)
    - 50% time and fringes
  - 18 month in kind support from ULGC President/CEO as Co-Chair (in kind value $63,000)
    - 25% time and fringes
What lessons can the Cleveland RAPHC coalition take from how peer cities have approached RAPHC declarations and initiatives?

In March 2019, Milwaukee County was the first community to pass a RAPHC declaration, and the City of Milwaukee soon followed in July 2019.

In Milwaukee County, the implementation of the declaration was mostly internal to county government, focusing on creating racial equity indicators and applying GARE best practices around racial equity budgeting.

At the city level, there was a focus on creating racial equity action plans for each city department and working on diversity in hiring.
OUR ASK

• Council support
  • Consistent representation and involvement
  • Recommendations on community leaders to be added to the Executive Committee
• Assistance in convening community listening sessions around RAPHC
• Review of submitted ARPA recommendations
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Executive Committee

- Chair: Marsha Mockabee – Urban League of Greater Cleveland
- Blaine Griffin – Cleveland City Council President
- Frances Mills – Health Commissioner; Director Cleveland Office of Minority Health
- Lita Wills – Commissioner, Division of Health Equity and Social Justice
- Katrice Cain – First Year Cleveland
- Danielle Sydnor – Cleveland NAACP
- Helen Forbes-Fields – United Way
- Jazmin Long – Birthing Beautiful Communities

Pillar Co-Chairs

- Heidi Gullet – Cleveland Clinic
- Matt Zone – Western Reserve Land Conservancy
- India Birdsong – GCRTA
- Michelle Scott-Taylor – College Now
- Monyka Price – College Now
- Brian Hall – JIT Services
- William Gary – Tri-C
- Ronnie Dunn – CSU
- Katrice Williams – The Cleveland Foundation
THANK YOU!