

Creating Equity & Opportunity

Presentation for Housing Washington Conference 2016

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LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
**ALLIANCE ON
RACE & EQUITY**

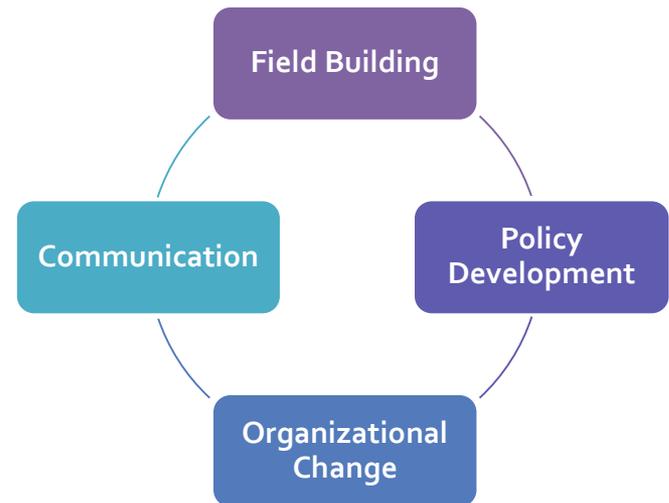
Government Alliance on Race and Equity

A national network of government working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all.

- ✓ Supporting jurisdictions at the forefront
- ✓ Expanding jurisdictions – in 30 states and more than 100 cities – all levels of government
- ✓ Providing tools and resources to put theory into action

Center for Social Inclusion

The Center for Social Inclusion’s mission is to catalyze grassroots community, government, and other institutions to dismantle structural racial inequity.



Government Alliance on Race and Equity

Washington

Seattle
Tacoma

Oregon

Portland
Multnomah County
Metro

California

Alameda County

Minnesota

Metropolitan Council
Minneapolis
Minneapolis Park Board
Saint Paul

Wisconsin

Dane County
Madison

Michigan

Ottawa County
Washtenaw County
MI Dept of Civil Rights
Grand Rapids

Iowa

Dubuque
Iowa City

Kentucky

Louisville

Massachusetts

Boston

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia

Virginia

Fairfax County

New Mexico

Albuquerque

Texas

Austin

- ★ = Active GARE Members
- = Current GARE Engagements
- ★ = Racial Equity Here Members

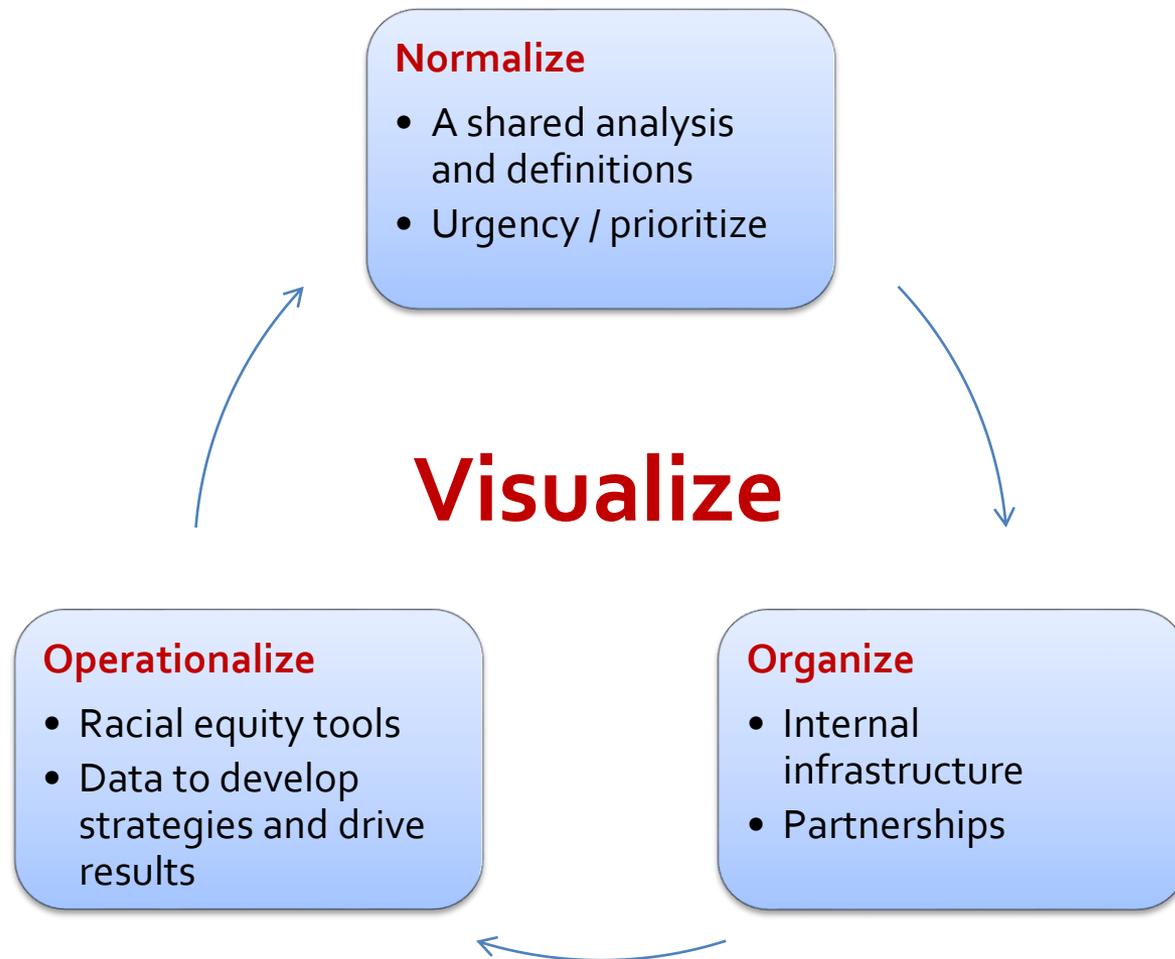


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National effective practice



Racial equity means:

- “Closing the gaps” so that race does not predict one’s success, while also **improving outcomes for all**
- To do so, have to:
 - ✓ Target strategies to focus improvements for those worse off
 - ✓ Move beyond “services” and focus on changing policies, institutions and structures



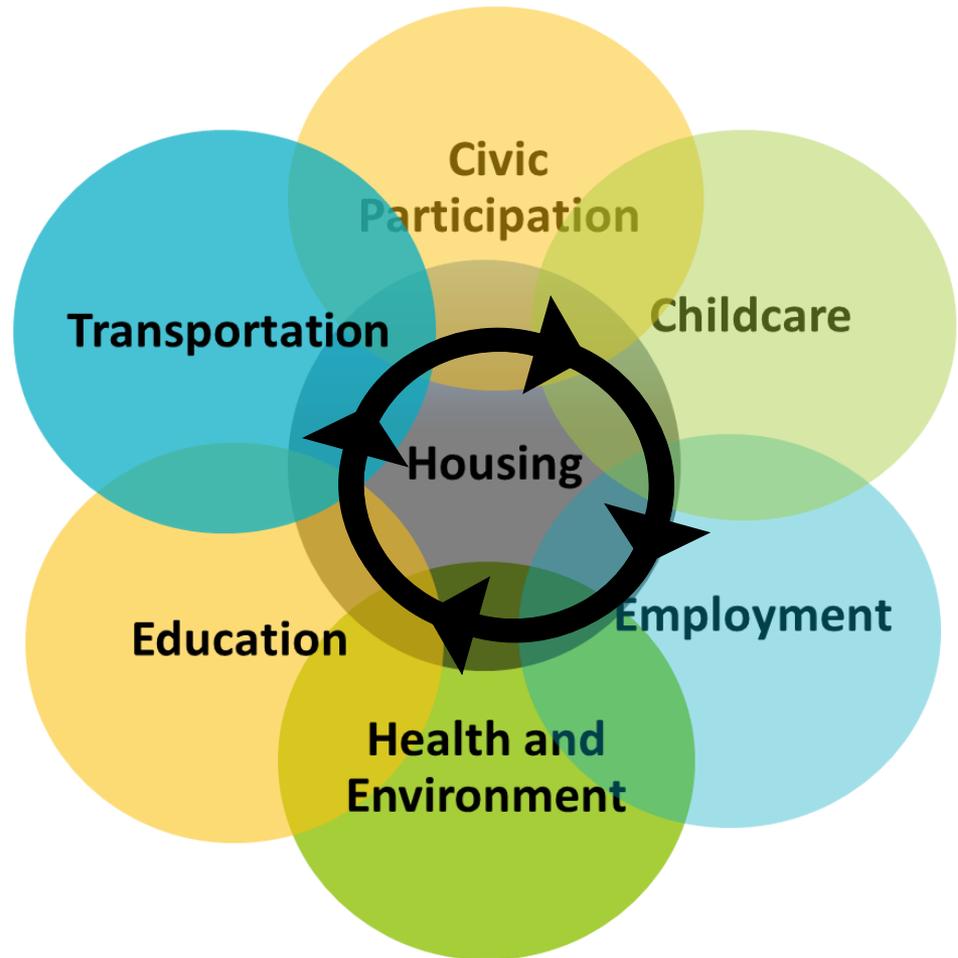
What We Mean by Structural Racial Inequity:

“Structural Racism” points to multiple institutions

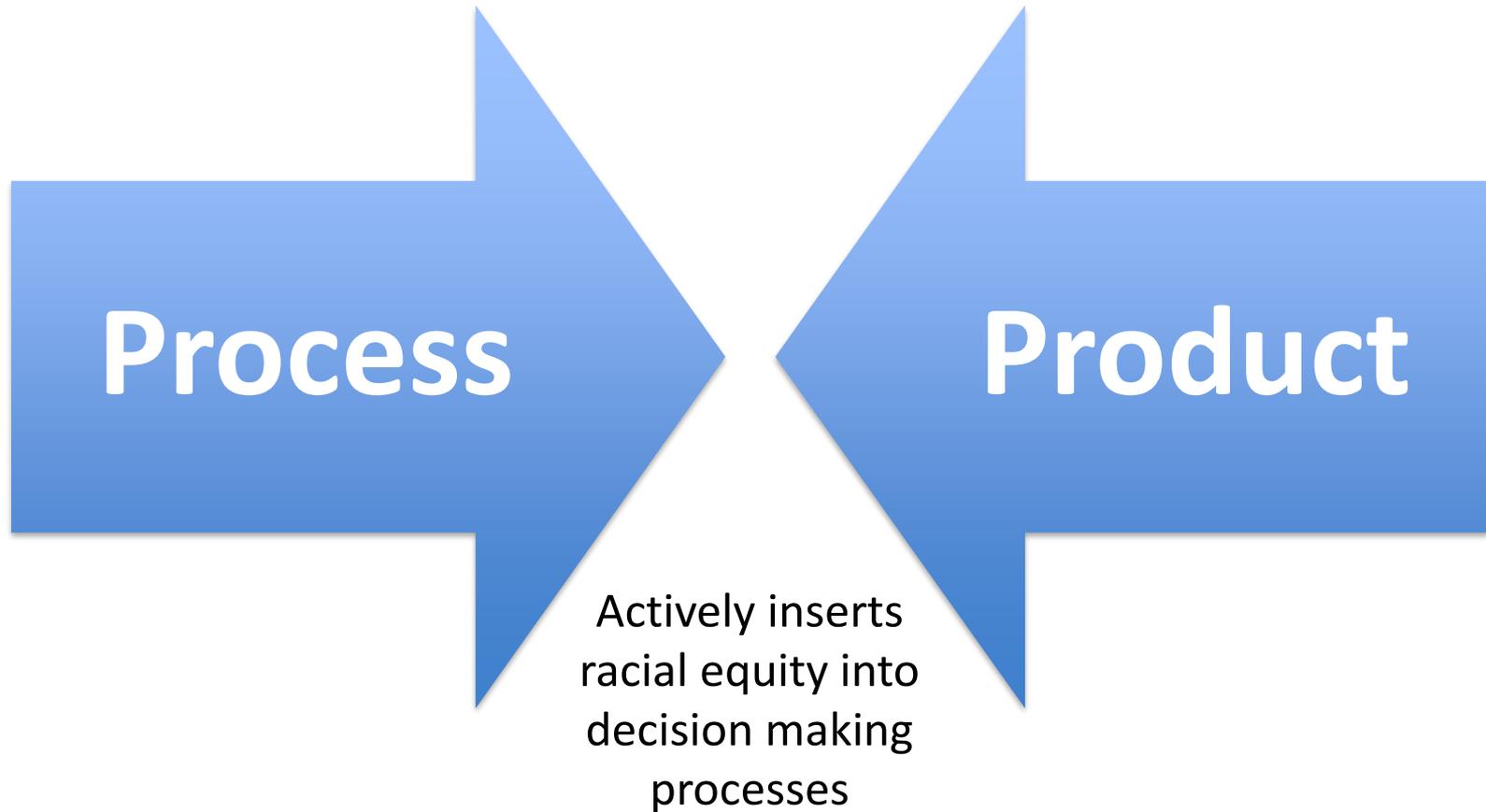
The ways our public and private institutions interact to produce barriers to opportunity and racial disparities.

Intent to discriminate is irrelevant

Structures just do what they do, often invisibly, and reinforce disinvestment and disparities.



How do we achieve racial equity?



New possibilities (PolicyLink)

- A city could improve public education outcomes by helping residents use Housing Choice Vouchers in higher opportunity neighborhoods.
- A town could create job incubators within historically disinvested neighborhoods.
- A municipality could invest in affordable housing in transit-oriented developments to ensure low-income residents have access to jobs via reliable public transport.



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Local ordinances advancing racial equity

Neighborhood preference legislation, San Francisco, CA

- City passed “neighborhood preference legislation”
- Applied anti-displacement preference to senior housing complex- Willie B. Kennedy Apts
- Negotiated/appealed to HUD
- 40 percent of the units prioritized for residents who live in low-income neighborhoods undergoing displacement and experiencing advanced gentrification (UC Berkeley definition)



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Housing strategies advancing racial equity

N/NE Neighborhood Housing Strategy, Portland, OR

- Portland Housing Bureau (PHB) examining long term impacts on racism, gentrification and displacement to develop new process & policy
- Examined policy and practice through:
 1. Preventing displacement
 2. Building new homeowners
 3. Creating rental homes
 4. Land acquisition
- Community accountability process



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MPOs advancing racial equity

Equity informed agenda/goal setting, Boston, MA

- Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) led by progressive, experienced tactician
- Built community-led regional steering committee to guide planning process
- Invested 40 percent of resources in demonstrations
- Produce the State of Equity Agenda and equity-focused Regional Indicators project
- Participants in coalitions focused on equity outcomes



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MPOs advancing racial equity

Structural and intersectional changes, Kansas City, MO

- Mid America Regional Council serves 2-state region
- Established Creating Sustainable Places project
- Changed permanent governance structure of the MPO
- The resulting Regional Equity Network is playing a role in the region's Assessment of Fair Housing (they are a first submitter)
- Kansas City now a Prosperity Playbook city



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Cities advancing racial equity

Healthy Development Guidelines, Oakland, CA

- Community based planning partnership- nonprofits, Alameda County Public Health Dept., Oakland Planning Department, ChangeLab Solutions (TA)
- Multi-year resident engagement process to guide planning
- Result: Tool to review all new development projects above a certain size to ensure they meet community-identified priorities for health equity



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Key insights

- BOTH/AND
 - Focus on both process/outcome
 - Community engagement & accountability are key
 - Leverage funding
 - Unlikely allies across sectors are KEY
 - Comprehensive analysis, comprehensive policies
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Closing thoughts/questions