the praxis project
Building Community Power for Health and Justice

Praxis Principles Webinar – March 25, 2020

Question for Participants: What resources or frameworks do you currently reference in your health justice and racial equity work?

- Social Ecological Model
- Asset-Based Community Development
- Build Healthy Places
- Human Impact Partners' Health Equity Guide
- Disability Justice Framework
- GARE (Government Alliance on Race & Equity) Racial Equity Tool
- ChangeLab Solutions Blueprint for Health Equity
- BARHII (Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative) Model
- Public Health Upstream/Downstream Model
- Levels of intervention (primary, secondary, tertiary)
- Teaching to Transgress, Bell Hooks
- Dr. Camara Jones' Levels of Racism
- Praxis Authentic Community Engagement
- BUILD Initiative Racial Equity Theory of Change Framework
- Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health
- Cultural Frameworks of Indigenous Peoples
- Lived Experience
- Community Input
- World Health Organization (WHO) Social Determinates of Health
- Health Affairs: How Community Organizing Promotes Health Equity and How Health Equity Affects Organizing
- Shared Leadership
- Design Essential Framework: Healthy Places
- Racial Equity Readiness Assessment Tool
- White Dominant Culture & Something Different
- Bread for the Journey: An Online Companion
- North Carolina Health Equity Impact Assessment
- Multnomah County: Equity and Empower Lens
- Racial Equity Institute: Groundwater Approach

Resource for Organizing in Rural Communities:

- Public Health Awakened rural public health workgroup
- For more information, contact Jessica Nila: jsscnila@outlook.com
- COVID-19 Resources

Participant Question & Answer (Q&A):

1. *Can you talk more about the assessment tool?*

The Praxis Project has developed a programmatic and organizational self-assessment tool that can be used to understand the ways in which the Working Principles for Health Justice and Racial Equity are successfully implemented, and opportunities for growth and improvement. Each principle is broken down into multiple measures that the assessment user can assess. Praxis is piloting this assessment with organizations through the summer of 2020; please contact jenna@thepraxisproject to participate.

2. *We all know about historical racism within structures. How was trust repaired to work with communities?*

Addressing the damage and violence caused by racism requires a deep process of repair to move forward with communities, starting with the recognition of harm that has been caused. There are a number of resources on racial healing and restorative justice processes; one size does not fit all but regardless of the circumstances, action needs to be taken. Some specific suggestions for repairing trust include:

- "Showing up" even when you don't need something. This shows that you truly care and are not just developing a short term relationship to get what you need to complete your project/initiative.
- Act with integrity. Always do what you say you are going to do.
- If you are wrong, make sure you apologize and make things right. Don't ignore the past and just move on. For many aggrieved, it is not "water under the bridge."
- Give people time to express how they feel and have been impacted by past policies, practices and systems. Talk about how the environment that has been controlled by others through investment/disinvestment has shaped where we are today.
- Work together to define solutions moving forward that address the community's priority, incorporate community as part of the solution, and share resources equitably with community partners.

We believe that trust building is necessary in each of the five Working Principles for Health Justice and Racial Equity.

3. *There is a web of mutual aid networks emerging in response to the coronavirus right now, many by organizers. Can you talk about how your principles could be informing these networks?*

We believe these working principles and self-assessment can be utilized to ensure the process of emerging mutual aid networks are being developed with care and with

community engagement. In moments of crisis, it is easy to move quickly and risk causing inadvertent harm despite the best of intentions. We are not suggesting that speed isn't necessary when responding to a pandemic; rather, the principles can serve as a guide to support the just and equitable development of community-centered response services. Community involvement will ensure that community priorities are being addressed. Further, community engagement can strengthen mutual aid efforts in ensuring that community-based institutions and services are a part of the solution.

4. *As a non-profit, it is difficult to balance the limitations of funding provided by governments and the expectations of authentic resident engagement. What are some strategies you might suggest to ensure flexible funding that isn't limited by political red tape (provided by the same funding) which allows authentic resident engagement. We live in an area with limited philanthropic funding available which causes many non-profits to utilize government?*

We suggest exploring the following:
- Funded activities:
    - Spend funds with city-approved vendors for incentives, transportation, etc. to limit barriers to resident participation
    - Provide childcare
    - Provide interpretation (hearing impaired/language) services if needed
    - Ensure meeting is in an accessible location
    - Look to innovative community engagement models such as <u>BeHeard Philly</u>
- Communication: Include community engagement in program budgets and deliverables
- No cost activities:
    - Schedule meeting times that are convenient for all
    - Educate and inform government partners on requirement for authentic resident engagement

If you would like to add to this resource list or contribute to our running Q&A, please email jenna@thepraxisproject.org.