Week of June 14 – June 27

1. Key Accomplishments and Progress this Week

- May 30-to date: The Racial and Health Equity Administrators work with the newly launched Community Resilience Team to assist the Ramsey County community during the time of civil unrest that resulted from the killing of George Floyd in South Minneapolis on May 25, 2020. We assisted in an emergency response that included: working with community organizers to provide PPE, necessary supplies, assistance at resource pop-up sites throughout St. Paul, and identifying gaps that the County could resources both immediately and short-term through community partnerships. The Healing Streets Initiative and RECERT worked to get Neighborhood Change Agents identified and compensation for their time assisting community during this emergency.
- Recovery Town hall for small businesses, community organizations, property owners and residents will be hosted on June 18th and Jun 23rd
- Voting and 2020 Census Town hall held on June 10th with 54 attendees.
- Letter sent to MN Department of Emergency Management sharing concerns about racial and cultural impact of BIX produce site for COVID-19 morgue by both EAC and RECERT.
- Released Trusted Messenger and Media and Messaging request for quotes that closed on June 9. Contracts expected to start the week of June 22nd.
- Working to get the Mask Project RFQ posted through Procurement the week of June 22nd. Met with public health logistics about a plan to collect and distribute masks.
- Pulled data on neighborhoods with no computer or internet access to help inform which neighborhoods could benefit most for having a career lab in their neighborhood. Data was sent to Workforce Solutions who mapped the data. The Equity Action Circle will have an opportunity to provide input via a survey.
- Co-developed a Juneteenth message with Ryan. RHEAs advocated for Juneteenth to be recognized as County recognized holiday.
- Met with Commissioner Carter and Matascastillo regarding the BIX site and Race Equity work. Will schedule future meetings with Commissioners to update on Race Equity work. Director Kelly responded to both RECERT and EAC regarding BIX site.
- Refined the RECERT roles and responsibilities document and will continue to build on this work to specify tasks and responsibilities of each member.

2. Identified Challenges and/or Areas of Needed Support

- Lack of administrative support. We are hiring a administrative planning assistant and the person should start in the coming week.
- Addressing systemic barriers that delay our response to emergencies, particularly with the events that led up to civil unrest as a result to George Floyds death.
- Realignment of the RECERT budget to compensate community for their time and expertise.

3. Focus Areas of work for upcoming week

Communication

- Completed a list of community-based organizations and trusted messengers that will be able to amplify and more
effectively deliver Ramsey County's messages into racial and ethnic communities.

- Add RECERT members short bio on webpage.
- Developed a Father Day article for Ramsey New that will have diverse perspectives of fathers and father figures
- Completed the evaluation of 22 Media and Messaging RFQ’s with EAC and RECERT members.

Programs

- Researched information on racism as a public health issue. Working to set-up a meeting with RECERT and Public Health staff to determine the direction of this opportunity.
- Help developed a set of questions for EAC response of the Race Equity priority and focus area setting.
- EAC developing a plan to identify key priority areas by early July 2020.

Data

- Receive a final data request made by Equity Advisory Circle
- Partnered with communications focus area members to develop messaging to go out regarding the Racial Equity Impact Analysis Tool and how it can be helpful to departments and community.
- Work with WFS, CED, FAS and oversight to help determine outcome measures for CARES programs.
- Analyze key themes that come from the civil unrest town hall for community recommendations.

Community

- Hosting a townhall for residents, businesses, and community organizations who have been impacted by civil unrest due to the death of George Floyd as outline in Business and Community recovery plan. This is being supported by the City of St. Paul.
- Completed the evaluation of 27 Trusted Messenger RFQ’s with EAC and RECERT members.
- Developed and distributed a Town Hall survey to participants that engaged with the HWST and WFS. Identified contacts n each department to follow-up on the town hall actions and questions.

4. Other Key Team Updates

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County Manager Comments

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