



**RAMSEY
COUNTY FOOD
SECURITY
COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION**

NOVEMBER 9, 2020

EQUITY STRATEGIES, LLC

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

**(Chat box) ENTER
NAME/ORGANIZATION/EMAIL
ADDRESS**

Compensation will be provided for community members – please include your email so we can contact you with a follow-up survey.



AGENDA

- Welcome, Purpose, and Check-in
- Update from Ramsey County
- Report from last community conversation on September 28
- Breakout sessions
- Debrief – large group
- Conclude – next meeting Monday, December 7

CHECK-IN

Purpose of today's conversation:

Discuss our community's ability to access sufficient, safe, and healthy food, during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

**ONE WORD YOU HOPE FOR
THIS MEETING (Chat box)**

UPDATE FROM RAMSEY COUNTY

Communications

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graph TD; A[Communications] --> B[Winter operations for food shelves and farmers markets]; B --> C[Resiliency fund]; C --> D[Contracting update];
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Winter operations for food shelves and farmers markets

Resiliency fund

Contracting update

UPDATE FROM RAMSEY COUNTY

1. Partner with **school and youth food programs** to expand and enhance existing services.
 - \$4.7 million dedicated
 - 4 new fully executed contracts, 3 in negotiations
 - USDA extended free meals through end of June 2021
2. Ensure that residents have access to **prepared meals, groceries, and basic needs** through partnerships with community providers.

Food program support:

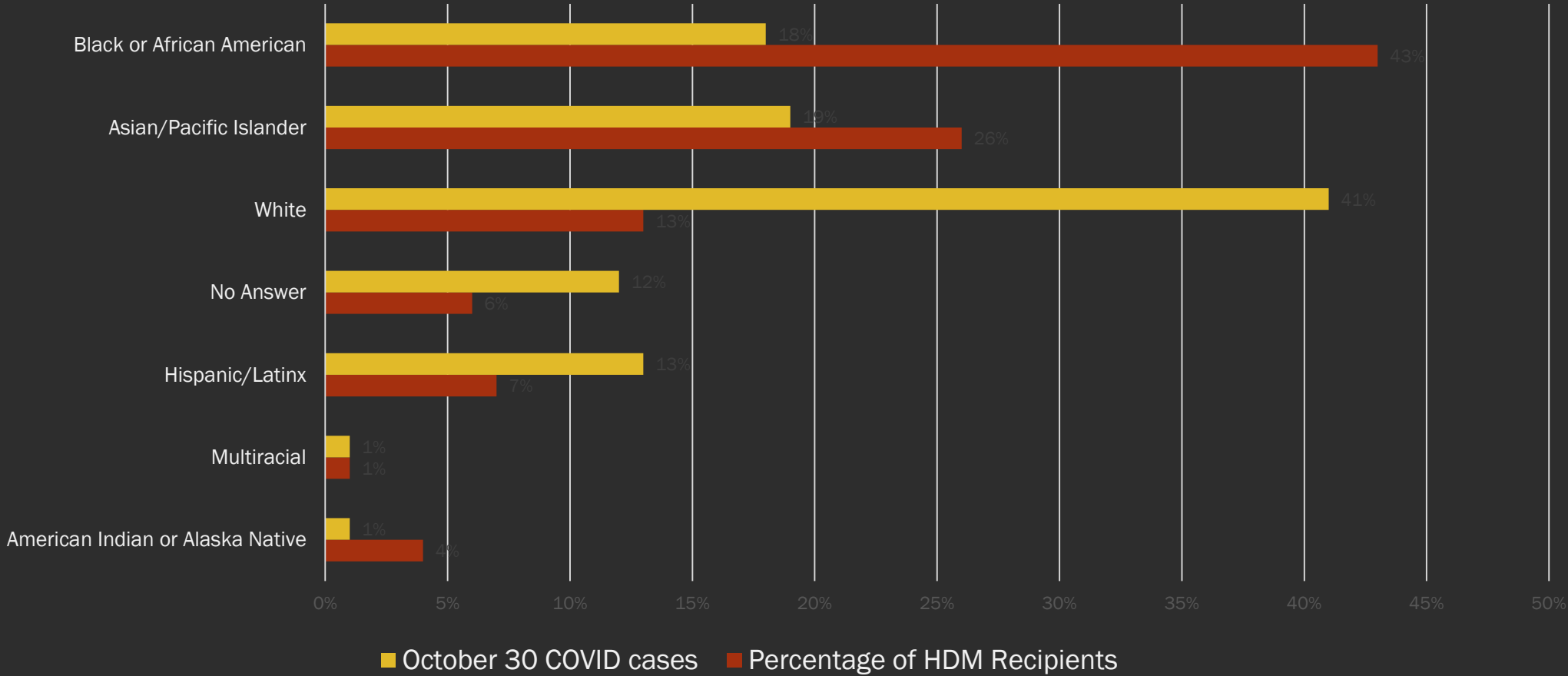
- \$1.7 million dedicated to food shelf/groceries
- 20 executed or contract in negotiation

Home Delivered Meals:

- 8 contracts executed or in negotiations
- Estimated 130,000 meals delivered since August to those confined to their homes

HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Four out of five home-delivered meal recipients were people of color in September



PROGRESS REPORT TO COMMUNITY: FOOD SECURITY & BASIC NEEDS

New Information?

- Zip Code Data Tracking
- Increased meals delivered
- Funding for food/meals
- The Food Resource Map

What has changed?

- Increased requests for growing food
- Unemployment is up
- Resources have dried up
- Partnership between City and Food Shelves
- Low barrier for food access
- Website with information
- County funded what the community needed
- Community felt listened to by county

What impact has the county made?

- Showed a level of improved trust by letting community help meet needs of people
- County provided food services as planned
- Regular updates of resource info
- Child Protection workers deliver food to families & children
- Drive thru delivery fresh foods/dairy

Limitations/Barriers?

- Org Chart showing community connections
- County plans for winter distribution
- Communication plan needs monitoring & enhanced
- Not everyone has access to internet

Suggestions?

- Is there a prevention strategy for those on the brink?
- Volunteers who speak the languages of those served
- Small community groups need connection with Ramsey Co for hot meal delivery
- Language line open to everyone
- Strategies for use of funds
- Contact with underserved to facilitate relationships

How often should we meet?

- At least monthly
- Every two weeks
- Monthly until funds run out
- No more frequently than monthly
- E-mail updates between meetings
- Planning meetings for post CARES funding

What will mark success or failure?


- Vote
- Community Health Worker & Community Paramedic inform patients
- Provide food in winter months
- Elders and people w/o transportation have fruit/veggies/dairy
- More delivery options for homebound
- Map of food distribution sites
- Solution for post federal funds
- Meet to plan for 2021

Who is missing?

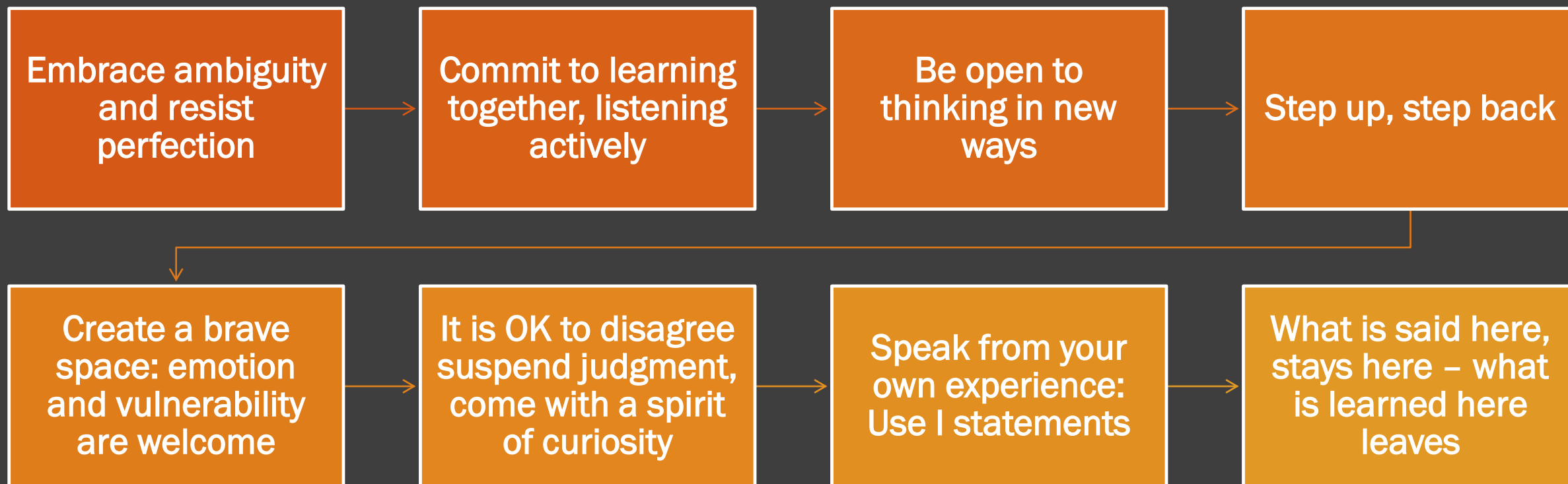
Neighborhood House
Small scale food shelves
St Paul Area Council of Churches
The Mexican Consulate
Multi-Family Housing Associations
Keystone
Small Orgs.
Transit Link
Second Harvest, WIC, Financial Assistance Support (FAS)

Other suggestions

- County and State partner with farmers
- Explore options for long-term funding
- Land stewardship good growing
- Support capacity building
- Plan for 2021
- Showed a level of improved trust by letting community help meet needs of people
- County provided food services as planned
- Regular updates of resource info
- CP workers deliver food to families & children
- Drive thru delivery fresh foods/dairy

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- Ramsey County played an unusual role in food security in the response to COVID-19 and provided substantial funding directly to providers and community.
 - Ramsey County invited community, providers and the general public to assist in guiding the coordination of distributing food and other basic needs. Thank you!
 - At our last meeting, when we provided an update to you, you suggested additional meetings.
 - From what you shared with us, we chose themes and topics that we would like to engage in a free-flowing brainstorm.

GROUP AGREEMENTS:



BRAINSTORMING SESSION: PROTOCOLS



Do not overthink, say the first thing that comes to mind



Step up/step back – please keep the flow moving!



We will not stop to explain or clarify trust the process!



We are collecting everything you offer in this process



We believe the intelligence is present in this gathering



We will review and develop themes that guide the county into taking next steps

PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK RAMSEY COUNTY SHOULD DO:

1. FEDERAL COVID FUNDING CONTINUES: WHAT SHOULD THE COUNTY CONTINUE TO DO OR DO DIFFERENTLY?

2. FEDERAL COVID FUNDING ENDS: WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ON FOOD SECURITY IN THE COUNTY? WHAT ROLE COULD THE COUNTY PLAY?

3. WHAT PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION IS NEEDED TO START OR CHANGE?

4. WHAT DO LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS NEED TO INCLUDE?



BREAKOUT SESSIONS



WELCOME BACK FROM BREAKOUT ROOMS

DEBRIEF HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVERSATIONS

Enter thoughts and feedback in chat

CHECK-OUT



HOW WAS THIS PROCESS FOR YOU?



WHAT CAN YOU DO IN YOUR COMMUNITY, ORGANIZATION OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH RAMSEY COUNTY?



THANK YOU!

Next community conversation on Monday, December 7 at 4:00 pm



QUESTIONS?



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Thank you for our partnership!

