Centering Racial Equity Throughout the Data Life Cycle

Amy Hawn Nelson
Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy

September 29th, 2021
What we do

- Peer Network
- Guidance & Standards
- Training & Consulting
- Advocacy & Communications
- Actionable Research
CASE STUDY

How the Indiana Management Performance Hub’s Data Capacity Helped Fuel COVID-19 Research and Response

Building + Sustaining State Data Integration Efforts: Legislation, Funding, and Strategies

Centering Racial Equity Throughout Data Integration

Data Sharing & Integration

Our approach

Data sharing is as relational as it is technical.

We don’t just need to integrate data; we need to integrate people.
Process

- Expressed need from sites
- Learning from Broward County, FL

2017
- Initial funding from AECF
- Began to put together workgroup

2018
- Funding from Sloan and DFC
- In person workgroup meetings in July and October

2019
- Finalizing site-based contributors
- Writing, editing, and review
- Sharing

2020
- Document shifts in site-based practices
- Seek funding for site-based TA

2021
- Begin site-based TA
- Convene workgroup for Toolkit V2
# Workgroup Contributors

<table>
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Work in Action Contributors

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Allegheny County (PA) Department of Human Services, Office of Equity & Inclusion

Automating.NYC

Birth through Eight Strategy for Tulsa (BEST)

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City of Asheville (NC)

City of Tacoma (WA)

DataWorks NC

Kentucky Center for Statistics

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Jessica Cunningham

Courtney LaCaria & Mary Ann Priester

Sarah Zeller-Berkman

Emma Swepston, Laura Bellis, & Brandy Hammons
As railroads and highways both developed and decimated communities, so too can data infrastructure.

We can co-create data infrastructure to promote racial equity and the public good, or we can invest in data infrastructure that disregards the historical, social, and political context.
Where do we need to center racial equity?
Where do we need to center racial equity?
Benefit/Risk Matrix

**HIGH**

- Mapping indicators to allocate new investments to high-need neighborhoods
- Program evaluation with longitudinal outcomes
- Unduplicated counts of children across early childhood program

**LOW**

- Open data initiatives that publish aggregate data sets

**RISK**

- Linking individual data on wages & earnings
- Case management algorithms
- Using “risk scores” to target interventions
- Predictive analytics in policing
- Tracking social media on students
- Linking biometric data (e.g., facial recognition)
Biggest Takeaway?

Whether you’re a data owner, a data steward, a data custodian, a caseworker — no matter where you are, there is something you can do, today, to center racial equity.
Questions?

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