Community Resiliency Program: Equity and Environmental Justice Measures

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Community Resiliency Program
Impetus: Past Grant Program

• Awards between $1,500 and $25,000
• Eastern WA –specific
• Good complement to Landowner Assistance and Cost Share Program
• Able to fund projects that don’t have other niches
• Weak understanding of capacity
Impetus: Past Work

• Same 10 people
• Metrics beyond “acres treated” for community work
• Move beyond reimbursement model
New Grant Program: Needed Inclusions

• Conversations about capacity and wheelhouses
  • WHO is already doing WHAT?
    • Need: firm understanding of sideboards
  • Do they have the capacity for additional work included in this grant?
• More conversations with those we hope to build relationships with, help support
  • “Nothing about us without us”
Research – What did we look at? Where?

- Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) Toolkit (CoS adaptation)
- Rural Climate Dialogue
- Ford Foundation DEI Funder Guide
- USFS method developed by McDaniel, Adams, Charnley – WA data reflected in Health Disparities Map
Research/Input: Internal/Local

• HEAL Act

• WA Environmental Justice Task Force Recommendations

• DOH Health Disparities Map

• EJ Juarez, Carlos Lugo, Jessica Kimmick, Allen Lebovitz, Guy Gifford....and all of you!
Utilizing Data to Pinpoint Focus Areas

**Health Disparities**

- Social Determinants
  - ACS: Limited English (LEP)
  - No Access to a Private Vehicle (%)
  - No High School Diploma (%)
  - Population 65+ Living Alone (%)
  - Population with a Disability (%)

- Economic Determinants
  - Children Living in Poverty (%)
  - Population 19 to 64 with No Health Insurance (%)
  - Population Living in Poverty (%)
  - Single Parent Household (%)
  - Unaffordable Housing (>30% of Income)
  - Unemployed (%)
Utilizing Data to Pinpoint Focus Areas

- **Household**:
  - Limited English
  - Population 65+ living alone
  - Population with a Disability

- **Housing**
  - Housing with 10+ Units
  - Mobile Homes
  - Overcrowded Housing

- **Socioeconomic**
  - No Access to a Private Vehicle
  - Population Living in Poverty
  - Unemployed
Challenges with Data

- Discrepancies between total numbers for same tract
Challenges with Data

- Small census blocks
- Several tracts with no data or data reported as “unreliable”

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<th>County Name</th>
<th>Census Tract</th>
<th># at or Below 125% FPL</th>
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<th>% 125% FPL</th>
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Methods

• Health Disparity score: 9 or 10 (EJTF report)

• Intersect:
  • 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan Planning Areas (’18 – ’22)
  • 2020 Forest Action Plan Western Priority Landscapes
  • Top Communities at Risk for Wildfire Exposure
  • Footprints for recent large wildfires
Next Steps: Advising Group or Review Board

• Living, breathing group
• Members serve/are part of the communities we hope to reach
• Provide feedback on
  • Methods
  • Results
  • Additional factors to include or consider
Next Steps: Toolkit

- Co-development (embryonic stages) with Carlos Lugo
- Utilizing City of Seattle model, tweaking for DNR purposes
  - Can be used for new and existing programs
Next Steps: Funder Self-check

- How accessible is our grant application?
- How equitable is our funding model?
- What other components of equity are we MISSING or OVERLOOKING in how we fund work?
Reminder as we move forward….

“Equity work is messy. We will all make mistakes. Set a good example by embracing mistakes and failures, learning from them, and allowing other funders to do the same.”