

# Institutional + Structural Racism

- What is the biggest challenge to this topic?
  - Acknowledging that it is a thing + it exists.
  - Changing institutional racism to be under the guise of neutralism
    - how people don't get access to programs
    - platform for speaking out about it is changing
  - ↑ awareness, getting people on board, but no clarity on what actual solutions look like + what its impacts are.
    - need more knowledge sharing to move to tangible solutions.
  - where to start → focus on migrant workers/housing?
  - unwillingness to acknowledge the reality
    - generalized a lot as a topic, don't talk about what it looks like in our institutions.
  - filling in gaps of our policy areas; so many disparities exist based on so many policies that create inequality. i.e. criminal justice system
  - realizing that laws/policies intersect, that criminal justice law is health law.
  - getting leadership buy in, if they aren't there then it doesn't get support.
  - social determinants of health
  - need to question it w/in our communities to get real answers + get data

- What <sup>are</sup> the solutions to this topic happening?
  - value of data + sharing data
  - local health departments to get data:
    - health equity reporting is changing
    - internal reflection before going out + changing it.
  - anecdotal evidence
  - collective as a structure for organizing
- What ideas do you have for this group?
  - engaging w/community involvement
  - community buy-in
  - community forums ~~for~~ w/ food, childcare, confidentiality, + good times for people.
  - interpretation services
  - Advocacy events
  - Partner w/non profits
  - legislature sessions
  - Ask the community when + where they want to be heard

• Race reconciliation - (Ta-Nehisi Coates)  
acknowledging inherent bias  
looking for places to healing

• What tool or resource has been helpful or could be helpful to you?

- Peacemaking circles

- Third party facilitators

- Safe space to have conversations

- Changing hiring practices in the organization → values instead of requirements

- Upward mobility

- Accessible language for community organizing

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- Central Seattle gentrification & real estate rise in cost
    - why/how is it happening
  - Affordable housing intersecting w/ anti-hunger work
  - Communities gentrifying (SE LA., Portland), role in gentrification
  - Displaced by gentrification, roles & responsibilities
  - Rural towns, mostly white → ~~GA~~
  - Mobile farm stand - does it contribute to displacement?
  - Tucson W&S side gentrifying, small & covert
    - Community education (Flowers & bullets)

- 2
- Challenges - <sup>Resisting</sup> Economic carrot: getting bought out, taxes go up
- Cultural displacement
  - "us & them" mentality
  - Policies don't represent the people, working/middle class
- Solutions - Taylor events to the community
- Community organization: <sup>Vote!</sup> seat at table, advocacy
  - Damage control: <sup>organizing</sup> Community Benefits Agreements
- Knowledge needed? - Home owners & Renters, how do renters exercise power?

- Ideas suggested?
- Break down us & them mentality, how to work together
  - organize community to resist getting bought out

Tools/resources?

Sub-topic!

EQUIT: Gentrification & Displacement

## QUALITY: Serving Urban + Rural Areas While Focusing on Unique Needs

- Building capacity in both rural + urban spaces, but at different paces.
- Biggest Challenges
  - Accessibility → creating partnerships is key
  - Transportation issues
  - Monolingual volunteers serving multilingual clients, finding volunteers with time + training to serve diverse clients
- Ideas that have worked
  - Multilingual volunteers
  - Consistent volunteers who are students needing credit hours
  - Incorporating culturally relevant foods at cooking demos: using food as a form of cross-cultural communication
- What do we need to know more about?
  - Understanding what the different assets + needs are of rural + urban communities, as well as different communication styles etc.
  - Universal ways of displaying kindness + compassion
  - Ways to partner with other communities
    - ex) to improve transportation across rural + urban boundaries
    - ex) working with restaurants, uber, etc.
- Idea sharing
  - Individual drop offs by semi-trucks
  - Cow drivers donating time etc. to assist with transportation
  - Learning how to make value added products from harvest + preserved foods - need land + expertise, but this is a great way to bolster local economy
  - Identify existing resources + harness these partnerships to share knowledge + skills
  - Passing policies ~~to~~ around food safety, regulation, + sales in food deserts (i.e. allowing people to bake bread at home + sell it to their neighbors); lawsuit protection

# Creating sustainable & equity programs.

## challenges:

- explain why it is important to stakeholders
- not being just a translator
- small staff
- keeping ppl engaged
- ↑ turnover
- how to make sure <sup>a program</sup> continues to live w/ limited funding
- understanding is our program equitable - how do we know where we're at now, and then how to improve
- culture of bureaucracy / system of this culture vs knowing <sup>how do we de-bureaucratize?</sup> engagement + sustainability takes time.
- quantitative data very important - need
- Is our teaching equitable, doing all we can to build an equitable program.
- using American based recipes / supplying American based food box / using foods that are affordable / accessible to everybody.

Suggested metric - quality, asking person after some time

dismantling racism - how?

Learning, not discomfort, allow ppl to share stories, demographic programs

peer led programming - community identifying need

Ideas:

- having appropriate: a variety of measures to evaluate work/program
- direct educational successes (small wins)
- passion
- Materials that are also appropriate for culture
- Seattle equitized the environmental agenda which made the grant process ~~easy to apply for~~ / set.
- grant made sure equity, communities of color were highly prioritized.
- hear the stories of success

need to look to Canada.

tools we need

What need more about:

- definitions of equity
- future of funding
- See how equity looks at the ground level
- Real life examples of what's working - examples of equitable, sustainable programming.
- Small spaces of democracy - who's doing it, & how doing it well.
- what's important to people
- qualitative data to show equality
- root causes

when there's not even a grocery store there, how to even get programming about groceries - reading those on the third. Second box, over there on first. grant management a barrier.

# Access to Basic Human Rights

\* What is the biggest challenge?

- systematic oppression
- capitalism — monetary value to basic needs
- zip code barriers — restricting access (i.e. food deserts)  
what is being offered in lower income zip codes
- how we create access ~~can~~

↓  
corporations  
city planners  
culture  
oppression

- lack of access
- food stigmas — uncomfortable trying unfamiliar items and "organic" label stigma
- globalized food system

to counter

- using neighborhood stores & bars (already trusted) to carry and sell more healthy options
  - keep prices to fit neighborhood
  - break stigmas

\* Ideas that work

(look above)

◦ localizing the food system

◦ accessibility

◦ price

◦ community engagement around food

— using community spaces and accessible lands to grow / hand out food

◦ education

→ in schools and in communities

\* Resources

- tapping into local knowledge

(learning from each other, tapping into elder's knowledge, shape tactics to community needs)

- learning and networking with others working for food justice across the nation

D biggest challenges

- those making decisions are detached from the lived reality of those who are being served
  - ↳ Food bank/institutions
  - ↳ Political

→ international issue → lack of access to Human Rights

→ policy

- ↳ corporate & challenging accountability
- ↳ conflict of interest
- ↳ capitalism
- ↳ multi stakeholder policy making w/ corporations @ the table = a huge problem

Corporate influence in policies / policy making

Q What works?

- coalition of actual community organization
  - ↳ participation in policy making
- cross sectoral needs / rights (housing, health, food, education, etc) being met → not isolating hunger.
- saying No to corporate \$
- Meeting people where they are it / facilitating communication
  - ↳ translations, interpretation
  - ↳ spaces that make sense for the served populations
- spaces of dignity → remove shame from need.
  - ↳ dispelling myths of shame through telling stories

# Equity: Gentrification + Displacement

Themes

- > Gentrification in Seattle
  - Want to become more well-versed in the topic
  - intersections of food access
- > Farmers markets no longer risky areas that most need it
- > Austin = most economically, racially segregated city
  - Terrible public transit
- > Displacement of refugees + other populations
  - trauma, violence
- > Land tenure, long term solutions
- > Public policy in housing
  - how 'Healthy Food' can cause gentrification
- > Data is old, gentrification is happening quickly
  - how do we track the need

> transit-oriented development  
communities having conversation  
before light rail comes in  
to prevent gentrification

Getting involved in planning of zoning codes  
Centering residents in their involvement, working w/ students  
Accountability in mass mobilization  
Plugging into existing resources, showing up for them

> Ideas <

- community institutions (i.e. churches) as hubs
- historically preserving neighborhoods, ending property taxes in certain neighborhoods
- partnering w/ other services, healthcare
- meet people where they're at, build community as opposed to mobile distribution
- collocation of food w/ other sites

What tools are available?

- connect w/ other groups doing the work
- Food bank as community site to connect people together  
bring stakeholders together
- direct action, i.e. shutting down community meetings if they don't talk about displacement
- community based agreements

terrors  
bureaucrations

- create urgency in our networks



# ACCESS TO CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE FOODS

1. What is the biggest challenge to this topic?

- Encountering people who do not recognize the importance of the topic, or push back
- Language barrier - knowing what foods folks would use/want
  - ↳ having the right volunteers/staff to make connections in the community
- Skill at first step of bringing awareness
- Federal programs are slow to shift/change

2. What are some ideas that have worked?

- Hiring people from diverse cultures/communities.
- Comfortable seeing a familiar face
- UC Riverside - farm apprenticeship program
- Bringing in different cooking instructors who understand cultural cooking traditions.  
Instructors who use popular education model
- Focus groups - groups talking about typical meals.  
Coming from a place of learning.
- IRC - started a community kitchen - New Roots gives garden plots. Also a good opportunity for cross-cultural exchange.
- Salsa CSA Share to help find market for excess tomatoes/peppers → scholarships + Double Up Food Bucks for low-income →

- Latino community members.

3. What ideas do you have you would like to float?

- Helped to think beyond Recipes. → most cultures don't cook from recipes.

↳ YouTube - visual w/o reading

- Training cooking class graduates to do a cooking demo at the Farmers' Market (new this season)

4. What tool or resource would be useful for you?

- Source for translating recipes (not just Spanish) →

→ using international studies program from local college

→ would like to see a facebook page

ACCESS TO CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE  
FOODS CONT.

Re in the sky visions for culturally appropriate  
foods.

- Using front strips for garden space

## Rural Equity Discussion Group:

## Equity: Rural Access & Economic Equality

### What Draw Us In:

- Differences between rural and urban access issues
- Rural food deserts, mostly migrant, farm worker communities
- Native communities, food access and food sovereignty, building tribe capacity
- Long distances rural pantry distribution, etc
- Distribution issue and lack of fresh produce → transporting that produce to more rural towns
- Food desert in Southern Arizona
- Exit of grocery stores in Rural Oregon; need to expand mobile pantry to more rural
- Transportation issues; lack of small businesses and ability to thrive
- Lower, stagnant wages in more rural counties
- Access - fewer resources for rural pantries, volunteers with narrow ~~idea~~ view of role / food security
- # Lack of rural representation in deciding how programs run in rural communities
  - Decisions being made in organizations not rural - about a whole county / region without representation / enough rural voices

### Solutions / Strategies:

- Food rescue models: gleanng / direct farm versus grocery stores
- Focus on food preservation
- Identifying and reaching out to partners to expand capacity
- Community members have joined together to buy and sell products they grow / cook
- Local Govt: engaging County Council, established a budget for Food Banks to make bulk purchases → distribute to other agencies
- ~~to deliver to seniors at home and senior centers~~ - Delivery to seniors at home and senior centers
- Go where people are, don't expect them to come out
- High schools organized gleanng clubs
- Healthy Rural / Corner Store initiatives in Oregon
- Healthy Mobile Pantry in Southern Oregon partnered w / FQHC