

## Summary of HUD Civil Rights and Racial Equity Best Practices for Community Development Block Grants Programs:

### Key Program Planning Questions for Civil Rights Best Practice:

- What service or benefit will be provided? Why?
- Where will it be located? Why?
- Who will it serve? Why?
- Who is eligible? Ineligible? Why?
- How will it be marketed? Why?
- How will it be accessed? Why?
- How will you track and analyze key data?

### Additional Civil Rights Best Practices:

1. Carefully consider evidence of *impact* and *need*, including by neighborhood, income bracket, housing tenure, housing type, age, disability status, familial status, language spoken, business type, business size, profession, etc.
2. Carefully consider who is included or excluded by, and how the service differs by:
  - Where they will be located
  - How people are made aware (*E.g.*, Marketing, targeted outreach, word of mouth, websites, radio, print, trusted community contacts)
  - Entrance points (*E.g.*, Online, in person, limited hours, at particular physical locations, distance, comfort, accessibility)
  - Eligibility criteria (*E.g.*, size of business/value of home thresholds, age thresholds, residency requirements, criminal records, credit scores)
  - Methods of proof for eligibility (*E.g.*, bank statements, tax returns, prior credit)
  - Language assistance at *all* stages: (*E.g.*, outreach, intake, application)
3. Carefully consider:
  - Prioritization of need
  - Marketing and Awareness of Available Funds
  - Transparency of application process and application assessment and selection
  - Reaching hard to reach communities
  - Data Collection and analysis

### Key questions for data collection, analysis, and follow-up

Before launching a program:

- Race/ethnicity /disability status of eligible applicant pool (age, income, housing tenure, etc.)
- Race/ethnicity of neighborhoods

During:

- “How did you hear?” question
- “Why are you withdrawing application?” question
- Language needs

During/After:

- Race/ethnicity/disability status of beneficiaries
- Race/ethnicity /disability status of applicants

### Resources

- Racial Trauma and Trauma-Informed Services
- Racially Equitable Responses to COVID-19 (C4 Innovations - April 2, 2020)
- Data & Equity: Using the Data You Have (HUD SNAPS – July 8, 2020)
- The Alliance’s Racial Equity Network Toolkit (National Alliance to End Homelessness) (NAEH) - April 18, 2019)
- HUD's Community Assessment Reporting Tool - This tool will allow users to see all HUD funding that their community is currently receiving. Reports can be generated and downloaded.
- Using GIS Mapping to Help Address Disparities in Homelessness Assistance (USICH - November 27, 2017) Purpose (COVID-19 Community Vulnerability Map): Identification of the populations at risk for severe outcomes once infected to inform resource planning, interventions, outreach and other community initiatives. <https://covid19.jvion.com/>
- CAL Enviro Screen: CalEnviroScreen is a screening tool that evaluates the burden of pollution from multiple sources in communities while accounting for potential vulnerability to the adverse effects of pollution. CalEnviroScreen ranks census tracts in California based on potential exposures to pollutants, adverse environmental conditions, socioeconomic factors and prevalence of certain health conditions. Data used in the CalEnviroScreen model come from national and state sources.
- US EPA EJ Screen: EJSCREEN is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool that provides EPA with a nationally consistent dataset and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators.
- The Opportunity Atlas by Stanford - This interactive map allows users to compare outcomes of children from different neighborhoods, all the way down to the census tract. You can download images of the area you are search and download the data used to create the maps. There is also a guide for how to use this mapping tool that can be found [here](#).