

Racial Equity Core Teams

The Engines of Institutional Change

Webinar

December 18, 2018

Government Alliance on Race and Equity



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A national network of government working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all.

- Lead network – 100 members
- Expand Network – 30 states / 150+ cities
- Provide tools to put theory into action



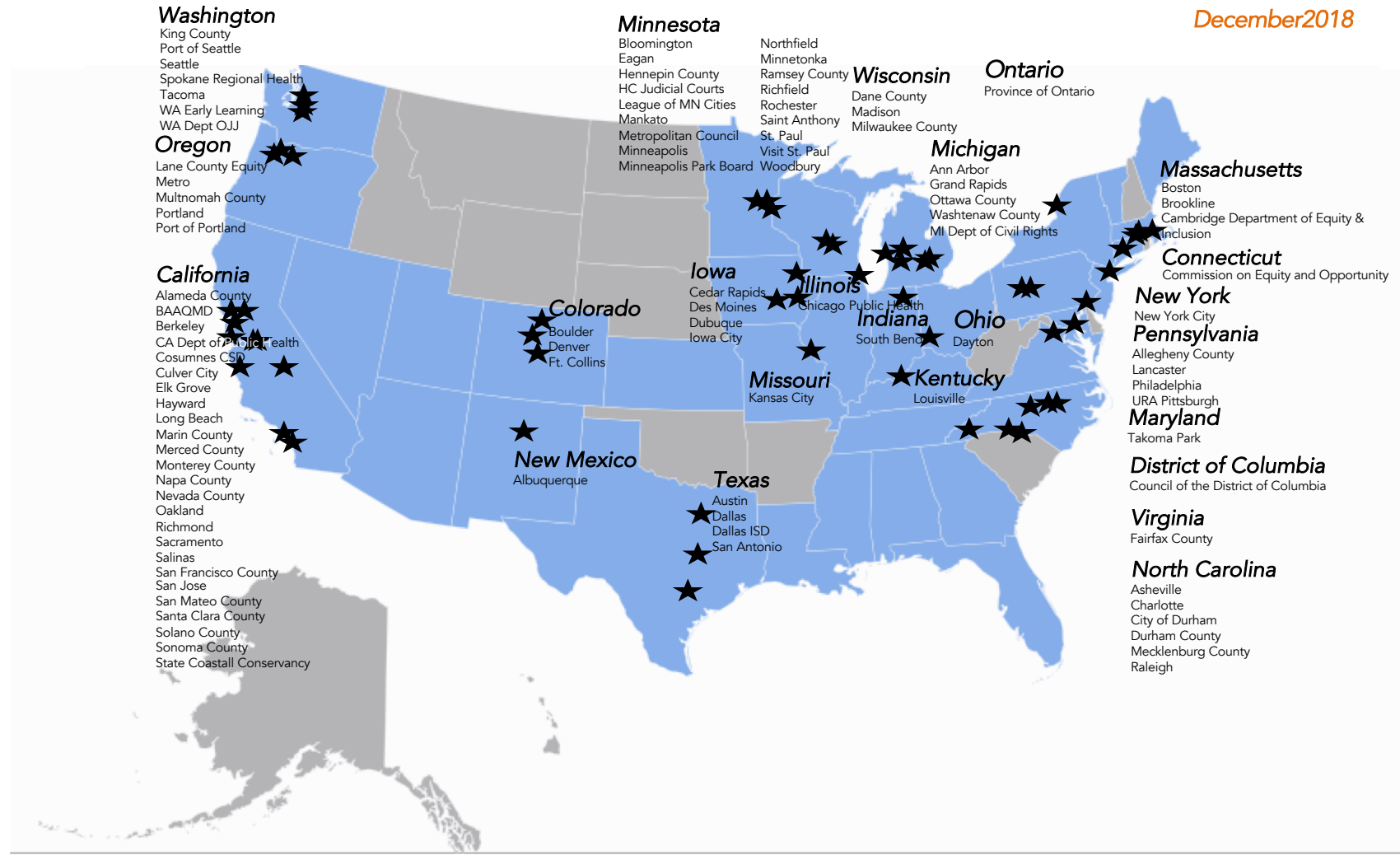
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Presenters

Gordon Goodwin: Midwest Region Project Manager, Government Alliance on Race and Equity

Terry Keleher: Director of Strategic Innovations, Race Forward

Kimberlee Archie, Director, Office of Equity & Inclusion, City of Asheville, NC

Lisa Ramadhar, Senior Evaluator, NY City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene

Nannette Blaize, Race to Justice Coordinator, NY City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene

Matias Valenzuela, Director, Office of Equity and Social Justice, King County, WA.



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Introductions

Chat function can be used to:

- ...introduce yourselves
- ...ask questions
- ...share comments, tips, resource links

Introductions: Type in your name, location, government jurisdiction and/or other affiliation.



Agenda

- Overview of Racial Equity Core Teams
- Experience Sharing:
 - Starting a Core Team (Asheville, NC)
 - Moving into Action (NYC)
 - Coordination & Communication (King Co., WA)
- Q&A



Participant Poll

How familiar are you with Racial Equity Core Teams?



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Overview of Racial Equity Core Teams



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What is a Racial Equity Core Team

A primary leadership team
responsible for designing, coordinating, and organizing
racial equity plans and activities
across a government jurisdiction or institution
that is committed to equitable systems change.



An Engine for Change

- Leads the way
- Pulls others along
- Keeps things on track
- Chugs through challenging terrain
- Moves everyone in a common direction
- Builds movement & momentum
- Arrives at destination: equitable outcomes



Authority and Accountability

- Core Team is often situated within a broader Racial Equity Initiative or framework, and is officially authorized to play a leading role in operationalizing the commitment to equity.
- The closer the Core Team is structurally situated to top management, the more access, authority, and ability it has.
- The Core Team's work must align with the strategic plans and priorities of the overall jurisdiction, and be fully accountable to its leadership, with direct lines of communication.



Key Functions

- ✓ Catalyzing
- ✓ Coordinating
- ✓ Cultivating
- ✓ Capacity-building
- ✓ Communicating
- ✓ Collecting data
- ✓ Championing



Ideal Composition

- Diversity across various identities/characteristics
- Diversity across departments, branches, units
- Diversity across work levels, functions and authority
- Diversity in leadership, emerging & experienced



Desired Characteristics



Core Team Leadership

- Initially, often led by Racial Equity Director
- Increasingly, people take on various leadership roles
- Continually cultivate and develop new leadership
- Balance leadership continuity and turnover



Building Community & Learning

- Build in time for relationship-building
- Build in upfront training
- Build in ongoing learning
- Collect & analyze data (e.g. Employee Equity Survey)



Taking Action

- Decide priorities and develop concrete goals
- Create an Racial Equity Action Plan
- Create working groups / pilot projects
- Stay focused, build in support and accountability



Secret to Success

- A diverse, passionate, visionary team
- Well-coordinated work tied to an action plan
- Continually bringing more people aboard
- Ongoing learning to continually expand impact
- Authority and accountability to navigate obstacles
- Incremental infrastructure to sustain & scale success.
- Staying on track towards a common destination.



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Question to Participants

**What do you want to learn about Core Teams? Or,
What is a challenge you are trying to address?**

(Use the chat box to respond. Begin your response with the word "Question:" or "Challenge: ...")



Starting a Racial Equity Core Team



Kimberlee Archie
Equity & Inclusion Manager, City of Asheville, NC



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Moving into Action



Lisa Ramadhar & Nannette Blaize

NY City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene



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Communication & Coordination



Matias Valenzuela

Director, Office of Equity and Social Justice, King County, W



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Question to Participants

What lesson, tip, or success can you share from your experience with Racial Equity Core Teams? Are there any links to helpful resources you want to share?

(Use the chat box to respond. Begin your response with the word "Lesson: ..., " "Tip: ..., " or Success: ...")



Q & A



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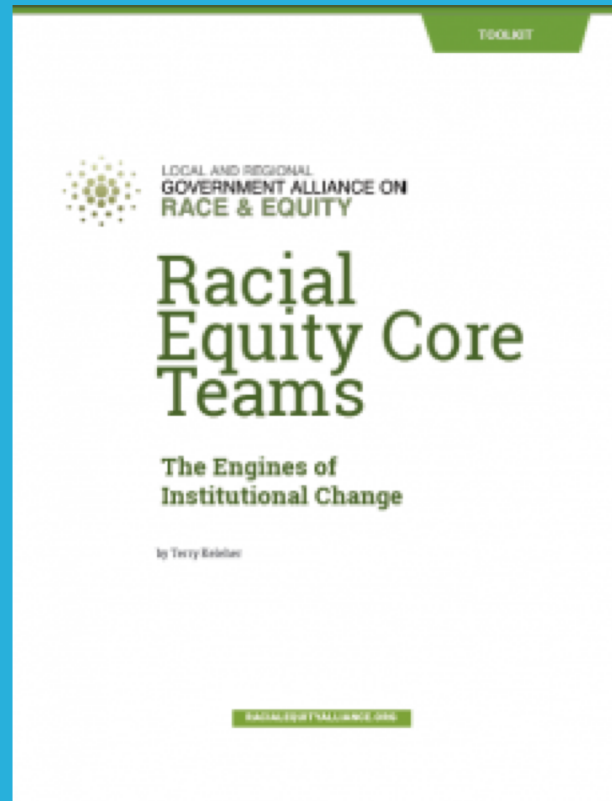
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Question to Participants

What will you do next to move your Core Team forward?
Is there an idea from this webinar you can apply?

(Use the chat box to respond. Begin your response with the word "Next Step:")





Download at: <https://www.racialequityalliance.org/resources>



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