

## **Governor's Poverty Reduction Work Group – 9/20/18 Minutes**

### **2018 PRWG Interim Report**

- Submitted!! Waiting on approval from Gov's office on widely distributing
- We are still grappling with how we define poverty and working on how we define success There is advocacy and research that supports a higher benchmark for poverty – the preliminary feedback from Results WA -- Inslee adopted 200% FPL definition of Results WA
- Meeting with Governor Inslee on 12/6
- Co-leads are required; 10 additional members can come

### **Update from Juanita on Steering Committee**

- Formed and have met twice! (planning to meet the Wednesday before full PRWG meeting)
- Monette, (Steering Committee member) attended meeting
- Juanita will be bringing folks from steering committee from time to time.
- 25 Energetic people who want to help both sides understand how to reduce poverty
- First couple of meetings were intense, received a lot of feedback on the Interim Report to the Governor. Next meeting will continue to dig into that work more.
- Juanita is serving as one of the co-chairs and at the next meeting they will elect a 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Make up of SC – vast geographic and ethnic/racial diversity; Many come from homelessness and living on very low monthly income; teacher/mentors in the communities.
- Group is still getting to know each other, learning where each other is at

### **Equity Consultants update**

Gates Foundation funded and RFP complete

Had 4 outstanding applications to vet – Racial Equity Works was the prevalent bidder

Patricia Lally is here today from REW. Patricia was at the City of Seattle Office of Civil Rights and was responsible for bringing the issue of racial equity forward.

### **Take Away from Patricia Lally**

- Patricia has worked with John Powell who is one of the fathers of racial equity work. He has coined the term Circle of Human Concern - choice between “othering” and “belonging” – Her work is to create spaces of belonging. Disrupting the power structure – give back to the people most impacted by systems that have failed – and give back to them power within this circle of belonging.
- Patricia is an attorney and worked in this field both internally (government) as well as in and of community. Dr. Herrera is her partner.
- Her work resulted in Racial Equity Tool Kits. Now the City of Seattle has one, almost every city in the country has one.
- What tool we use matters less than that we chose one and we use it.
  - ✓ Use of qualitative and quantitative data
  - ✓ Amplify those things doing well; mitigate the harm
  - ✓ Political environment impacts – building goodwill and including folks who do have power – bring them together with us and leverage their power to move the work forward

- This will be difficult work and we will struggle at times. How do we who have had privilege and understand those who have not.

#### **PRWG and Taskforce Alignment Update**

- Reviewed and discussed attached document on alignment between PRWG and Legislative Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight (LEWPRO) Taskforce
- Not everyone was in agreement on having two groups
- Need to honor the legislation that many Senators and Representatives worked really hard to pass and what the language in the bill was
- Specifically around intergenerational poverty and a requirement that the Taskforce focus on TANF and WorkFirst.
- Hans Zeiger has offered to be an ambassador with our group back to the Taskforce
- Ensure that our work is actually informing the Taskforce
- Their statute requires them to submit a 5 year plan. That is an opportunity to identify and devise more detailed recommendations.
- With alignment of PRWG and LEWPRO we realize our capacity to create recommendations that build and promotes equity – and then the Task force has the power to do something with these recommendations. Our group can positively influence the legislative branch.

#### **Takeaway from Shared leadership model discussion**

- Co-Leads, David, Diane, and Tim led a discussion on the attached briefing about expanding the planning of monthly meeting beyond the agency co-leads.
- Julie Watts, Washington State Budget & Policy Center, Nancy Rocha Aguilar, Commission on Hispanic Affairs, and Marisol Tapia Gonzales, Puget Sound Training Center volunteered to begin attending the monthly planning meetings to provide their perspectives.
- Ensures that PRWG covers translation of language and tone of language when presenting materials to those populations that are impacted by the 10 year strategic plan.
- Supports the goal that the PRWG outreach to communities is a discussion **with** those communities instead of a discussion **to** those communities.
- If representatives of the Steering Committee or sub-groups would like to join in the future, or coordinate through other means, that will be welcome. We need the Steering Committee's guidance and will coordinate in any manner that is ideal for the Steering Committee.
- Creates opportunities for a wider range of expertise on agenda development.
- Carol will draft up a proposal based on discussion to be submitted to the PRWG members between November and December meetings for their final approval via email.

#### **Takeaway from Process for Idea development discussion**

- Co-leads, David, Diane, and Tim led the first of several discussions on the attached briefing about policy recommendations process.
- Steering Committee's directive is set and their involvement is where policy recommendations are first reviewed. Regardless of whether it comes from an individual member or a sub-group.
- Individual PRWG member policy recommendations should go through a vetting process, first with the steering committee (brought in at the beginning) then to relevant sub-group then to full committee.

- Racial Equity is the work already baked in. Any policy development process at its core will examine measurable impact on equity through our equity tool kit. It will be important that we chose one and we use it with the following overarching themes:
  - To give back to the people most impacted by systems that have failed (i.e. John Powell’s Circle of Human Concern and choice between “othering” and “belonging”)
  - Use of qualitative and quantitative data
  - Amplify those things doing well; mitigate the harm
  - Political environment impacts – building good will.
  - Leverage the partnership of the Legislative Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight (LEWPRO) Taskforce as it includes policy makers who have the power to execute on these recommendations that builds and promotes equity.
- All ideas are welcome but use guidelines of template to bring idea to PRWG so that ideas brought before the entire committee are fully informed.
- A timeline for considering which policy recommendations to include in 10-year strategic plan. Includes action items and due dates.
- A way to track progress of policy recommendations.
- One week is needed for PRWG members to read policy recommendations using the standard template prior to discussion at a PRWG meeting.
- Suggested Template requirements:
  - Expected impact on poverty reduction (measurable and non-measurable).
  - Other expected impacts, How to quantify/capture ripple effect.
  - Which of the Governor’s five focus areas does it include (select all that apply)?
  - Does it meet PRWG mandate?
  - Does it fall outside the five focus areas of Governor’s directive?
  - Is new legislation required? If so, please explain.
  - Does it include an intergenerational approach (whole household/whole family)?
  - Problem statement addressing:
    - The problem we are trying to solve.
    - The type of fix needed.
    - Solutions that won’t work.
    - What is not working?
- Suggested Template Considerations
  - Recognizing and having some idea of expected cost (fiscal impact) per year.
  - Political viability.
  - Awareness of other policy and legislative agendas.
  - Are federal waivers required?
  - Does it require significant non-legislative reform by agencies or stakeholders?
- Suggested Method used for Approval for 10-year plan
  - Majority Rules with room for minority opinion (this includes everyone on the PRWG so a mechanism to support an idea remotely is needed)
  - Opportunity to indicate “strength” of support – like a scale, scoring/assessment tool/matrix – goal is ability to measure.
  - Includes a split on the group - % of support and against \*qualifying.
- Carol will draft a proposal based on discussion to bring back to December meeting

**Takeaway from Discussion on 12/6 Meeting with Governor Inslee:**

- Goal to communicate work and talk about it in different way
- Empowerment of steering committee as a model for work
- Focus on equity
- Who else should attend meeting:
  - Include a newly arrived immigrant
  - Include people most affected by poverty
  - Kids
  - Let Steering Committee decide on which 5 to send