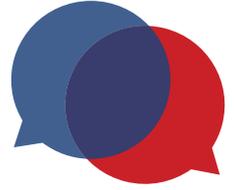


Healing through Policy: Creating Pathways to Racial Justice

NARRATIVE CHANGE: AN OVERVIEW



“Healing Through Policy: Creating Pathways to Racial Justice” is a national initiative that offers local leaders a suite of policies and practices to move communities and policymakers from commitment to action for health, racial equity, and justice.

Local leaders can adopt and implement all or some of the policies and practices curated through the initiative to help promote racial healing and address social inequities.

These options are guided by the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation framework, which offers an overarching comprehensive strategy for adaptation by local communities and organizations

to support progress toward needed systemic transformation. The framework addresses the foundational components of Narrative Change, Racial Healing and Relationship Building, Separation, Law, and Economy.

Healing Through Policy is an initiative of the American Public Health Association, the de Beaumont Foundation, and the National Collaborative for Health Equity.

Narrative Change

Narrative Change refers to transforming how we communicate about our past, present, and future. Narrative change also involves direct conversations in multiracial, multiethnic tables in communities. Doing so can influence people’s perspectives, perceptions, and behaviors about and toward one another so that we can work more effectively and productively toward community-based change.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES UNDER THE NARRATIVE CHANGE PILLAR:

- Executive orders, resolutions, ordinances, and declarations to advance racial equity.
- Mapping, data collection, and analysis efforts to understand and address inequities and measure progress.
- Racial impact assessments, frameworks, and other systems to achieve accountability.
- Redesigning public spaces to equitably honor our shared history.
- Creating curricula that are respectful, inclusive, and honor the diverse communities in which children attend school.

STORIES OF SUCCESS:

- [Milwaukee County](#) passed an ordinance that commits the county government to identify and address policies, practices, and power structures that, whether intentionally or unintentionally, work in favor of white people and create barriers for Black, brown, and Indigenous people.
- Asheville, North Carolina received the North Carolina G. Herbert Stout Award for Visionary Use of GIS in support of the city's [Mapping Racial Equity project](#). The GIS team worked with the Asheville Office of Equity and Inclusion to use spatial analysis to map and record the city's racial history.
- In [Charleston, South Carolina](#), an ordinance was passed to create a special commission on equity, inclusion, and racial conciliation.
- [TRHT Los Angeles](#) was a partner on the 50th annual Manzanar Pilgrimage to learn about the active incarceration and unjust treatment of Japanese American citizens during World War II at the first concentration camp in the United States.
- Colorado passed the "[Know Justice No Peace](#)" resolution requiring the inclusion of Black, Indigenous, and Latino studies in the curriculum by 2022, providing professional development to teachers and administrators around discussing racially traumatic situations, and ensuring that feedback loops are in place to ensure student competency and cultural responsiveness.

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

[County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)

[Diversity Data Kids](#)

[American Public Health Association: Declarations of Racism as a Public Health Crisis](#)

[Government Alliance on Race and Equity \(GARE\)](#)

[Living Cities: Narrative Change Working Group](#)

[Open Society Foundations: "Building Narrative Power for Racial Justice and Health Equity"](#)

[Esri: Racial Equity GIS Hub](#)

[Health Opportunity and Equity \(HOPE\) Initiative](#)

[Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity](#)

For more information about Healing Through Policy, visit apha.org/healing-through-policy.