Community Participatory Action Research
Case Study #1: Broward County, Florida
October 27, 2021
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Welcome & Agenda

Communitywide Equity Initiatives – Local Context of CPAR
Adamma DuCille

C-PARP Conceptual Framework/Values/Commitments & Process
Sue Gallagher

C-PARP Results & Advantages of Lived Expertise
Tiffany Csonka

Implications –
All Presenters
Community-wide Equity Initiatives

Adamma DuCille
The Children’s Services Council of Broward County (CSC) is an independent taxing authority established by voter referendum in 2000. The CSC's mission is to provide leadership, advocacy, and resources necessary to enhance the lives of the children of Broward County and empower them to become responsible, productive adults through collaborative planning and funding of a continuum of quality care.

**IMPACT AREAS**

- After-School & Summer Programs
- Early Childhood
- Infant and Maternal Health
- Programming for Youth and Adults with Special Needs
- Family Strengthening
- Community Based Initiatives
- Respite
- Teen Programs
- Prosperity & Hunger
- Capacity Building
- Health & Safety Initiatives
Broward County Demographics

1.95 Million People Live in Broward

- 33.1% of total population identify as White (Non-Hispanic)
- 26.6% of total population identify as Black (Non-Hispanic)
- 31.3% of total population identify as Hispanic
- 8.9% Asian, Native American, Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, Two or More Races

Demographics Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Historically Black communities are impacted by past and current discriminatory policies which:

- Uphold residential segregation
- Maintain areas of concentrated poverty
- Keep residents disconnected and under-resourced
- Enforce practices that inhibit economic growth and mobility

Data Source: 2010 Census, Redistricting Data, Table P2
Racial Disparities in Healthcare

African Americans and whites include Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin.

African Americans are more likely to die at early ages from all causes.

Health Data Source Link: CDC.com
Racial Disparities in Economics

Racial Wealth Gap

Median Household Net Worth

- **WHITE**: $110,729
- **ASIAN**: $69,590
- **HISPANIC**: $7,424
- **BLACK**: $4,955

*Source: Census Bureau*

Economic Data Source: CNNMoney.com
# Racial Disparities in Justice System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RACE</th>
<th>TOTAL PRISON POPULATION (%)</th>
<th>TOTAL US POPULATION (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>58.70</td>
<td>76.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>13.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>5.90</td>
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</tbody>
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Criminal Justice Data Source: Federal Bureau of Prisons

Criminal Justice Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Commitment to Communitywide Training

- Participants in Racial Equity Institute *Groundwater Presentation*: 1,203
- Participants in CSC’s *Implicit Bias and Local History of Racism*: 5,000
- Participants in Racial Equity Institute *2-Day Workshop*: 2,723
Supporting Local Equity-Centered Initiatives

**Affinity Groups**
- People of Color Caucus
- Latino Caucus
- Broward Partners for Racial Equity
- Broward Funders for Racial Equity
- CEOs for Racial Equity
- White Caucus
- Joint Caucus

**Community Stakeholders**
- Youth
- Parents/Caregivers
- Teachers
- Youth & Family Serving Providers
- Religious Leaders
- Local Politicians
- Media Partners

**Educators and Academia**
- Local School Board
- Broward College
- Xavier University / Center for Traumatic Stress Research
- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida International University

**Funders & Business Community**
- Broward Workshop
- The Community Foundation of Broward
- Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance
- The Miami Foundation
- Philanthropy Miami
- The DeLuca Foundation

**Local Government Entity**
- Broward County Human Services
- The Department of Health
- Broward Sheriff’s Office
- Various local municipalities

**State and National Partners**
- The Racial Equity Institute
- The People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond
- Broward Education Research Alliance
- Local College Access Network/ Broward Bridge 2 Life
- Southern Education Foundation
- Florida College Access Network
- Florida PTA
- The Kellogg Foundation
Coalition Building & Meaningful Connections

Sharing equal power, deepening relationships and building greater trust.

Working alongside stakeholders and committing to collectively learn, do and act in unison.

Honoring the contributions of community stakeholders through remunerative incentives.

Using Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) and Collective Impact approaches to co-create solutions to community needs.
CPAR Genesis, Commitments & Process

Sue Gallagher
Why CPAR in Broward?

- 2016 Performance Partnership Pilot (P3) Grant
- 2016 Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy (AISP) IDS Learning Community
- 2017 Broward Data Collaborative
Dismantling Structure of Racism with CPAR

Racialized Hierarchy

Social & Spatial Segregation

Justifying Deficit Narrative
How can data systems be incentivized to build equitable relationships and outcomes?

How can we build data structures that validate community members’ expertise & power to co-create non-racist systems and communities?
CPAR is an approach to research based on the idea that the people of a community possess expert knowledge about their lived experience and community conditions in a way that cannot be understood strictly through academic research.
1. Shift problems off the backs of individuals onto systems, structures and policies.

2. Acknowledge how research has harmed people

3. Employ social science as a mechanism of empowerment - Action happens all along the way.

4. Foster & Encourage Desire and Imagination
Youth, Parents, Researchers & System Professionals

Humanizing & Transformative Relationships that produced rich data, discussion and policy, system, and narrative change
Enhance collaboration between community members, community organizations, and researchers in every step of the research process.

Action-oriented, taking the results and process of the research to drive social change.

Relevant, as the community works together to define problems.

Innovative, because community members understand best what resources already exist to go towards addressing their issues.

Critical, awareness of institutional and structural racism.
Broward CPAR Projects

Federal Performance Pilot Partnership grant
March 2018 – July 2018
(Feds $50,000 & CSC $17,000)
Youth & Professionals in Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, Behavioral Health Systems

Florida Institute of Child Welfare grant
July 2019 – September 2020
(FICW $50,000 & CSC $12,000)
Youth, Parents & Professionals in Child Welfare
Engagement:
- Tapped Existing Relationships between Participants and System Professionals

Sustaining Participation:
- Need for Trauma Informed & Integrating approaches
- Flexibility with scheduling, transportation, meals

Critical/Creative Focus:
- Provide anti-racism training for co-researchers
Youth, Parents & Professionals
Co-Researching Activities

- Establishing a Research Team
- Group Knowledge Building
- Clarifying Topic, Questions, Audience, Purpose
- Deciding Methods – What Kinds of Data will be most useful for you?
- Collecting Data
- Analyzing Data
- Creating Research Products
Data Whispering: Demystifying Analysis

Making the Analysis Accessible to Everyone

- Themes
- Content Analysis
- Traditional Qualitative Analysis

- Surprising
- Troubling
- Exciting

- Repeated/Similar
- Standout
Broward CPAR Outcomes

CPAR Results & Advantages of Integrating Lived Expertise

Tiffany Csonka
2018 & 2019 CPAR Outcomes

• Youth Leadership Development & Access to Social Capital
• System Professional Transformation
• Relationships of Mutual Accountability
• Solutions to address system gaps
“I went through this foster care group home already and I would not want no one else to go through either so if it is my voice and my opinion can help other kids, I will do anything to make them feel more comfortable and safe.” - Youth co-researcher

“It has been difficult but it has made me more sensitive to others and their situation. I have met some amazing, compassionate people that has become my team.” – Youth co-researcher
“As a case manager in this field, you can sometimes forget how “abnormal” it is what most of these children experience and working on something that called out this injustices and unfair practices was refreshing and encouraging.” – Adult co-researcher

“I have been working in the system for over 13 years, and was starting to feel burned out. I now realize my work is not done. I will continue exemplify and model the positive behavior our youth deserve.” – Adult co-researcher
Bookmarks for Group Home Staff

Letter to Group Home Staff
If your child has been arrested, here is what you need to know:

If my child is arrested, are they guilty?
No, being arrested does not mean your child is guilty but missing court will result in an arrest warrant for your child and has added financial cost to you as a parent/guardian.

Do I need to go to court with my child?
It would be best if you were at court with your child, but your child must attend.

How should I prepare for court?
Check your child’s court date and time, call in your child’s absence from school, arrange reliable transportation, be prepared for parking costs and arrive at least 30 min early.

If for some reason your child will miss court, you must call the numbers in red below ASAP:

If your child is arrested, here is what you need to know:

Si su hijo(a) ha sido arrestado, esto es lo que necesita saber:

Si mi hijo(a) es arrestado, ¿Es culpable?
No, su hijo(a) no es culpable, pero faltar a la cita en la corte resultará en una orden de arresto para su hijo y en un costo financiero para usted como padre/madre/tutor.

¿Debo ir a la corte con mi hijo(a)?
La mejor alternativa es acompañar a su hijo ya que él/ella tiene que presentarse en la corte.

¿Cómo me debo preparar para ir a la corte?
Verifique la fecha y hora de la corte de su hijo(a), llame a la escuela para notificar la ausencia, consiga transporte confiable, prepárese para los costos de estacionamiento y llegue al menos 30 minutos antes de su cita.

Si por alguna razón su hijo(a) va a faltar a la corte, debe llamar a los números en rojo lo antes posible.

If your child is arrested, here is what you need to know:

Si yo te arete pitit ou, isit la se sa ou bezwen konnen:

Si pitit mwen an te arete, eske il koupab?
Non, yo te li arete pa vie di pit ou a koupab, men manke dat tribunal la pral lakou yon manda arrestasyon pou pitit ou a ki ap ajoute fré finansye ou kôm yon paran / gadyen.

Èské mwen bezwen ale nan tribunal ak pitit mwen an?
Li ta pi bon si ou te nan tribunal ak pitit ou a, men pitit ou a dwe ale.

Ki jan mwen ta dwe prepare pou tribunal?
Tcheke dat ak li pit ou a, rele nan absans pitit ou a nan lekòl la, fi aranjman pou transp serye, prepare pou depans pou pakh epi riw omwen 30 minè bonè.

Si sou kòk rezon pitit ou a pral rate tribunal la, ou dwe rele chif yo nan wouj anba a pi vit ke posib:

If you are arrested or received a Notice to Apear in court, here is what you need to know...

(Video Image)
Key Findings from Very Important Parents (VIP)

- Parents felt dehumanized in the system
- Parents were afraid to ask for help
- Parents wanted more time & support with understanding and decision making
Implications

Sue Gallagher & Adamma DuCille
Design of Anti-Racist Evaluation Systems

Racialized Hierarchy

Social & Spatial Segregation

Justifying Deficit Narrative

Institutionalize Parent & Youth Relationships, Share Governance

Co-Research, Co-Imagine, Co-Construct Solutions Together, Shared Capacity Building

We are all Powerful, Knowledgeable, Compassionate Change Agents/Partners Who Belong and Make Contributions

20th Children's Services Council of Broward County
Our Focus Is Our Children
Implications of CPAR Projects

Required Individual and Collective Commitment to Action & Relationships

• Commitment of system leaders to advance change through action
• Commitment to personal and professional learning and development related to racial-equity
• Acknowledge the deficits in organizational practices, culture and policies, and a commitment to explore and address them
• Entrust that relationships with community is reciprocal in nature.
Implications of CPAR Projects

Generative Local Context

• Greater appreciation of the value of lived experience.
  ❖ Outcome: New framework for the composition of taskforce, committees, workgroups address community conditions
  ❖ Outcome: Reimagining what is possible
  ❖ CPAR reimagines &embodies equitable power dynamics between communities & systems
  ❖ Professional Transformation – relationships not based in service hierarchy/ segregation/ deficit-based narrative
Implications of CPAR Projects

Necessary Funding Elements

• Building Equitable, Trauma Integrating Relationships Take Time –
  • Fund multi year grants
• Leveraging Critical & Creative Facilitators is essential
• Center Relationships that value full participation and are culturally responsive
  ❖ Outcome: Community members are engaged at all levels research process.
  ❖ Leadership Development – generate richer data, discussion, decision making information
  ❖ Increased Rigor – diversity, divergence of experiences and perspectives
Thank You