Energy Waste Reduction Low Income Workgroup













July 7, 2022





Welcome and Introductions

Brad Banks MPSC



Health and Safety Committee – Advocacy Report Out

Alexis Blizman Ecology Center



#Electrify Everything in Affordable Housing

Brett Little GreenHome Institute



Environmental Justice and Equity

Quinn Parker Encolor Consulting



Wrap Up and Adjourn

Brad Banks MPSC Health & Safety
Committee

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#Electrify Everything in Affordable Housing

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THE INTERSECTION OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES

Quinn Parker, CDP



WHAT ARE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES?

Any community that bears a disproportionate seeof the negative consequences of energy policies or operations.

Historically, the most impacted are marginalized communities whose on **limited incomes**, **people of color**, and **people with disabilities**.



Those with **multiple marginalized identities** sit at the **intersection**.



INTERSECTIONALITY

in ter sec tion ality | in-tər-sek-shə-na-lə-tē

The complex, cumulative way in which the effects of materials of discrimination combine, overlap, or intersect, especially in the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups.

Example: racism, sexism, and classism





FIVE-MINUTE THOUGHT EXERCISE

1 WATCH: We are going to watch a <u>five-minute video</u>.

While it is designed for students, it explores

intersectionality in a digestible way for dages.

2 REFLECT: Thinking about your **ti**dentities, how do you

SHARE

experience both privilege and oppression?

If you're willing, please put your taughtinto

the chat box so we can discuss as a group.

Remember: There are no wrong answers; this is

just a starting point for all of us!





INTERSECTIONALITY

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR THE ENERGY INDUSTRY?

Inequality based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexual details, gender identity, ability, class, and other forms of discrimination "intersect" to create unique dynamics and affect how people engage with our programs.



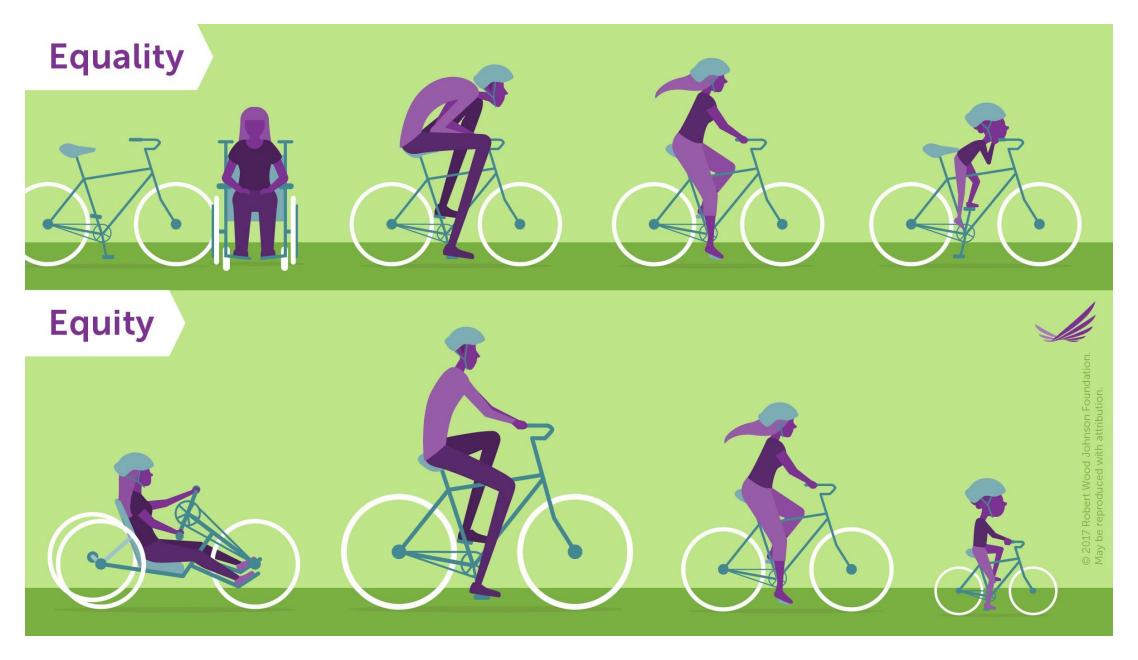
EQUITY

eq·ui·ty | e·kwə·tē

Justice, according to natural law or ight

Specifically, freedom from bias or favoritism.







PILLARS OF AN EQUITABLE ENERGY SYSTEM



Alliquiy

Decision-makers
recognize the historical,
cultural, and institutional
dynamics that have led
to energy inequities



RestEquity

Decision-makers de inclusive and accessible processes to develop and implement energy programs



Equity

Energy policies and programs fairly benefits and bacross all segments of communities



Testable quity

Decision-makers **the**impact on **typenerations**of policies and
programs they develop





FIVE-MINUTE THOUGHT EXERCISE

1. **REFLECTION A** Keep an open notebook/document, and an open mind.

2. REFLECTION B What does an equitable energy industry meanto you? Jot it down. In

your opinion or experience, what are the greatest barriers to equity

in the energy industry?

3 SHARE If you're willing, please put your thoughts into the chat box sowe can discuss as a group.

Remember: There are no wrong answers; this is just a starting point for all of us!



LOW-INCOME DOES NOT EQUAL EQUITY

Low-Income Commis

- Lack of capital
- Lack of access to clean energy program information
- Lack of program awareness

- Rent vs own
- Aging housing stock

Middle Commute

- Language barriers
- Lack of representation
 - Program teams
 - Trade ally network
- Cultural baies
- Lack of trust



ENERGY BURDEN IN DETROIT

3.7X

The median energy burden of low-income households in Detroit is 3.7 times higher than non-low-income households

② 2.4X

The median energy burden of low-income multifamily households in Detroit is 2.4 times higher than multifamily households

54%

The median energy burden of Black households in Detroit is 54% higher than that of non-Hispanic white households



ENERGY BURDEN

VS.

ENERGY INSECURITY

A measure of the percentage of gross annual income spent on utility services

Includes both the economic and physical hardship that maffect households living in energy inefficiency housing



These households are confronted with Mifficult decisions, such as:

- High energy burdens as a result of utilizing energy services or mecessities, such as food or medicine
 - Potentially impacts quality of life
- Living with uncomfortable conditions to save money
 - Potentially impacts health
- Seeking cheaper alternatives for heating, cooling, and other utility size
 - Potentially impacts safety



EQUITY IN PROGRAM DESIGN:

Everyone receives the same quality of atome, meeting their individual needs.

EQUITY



PROCESS



OUTCOMES

All groups have access to the same resources and opportunities

Differences in outcomes cannot be predicted on a basis of race, class or dread dimensions of identity

Can you think of any examples of how this twork in program design?



WHY IS IT COMPLICATED?

- Structural racism illustrated through disinvestment in communities ocolor
- Redlining and denial of mortgages resulting in reduced homeownering
- Lack of economic or educational opportunities for advancement
- Inferior condition of housing stock within the community
- Lack of resources home maintain or to pay up-front costs for energy efficiency upgrades



HOW CAN WE DO BETTER?

- Acknowledge that households of color, specifically Blockand Latinx households, may have a higher energy burden than non-Hispanic, white households
- Collect information by racial categories to understand the inputof the intersection of race and income, specifically identifying what group(s) are in most need of support

43% of Black households (183,997) and 38% &Hispanic households (20,976) in the Detroit metropolitan area experience a high energy burden (above 6%)



HOW CAN WE DO BETTER?

- Increase funding and ensure it is going to the communities who rest
- Bring the community into the conversation and consider cobign tactics to increase equity

For African-American, Latino, and **at**ghouseholds, 42%, 68%, and 97% of their excess energyburdens, respectively, could be eliminated by raising household efficiency to the median



The Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership:

STANCE TOWARDS COMMUNITY	GNORE
IMPACT	Marginalization
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GOALS	Deny access to decision-making processes
MESSAGE TO	Your voice, needs & interests do not matter
ACTIVITIES	Closed door meeting Misinformation Systematic
RESOURCE ALLOCATION RATIOS	100 % Systems Admin

NFORM	TUBOD
Placation	Tokenization
Provide the community with relevant information	Gather input fr the community
We will keep you informed	We care what think
Fact sheets Open Houses Presentations Billboards Videos	Public Commer Focus Groups Community Fo Surveys
70-90% Systems Admin	60-80% Systems Admin
10-30% Promotions and Publicity	20-40% Consultation Activities

3				
	Voice			
from y	Ensure community needs and assets are integrated into process & inform planning			
t you	You are making us think, (and therefore act) differently about the issue			
ent orums	Community organizing & advocacy			
or arris	House meetings Interactive workshops			
	Polling			
	Community forums			
in	50-60% Systems Admin			

40-50%

Community

Involvement

■ NQVE

community nd assets grated into & inform	
making r, (and re act) rly about re	
nity ng & y	
neetings /e ps	
nity forums	
Admin	

20-50%

50-70%

Partners

Community

Systems Admin

Delegated Power	Community Ownership
Ensure community capacity to play a leadership role in implementation of decisions	Foster democratic participation and equity through community-driven decision-making; Bridge divide between community & governance
Your leadership and expertise are critical to how we address the issue	It's time to unlock collective power and capacity for transformative solutions
MOU's with Community-based organizations Community organizing Citizen advisory committees Open Planning Forums with Citizen Polling	Community-driven planning Consensus building Participatory action research Participatory budgeting Cooperatives

80-100%

Community partners

and community-driven processes ideally

generate new value and

resources that can be

invested in solutions

DHRIO

COLLABORATE





HOW CAN WE DO BETTER?

- Ensure there is coordination and collaboration between the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and utility sponsored limited income programs
- Develop metrics beyond energy saved that consider the combisof energy insecurity



STEPS TO GET STARTED:

Align your **definition of equity** with the **needs of the community**, identifying and acknowledging the regulatory, policy, and programmatic inequities that will be barriers to inclusive and equitable programs.

1 Research

Developing relevant and impactful metrics and targets requires a clear understanding of the program, available data, and what success looks like.

2 Build Quity

Build capacity to interpret, analyze, **a** incorporate the results of measuring equity indicators.

Learn to use a lens other than your own.

3 Be Herbod

Develop definitions **d**KPIs that are intentional,
specific, and
measureable, knowing
they may change.
As you learn more, do
better.





THANK YOU

Questions? Comments? Want to continue the conversation?

Please get in touch:

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Close & Adjourn

Thank You!



