

**2023 PUBLIC HEALTH LAW  
CONFERENCE**

**People. Policy. Progress.**

**Creating Confluence  
Among Equity Initiatives  
Working Upstream**





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## WA State

- **Hoh Rain Forest** – One of the only temperate rain forests in the US.
- **Puget/Salish Sound** – the largest estuary on the continental US.
- **Apple, pear, and cherry orchards** – harvesting over half of US Production.
- **Mt. Rainier / Tahoma** – The most glaciers in the lower 48 states.
- **Palouse Hills** – Producing 4<sup>th</sup> most wheat in the US.



# WA State Health Ecosystem

- Population – nearly **8 million** – **13<sup>th</sup>** most populous state
- Area – **71,362** square miles – **18<sup>th</sup>** largest state
- **29** Federally Recognized Tribes
- **35** Local Health Departments (39 Counties)
- **500,000** licensed health care professionals and nearly **100** hospitals





## What is Public Health?

“What we as a society do *collectively* to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy.”

- *The future of the Public's Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Institute of Medicine, 2003



# *Health*

*Where Equity,  
Innovation and  
Engagement meet*

Transactional  
Health

TO

*Transformational Health*





WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**TRANSFORMATIONAL PLAN**  
 A VISION FOR HEALTH IN WASHINGTON STATE

**CORNERSTONE VALUES:** EQUITY • INNOVATION • ENGAGEMENT  
**VISION:** EQUITY AND OPTIMAL HEALTH FOR ALL



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**TRANSFORMATIONAL PLAN**  
 A VISION FOR HEALTH IN WASHINGTON STATE

This **Transformational Plan** is charting the course for our collective future. Serving the health needs of nearly 8 million Washingtonians spread over 71,000 square miles of incredibly beautiful and diverse land, will never be easy. This is exactly why we do not plan to do it alone.

We commit to working alongside communities and partners alike. We will be advocates for the “**health ecosystem**” which is a dynamic landscape of partners and influencers of health at the local, state, and national levels: public health, health care, governmental and private partners, Tribal Nations, and a multitude of other partners whose work and actions impact and influence health. Most importantly, our partners are everyday Washingtonians.

Despite an unprecedented and challenging time in serving the health needs of Washingtonians due to COVID-19, as a state we rose to the occasion, saved lives, leveraged innovations, and built partnerships that will serve to **strengthen communities** and transform how we approach the notion of health to meet the needs of the future.

As we look beyond COVID-19, we aim to approach our work with the same sense of urgency, nimbleness, and innovation that was critical in fighting this pandemic. We will tell our story because our story is the **story of Washington’s people** and its communities. In the process, we will demonstrate our field’s impact so that others recognize and embrace the vital role of public health in our everyday lives. We will embrace the notion of the “**3Vs**” and increase public health’s **Visibility**, which in turn engenders **Value**, and thereby builds trust and **Validation** of our work and its impact.

We will continue to forge and foster partnerships with those we have worked with in the past and newer ones we have only begun engaging so that the health ecosystem is harnessing the strength of our collective effort to improve health. We will convene and lead relationships that reflect the important intersection of countless partners. Our shared **commitment to health and well-being** is the foundation for future collaboration. Given the myriad of challenges in store for all of us — from reproductive health to climate to opioids and addressing social determinants of health — we must astutely pivot to meet these head on. The upcoming work is simply too important to do it alone.

This plan creates **our roadmap** for building healthy communities full of resilient people. We do this by preventing disease and injury, modernizing an array of systems, serving health needs, and helping coordinate the **related social needs of all Washingtonians**.

Through already launched milestone efforts like Governor Inslee’s **Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) initiative** or the Legislature’s investment in **Foundational Public Health Services**, we will demonstrate our commitment to transforming the health of communities while also addressing health inequities that this pandemic has laid bare. By ensuring equity, fairness, and justice principles are embedded in our activities, we will seek impactful and measurable solutions to often complex and historically rooted issues that are preventing equitable access to health and health care alike.

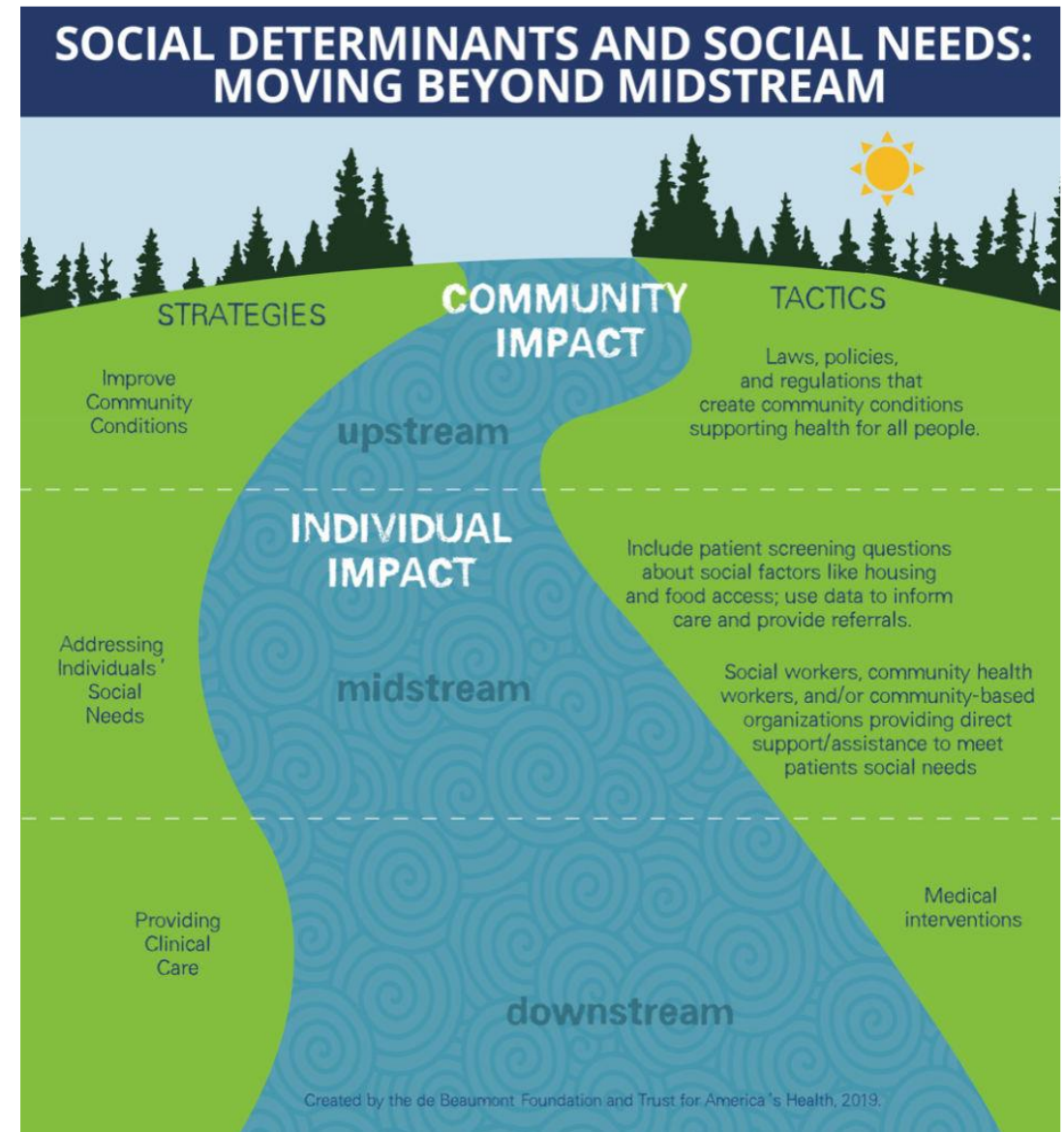
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**CORNERSTONE VALUES:** EQUITY • INNOVATION • ENGAGEMENT  
**VISION:** EQUITY AND OPTIMAL HEALTH FOR ALL

## WORKING UPSTREAM

Overview of Washington State Equity Initiatives:

- Poverty Reduction
- Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) Plan
- Environmental Justice and the HEAL Act
- Health Equity Zones





**POVERTY REDUCTION  
INTERAGENCY WORKFORCE**

# POVERTY REDUCTION WORK GROUP



The Work Group included members from diverse systems and sectors and was led by a 22-person steering committee reflecting the experience of poverty in WA State

## PARTICIPANTS

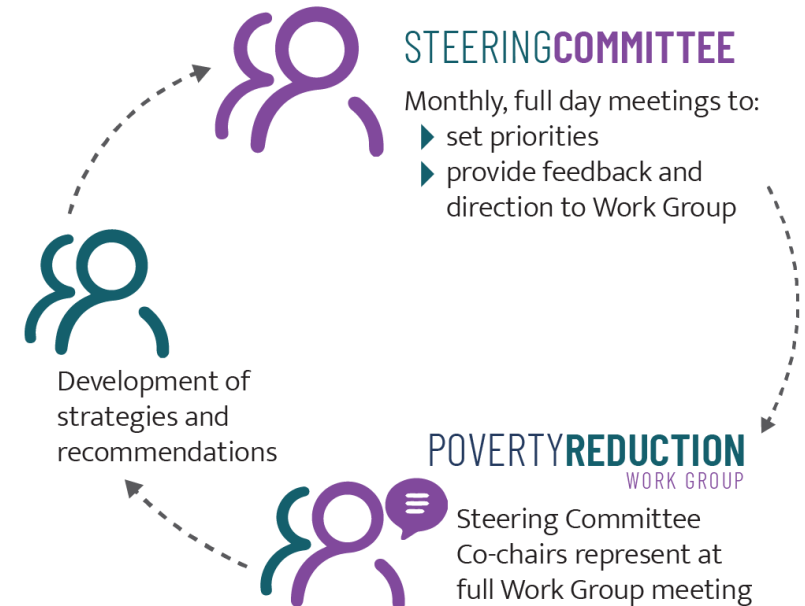
- ▶ Agencies
- ▶ Think Tanks
- ▶ Racial & Ethnic Commissions
- ▶ Philanthropy
- ▶ Tribal & Urban Indians
- ▶ Legislators
- ▶ Employers
- ▶ Advocates
- ▶ Community-Based Organizations
- ▶ Steering Committee



# The STEERING COMMITTEE



22- person committee reflecting the experience of poverty in Washington State



# 10-YEAR PLAN TO DISMANTLE POVERTY: 8 STRATEGIES. 60 RECOMMENDATIONS.

## 8 STRATEGIES POVERTY REDUCTION ROOT CAUSES & BEYOND



- 1 UNDO STRUCTURAL RACISM**  
Understand structural racism and historical trauma and take action to undo how they manifest in state policy, program, and practice.
- 2 BALANCE POWER**  
Make equal space in decision-making for people and communities most affected by poverty and inequality.
- 3 INCREASE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**  
Target equitable income growth and wealth-building among people with low incomes.
- 4 ENSURE FOUNDATIONAL WELL-BEING**  
Strengthen health supports across the life span to promote the intergenerational well-being of families.
- 5 PRIORITIZE URGENT NEEDS**  
Prioritize the urgent needs of people experiencing homelessness, mental illness, or addiction.
- 6 BUILD A HOLISTIC CONTINUUM OF CARE**  
Build an integrated human service continuum of care that addresses the holistic needs of children, adults, and families.
- 7 DECRIMINALIZE POVERTY**  
Decriminalize poverty and reduce reliance on the child welfare, juvenile justice, and criminal justice systems.
- 8 PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK**  
Ensure a just transition to the future of work.

## HOW FAR WE'VE COME

OUT OF 60 RECOMMENDATIONS:

6 are completed

36 are in progress

18 have not yet started



| STRATEGY | # RECS. | % COMPLETED | % PARTIALLY COMPLETED | % NOT STARTED |
|----------|---------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1        | 2       | 100%        | 0%                    | 0%            |
| 2        | 5       | 40%         | 40%                   | 20%           |
| 3        | 16      | 6%          | 75%                   | 19%           |
| 4        | 6       | 0%          | 83%                   | 17%           |
| 5        | 9       | 0%          | 44%                   | 56%           |
| 6        | 6       | 17%         | 67%                   | 16%           |
| 7        | 10      | 0%          | 70%                   | 30%           |
| 8        | 6       | 0           | 2                     | 4             |

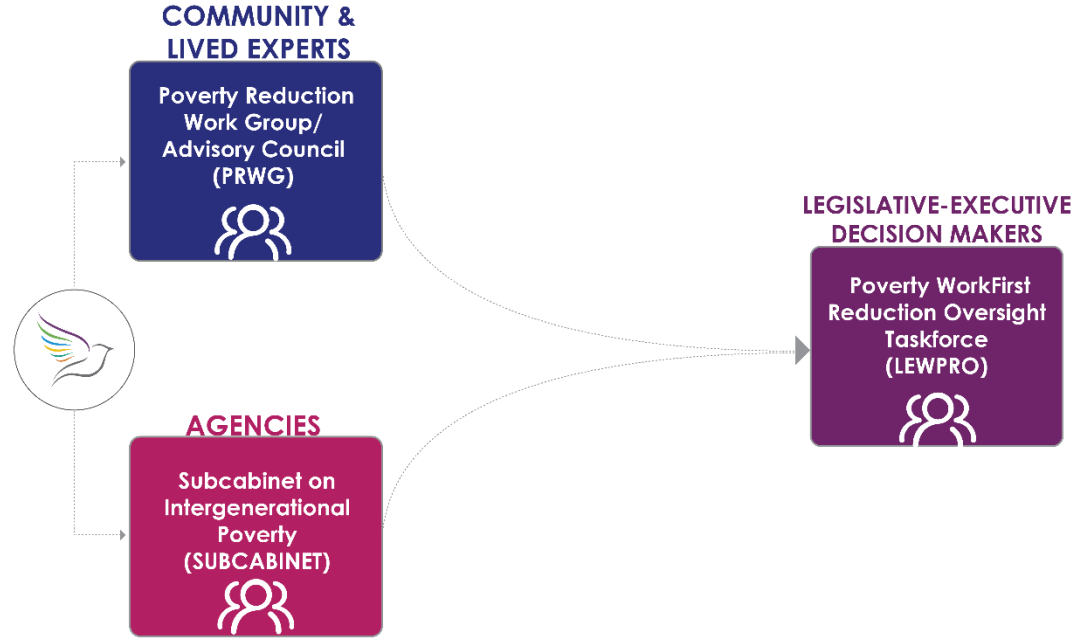
# ALIGNED CONTRIBUTIONS TO REDUCE POVERTY

**ROLE**  
 Shares expertise and advises on priorities of specific communities and people with lived experience.

**CONTRIBUTION**  
 Works in partnership with the Subcabinet to implement 10-Year Plan; attends LEWPRO to communicate priorities.

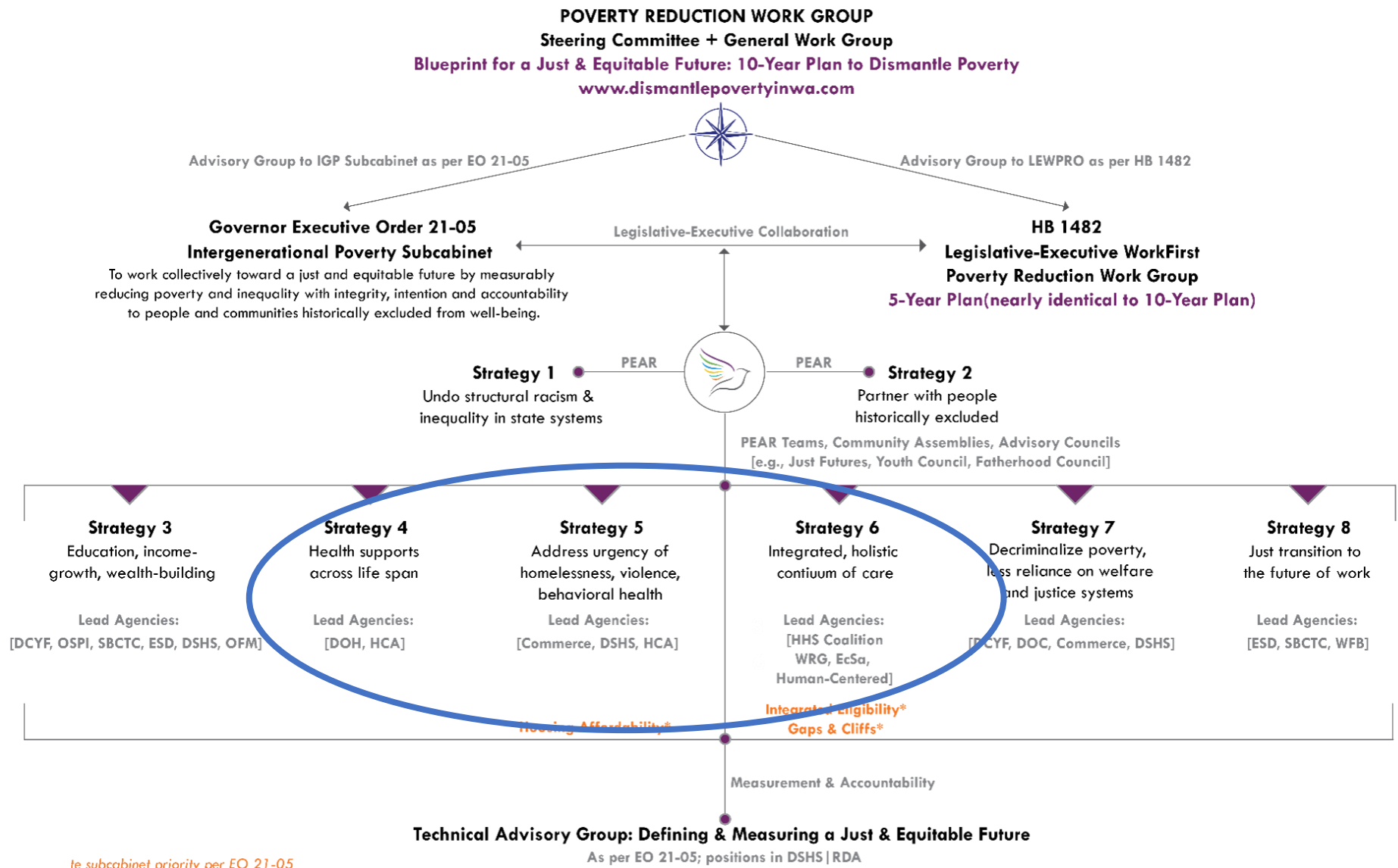
**ROLE**  
 Aligns budget and policy priorities and contributions toward shared results.

**CONTRIBUTION**  
 Listens to and incorporates community and lived expertise into budget and policy priorities; agency representatives on LEWPRO attend meetings to communicate priorities.



**ROLE**  
 Listens, debates, and considers recommendations from PRWG/Subcabinet for inclusion in budget and policy changes.

**CONTRIBUTION**  
 Acts on recommendations to measurably reduce poverty; meets with PRWG and Subcabinet representatives to report progress.





## DOH LEADERSHIP IN THE 10 YEAR PLAN: STRATEGIES 4, 5 AND 6



### Strategy 4

Strengthen health supports across the life span to promote the intergenerational well-being of families.



### Strategy 5

Prioritize the urgent needs of people experiencing homelessness, mental illness, or addiction.



### Strategy 6

Build an integrated human service continuum of care that addresses the holistic needs of children, adults, and families

## DOH PROGRESS TOWARD THE 10-YEAR PLAN



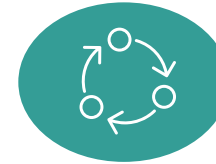
### Strategy 4

- Birth Equity Project (PCH)
- SNAP-Ed Program (PCH)
- WIC Farmers Market & eWIC cards (PCH)
- Health Equity Zones (PCH)



### Strategy 5

- 988/Native & Strong Lifeline (PCH)
- Health Strategy for People Experiencing Homelessness (EPH)
- School Based Health Centers (PCH)



### Strategy 6

- Care Connect (PCH)
- Integrated Eligibility (OIT)



**PRO-EQUITY ANTI-  
RACISM (PEAR) PLAN**

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
 ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1783

Chapter 332, Laws of 2020  
 (partial veto)

66th Legislature  
 2020 Regular Session

OFFICE OF EQUITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 11, 2020—Except for section 3, which becomes effective July 1, 2020.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Passed by the House March 9, 2020<br>Yeas 57 Nays 39                                     | CERTIFICATE   |
| <u>Laurie Jinkins</u><br>Speaker of the House of Representatives                         | I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1783 as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth. |
| Passed by the Senate March 5, 2020<br>Yeas 28 Nays 21                                    | <u>Bernard Dean</u><br>Chief Clerk  |
| <u>Cyrus Habib</u><br>President of the Senate  | FILED   |
| Approved April 3, 2020 1:41 PM with the exception of sections 6 and 7, which are vetoed. | April 3, 2020   |
| <u>Jay Inslee</u><br>Governor of the State of Washington                                 | <u>Secretary of State</u><br>State of Washington  |



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
 OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

## EXECUTIVE ORDER 22-04

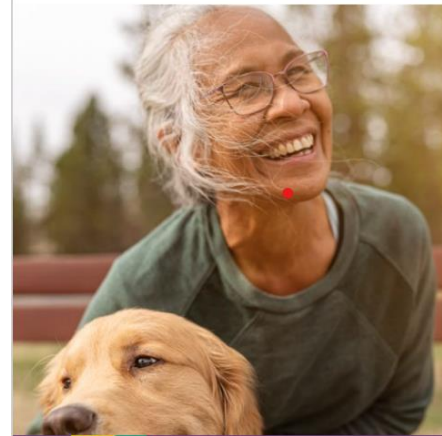
### IMPLEMENTING THE WASHINGTON STATE PRO-EQUITY ANTI-RACISM (PEAR) PLAN & PLAYBOOK

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature and I created the Washington State Office of Equity (“Office of Equity”) in April 2020 to: (1) promote access to equitable opportunities and resources that reduce disparities and improve outcomes statewide across state government consistent with [RCW 43.06D.020](#); (2) support executive branch state agencies and executive branch boards and commissions (“state agencies”) in our commitment to be an anti-racist government system; (3) partner with state employees and communities to develop the state’s comprehensive equity strategic plan and outcome measures designed to bridge opportunity gaps and reduce disparities; and (4) publish and report the effectiveness of agency programs on reducing disparities using input from the communities served by those programs; and

**WHEREAS**, in December 2020, I declared that Washington will be an anti-racist state and committed to take actions that hold our state to that commitment. Washington is a state where all are welcomed and will have the opportunity to thrive regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, or the presence of sensory, mental, or physical disability; and

**WHEREAS**, determinants of equity are the driving factors that impact the overall quality of life for all Washingtonians. King County established the following 14 determinants of equity: economic justice, state and local practices, jobs and job training, justice systems and laws, health and human services, food systems, environment and natural resources, community and public service, transportation and mobility, community and economic development, and housing and home ownership, early childhood development, and education. I agree that these are appropriate determinants of equity and would also add digital access and literacy. By adding digital access and literacy, which is an issue creating additional divides and gaps between Washingtonians, the state has identified 15 determinants of equity. Eliminating disparities in terms of access, practices and procedures, quality of services, and programs in these 15 determinants of equity correlate to better outcomes for people and a Washington where all can thrive; and

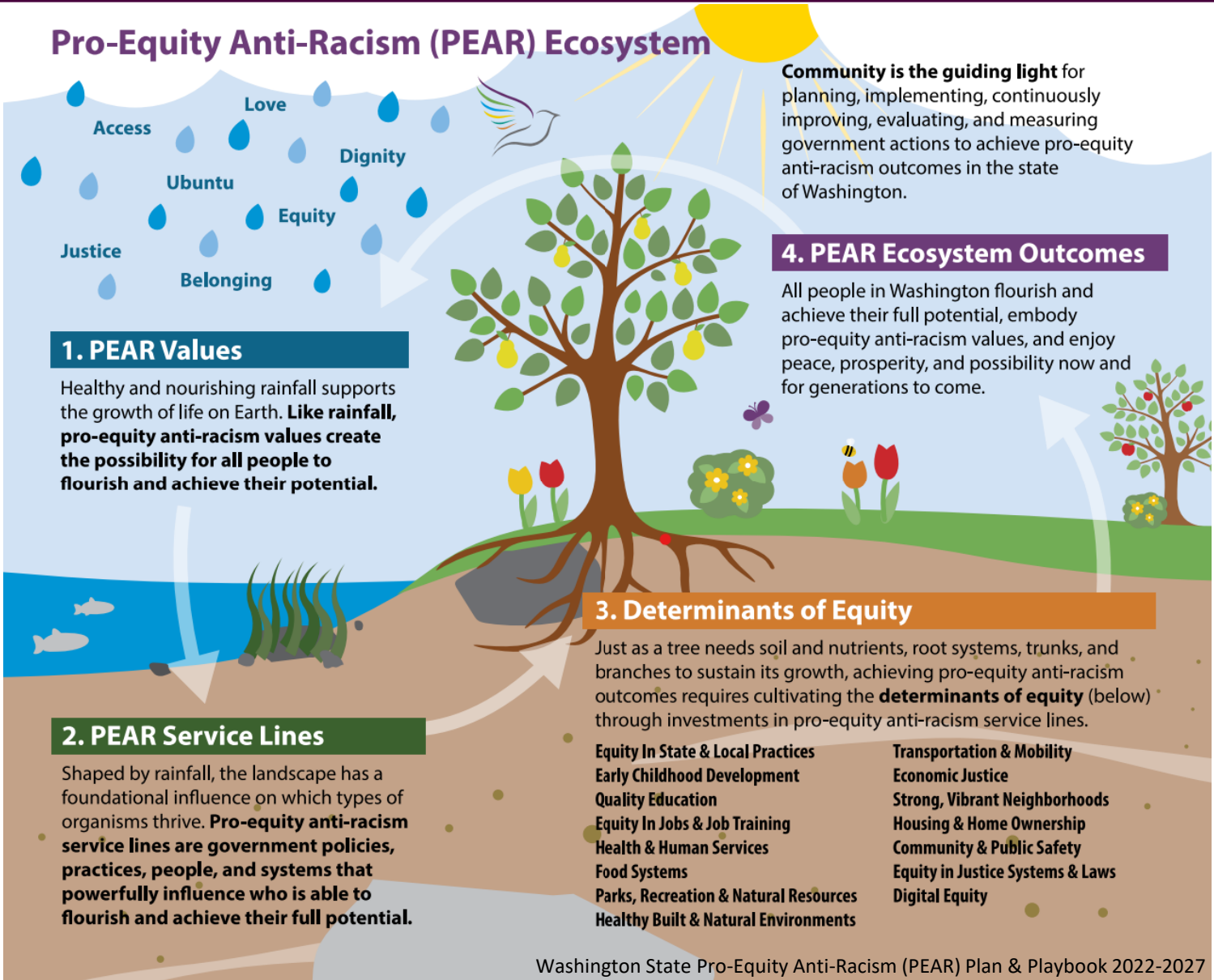
**WHEREAS**, the Office of Equity gathered the collective wisdom of thousands of community members, state employees, board and commission members, state employees, a host of partners across many sectors, and members of all branches of state government to co-create the state’s inaugural five-year Washington State Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) Plan & Playbook (“PEAR Plan & Playbook”), Washington’s approach for achieving pro-equity and social justice across state government. The PEAR Plan & Playbook is designed to bridge opportunity gaps and reduces disparities so everyone in Washington flourishes and achieves their full potential; and



## Washington State Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) Plan & Playbook

2022–2027 Version 1.0

Pro-Equity Anti-Racism (PEAR) Ecosystem



1. PEAR Values

Healthy and nourishing rainfall supports the growth of life on Earth. **Like rainfall, pro-equity anti-racism values create the possibility for all people to flourish and achieve their potential.**

2. PEAR Service Lines

Shaped by rainfall, the landscape has a foundational influence on which types of organisms thrive. **Pro-equity anti-racism service lines are government policies, practices, people, and systems that powerfully influence who is able to flourish and achieve their full potential.**

3. Determinants of Equity

Just as a tree needs soil and nutrients, root systems, trunks, and branches to sustain its growth, achieving pro-equity anti-racism outcomes requires cultivating the **determinants of equity** (below) through investments in pro-equity anti-racism service lines.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equity In State &amp; Local Practices</li> <li>Early Childhood Development</li> <li>Quality Education</li> <li>Equity In Jobs &amp; Job Training</li> <li>Health &amp; Human Services</li> <li>Food Systems</li> <li>Parks, Recreation &amp; Natural Resources</li> <li>Healthy Built &amp; Natural Environments</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transportation &amp; Mobility</li> <li>Economic Justice</li> <li>Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods</li> <li>Housing &amp; Home Ownership</li> <li>Community &amp; Public Safety</li> <li>Equity in Justice Systems &amp; Laws</li> <li>Digital Equity</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**Community is the guiding light** for planning, implementing, continuously improving, evaluating, and measuring government actions to achieve pro-equity anti-racism outcomes in the state of Washington.

4. PEAR Ecosystem Outcomes

All people in Washington flourish and achieve their full potential, embody pro-equity anti-racism values, and enjoy peace, prosperity, and possibility now and for generations to come.

### Impact of Service Line Investments on Determinants of Equity

#### What will your agency investments impact?

Everyone in Washington has full access to:

- Opportunity, power, and resources to flourish and achieve their full potential
- Health, wealth, and well-being
- Peace, prosperity, and possibility for generations to come

#### Trunk

Main systems for supporting the growth of individuals, families and communities.

##### Equity in Community Support Systems

- Healthy Built & Natural Environments
- Early Childhood Development
- Quality Education
- Food Systems

#### Soil & Nutrients

Strong investments in government policies, practices, people, and systems (PEAR service lines) nourish a pro-equity antiracism system.

##### Equity in Government Policies, Practices, People & Systems

- Equity in state and local practices (including regional, county, city & municipal practices)

Community is the guiding light for planning, implementing, continuously improving, evaluating, and measuring government actions to achieve pro-equity anti-racism outcomes in the state of Washington.

#### Branches

Strong individual and family systems and community investments that help people grow and flourish.

##### Equity in Family Support Systems

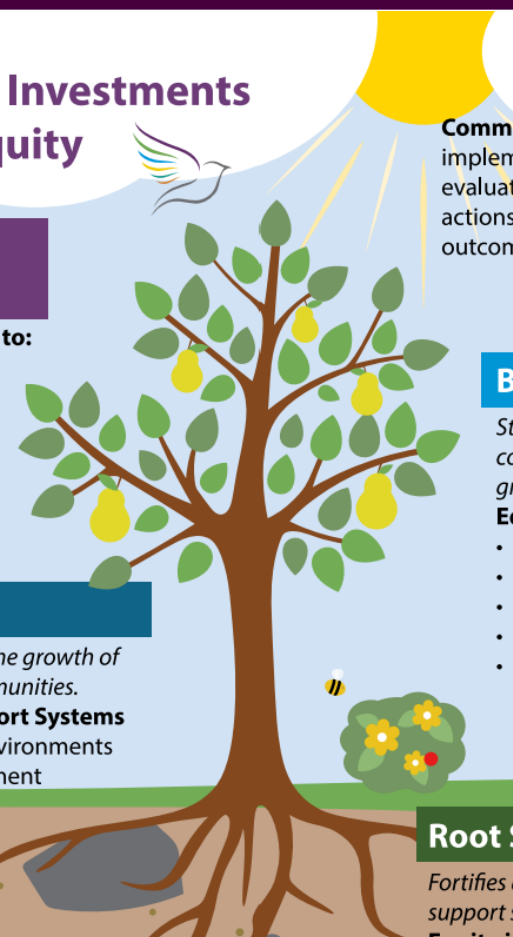
- Community & Public Safety
- Health & Human Services
- Housing & Home Ownership
- Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods
- Parks, Recreation & Natural Resources

#### Root System

Fortifies and distributes opportunity throughout support systems, families, and communities.

##### Equity in Community Infrastructure

- Economic Justice
- Digital Equity
- Equity in Justice Systems & Laws
- Transportation & Mobility
- Equity In Jobs & Job Training



## Overall PEAR Ecosystem Strategies



### 1. Implement a pro-equity, anti-racism framework in partnership with relevant communities and organizations

Partner with others to intentionally name and address implicit and explicit bias and all levels of racism, particularly against people who are seen and treated as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color.



### 2. Embrace continuous learning, growing, and pivoting

Build organizational capacity and infrastructure to continuously learn, improve, and make adjustments to sustain meaningful policy and systems change that achieves equitable policies, practices, and outcomes.



### 3. Consistently assess your equity impact

Understand and acknowledge your agency's equity impact to inform agency planning, decision-making, and action steps when changing policies, programs, and practices that perpetuate inequities and when developing new policies and programs that perpetuate equity.



### 4. Make values driven, data informed upstream investments

Identify and target root causes of opportunity gaps and disparities and prioritize the people who have traditionally been excluded to improve outcomes that benefit all.



### 5. Be transparent, accountable, and operate with urgency

Create and maintain a long-term commitment to change and help others to see the benefit to them for acting immediately. Build public trust and accountability for sustaining equity through values-driven, data-informed decision-making and outcome tracking.

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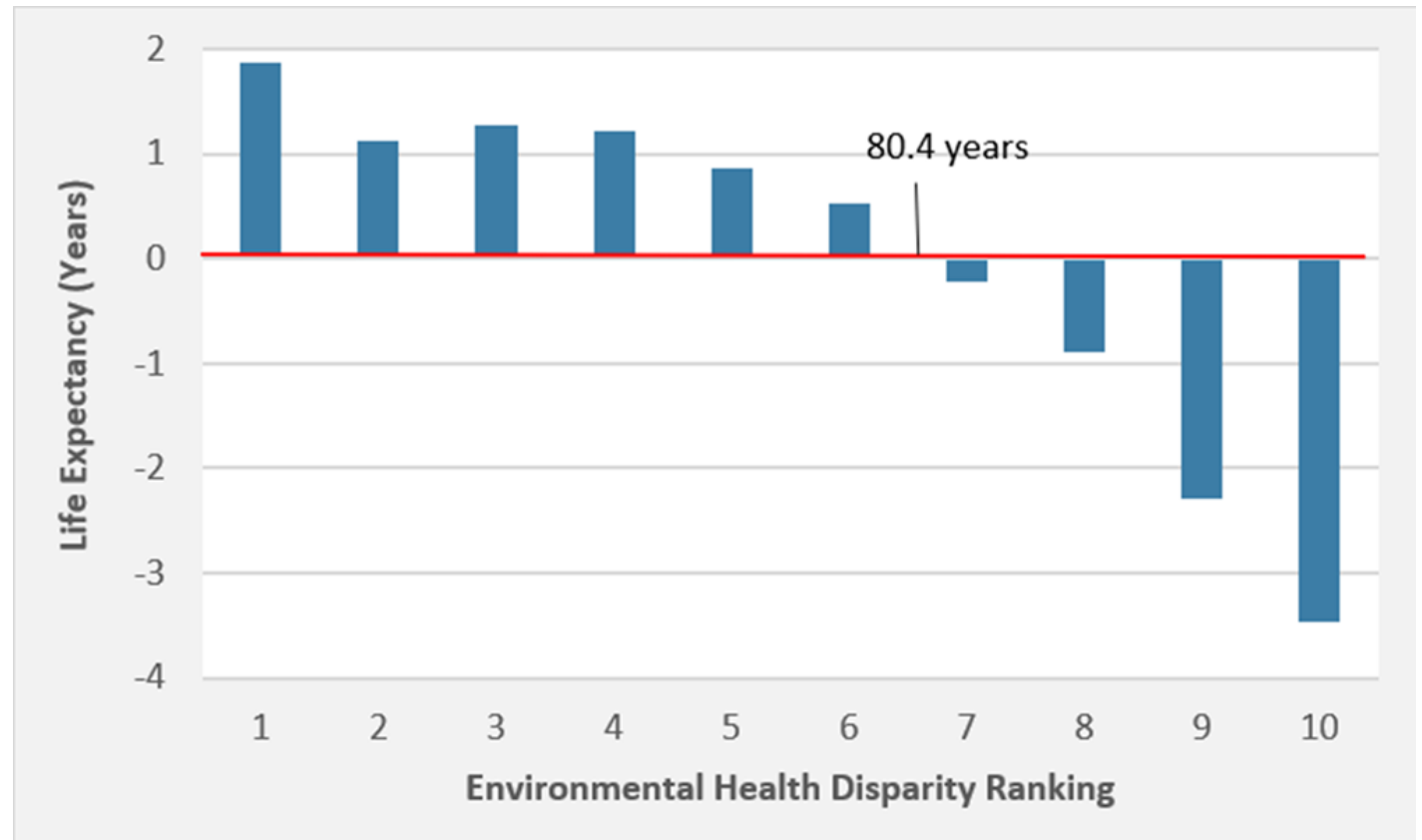


**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE  
AND THE HEAL ACT**



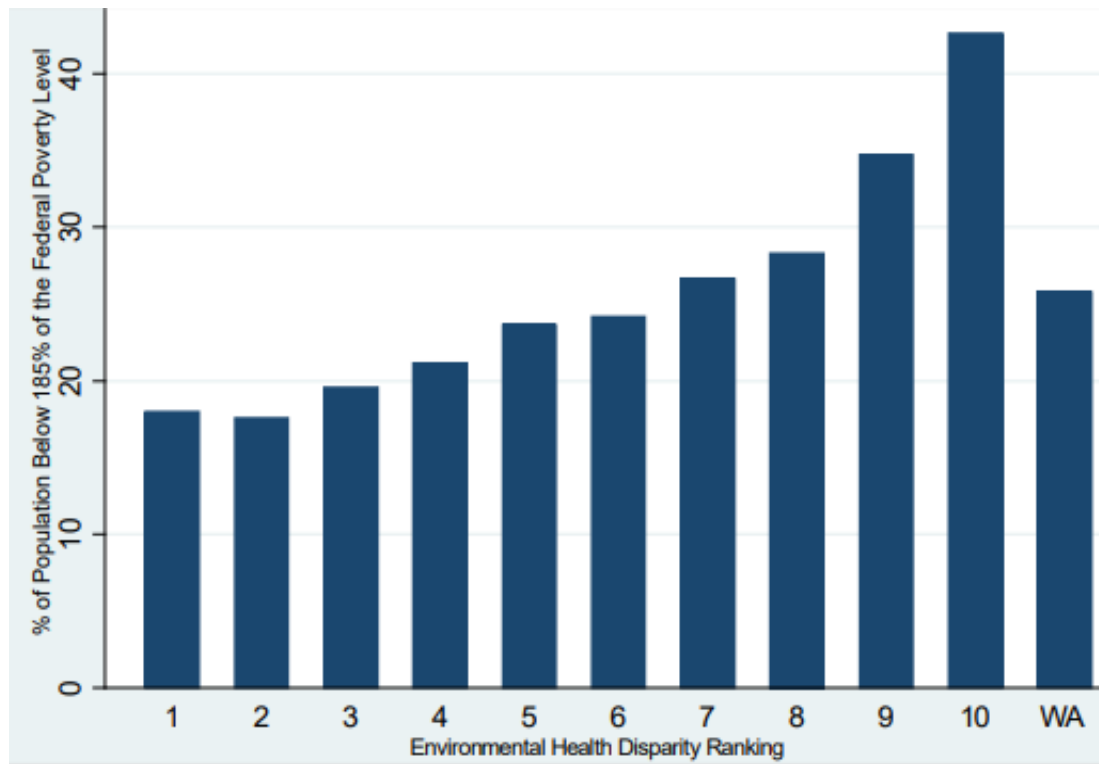
## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES

- In WA, there is an over five-year life expectancy gap between census tracts most impacted by environmental hazards and those least impacted.
- The EHD map does not include tribal data

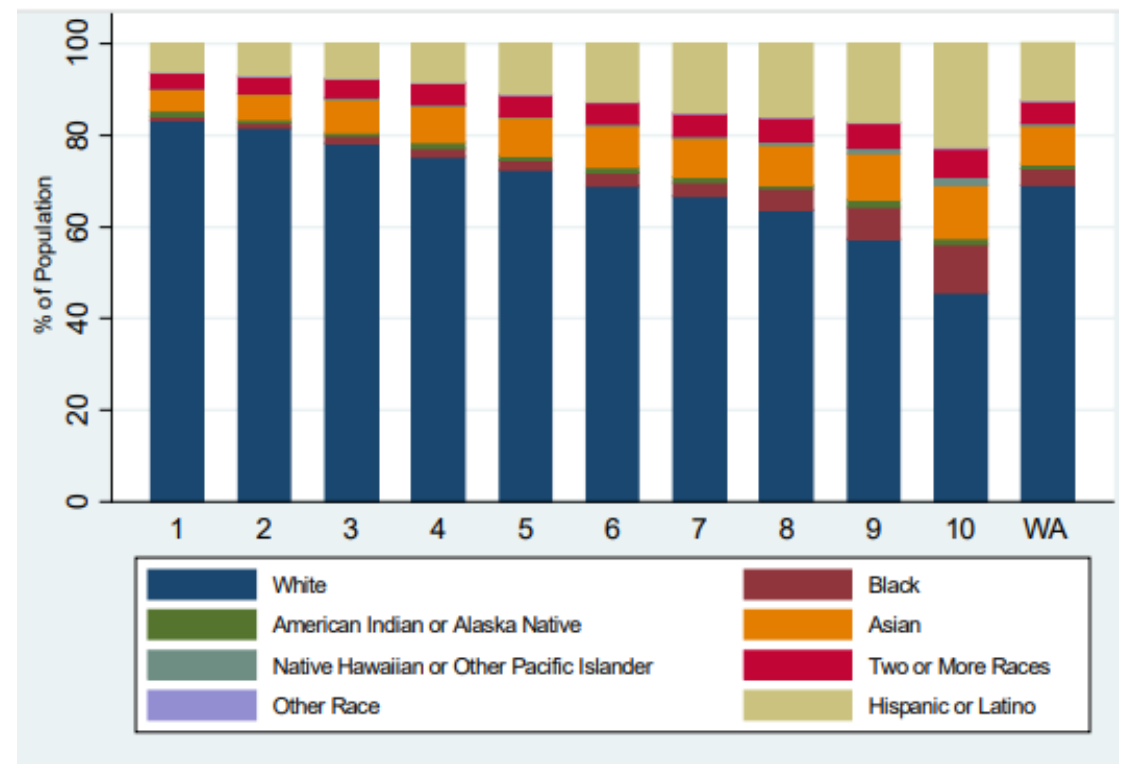


## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES

Poverty by Environmental Health Disparity Ranking



Race/Ethnicity by Environmental Health Disparity Ranking



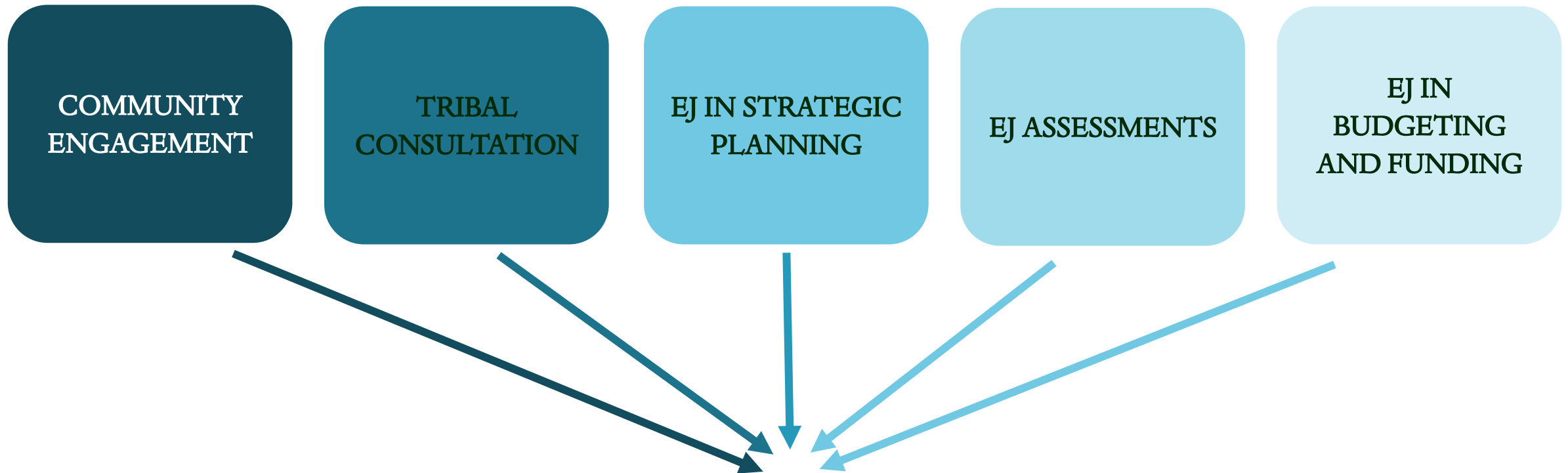
Please note: these charts were made using data from EHD Map v1.0 and does not represent data updates in v2.0

## WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?

The Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act (SB 5141) defines environmental justice as “**the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people** regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, rules, and policies.

Environmental justice includes **addressing disproportionate environmental health impacts** in all laws, rules, and policies with environmental impacts by **prioritizing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities, the equitable distribution of resources and benefits, and eliminating harm.**”

## STATE AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEAL ACT

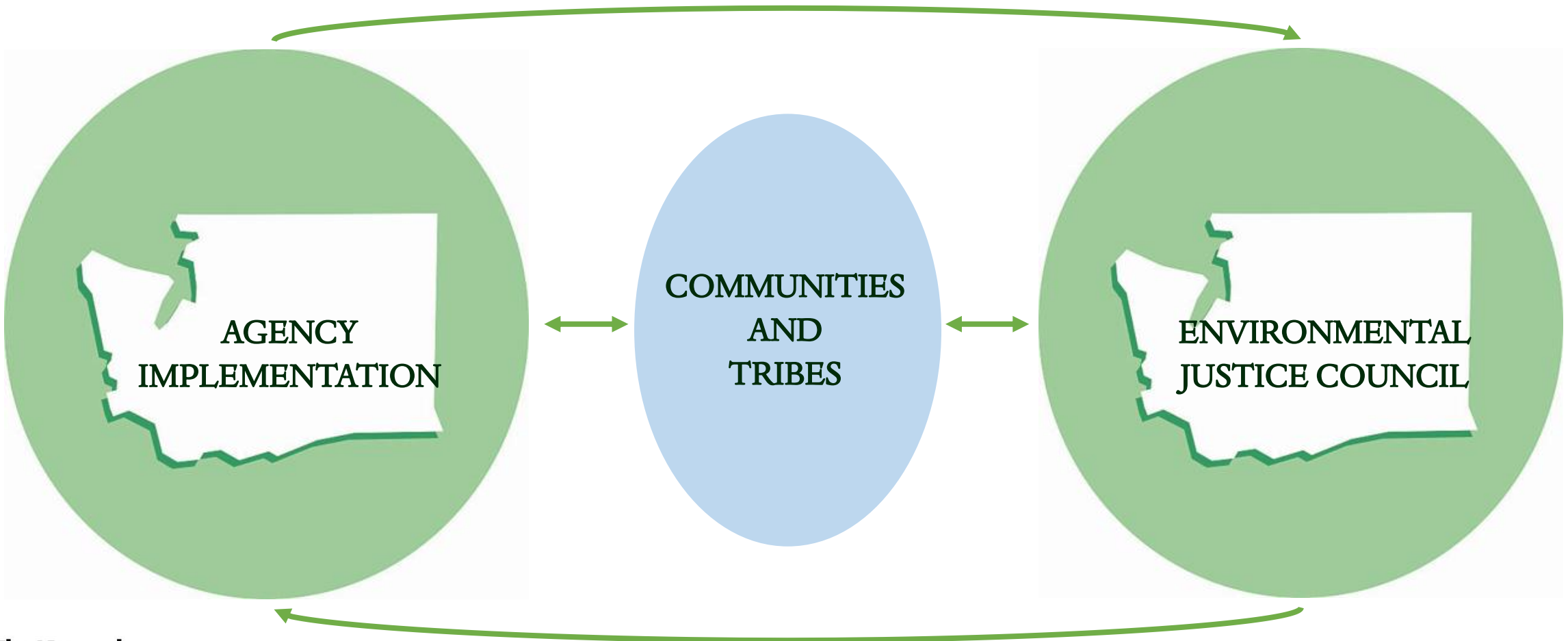


TRANSFORMATION OF AGENCY CULTURE, POLICY, AND PRACTICE

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES



## HEAL ACT IMPLEMENTATION



## HEAL IMPLEMENTATION

**July 1st, 2022**

Community Engagement  
Plans due

**July 1st, 2023**

EJ Assessments begin on  
initial significant agency actions

**Annually, starting 2024**

Agencies publish dashboards  
describing progress

**Jan 1st, 2023**

Strategic planning  
obligation due

**July 1st, 2023**

Budgeting and funding  
obligation due

**Biennially, starting Dec 2023**

EJ Council evaluates agency  
implementation

**July 1st, 2025**

EJ Assessments begin on  
additional significant agency  
actions identified by agencies

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENTS

- Include overburdened communities and vulnerable populations in agency decision-making process
- Equitably distribute environmental benefits
- Reduce environmental harms
- Identify and reduce environmental and health disparities

*“Prior to finalizing a significant agency action, an agency must conduct an environmental justice assessment”*



## SIGNIFICANT AGENCY ACTIONS

- Agency request legislation
- Significant legislative rules
- New grant or loan programs (started after July 1, 2023)
- Capital projects, grants, or loans of \$12M+ or transportation projects, grants, or loans of \$15M+
- Additional actions TBD after 2025

**Agencies must implement EJ Assessments for these actions starting July 1, 2023**

*“...actions that may cause environmental harm or may affect the equitable distribution of environmental benefits to an overburdened community or a vulnerable population.”*

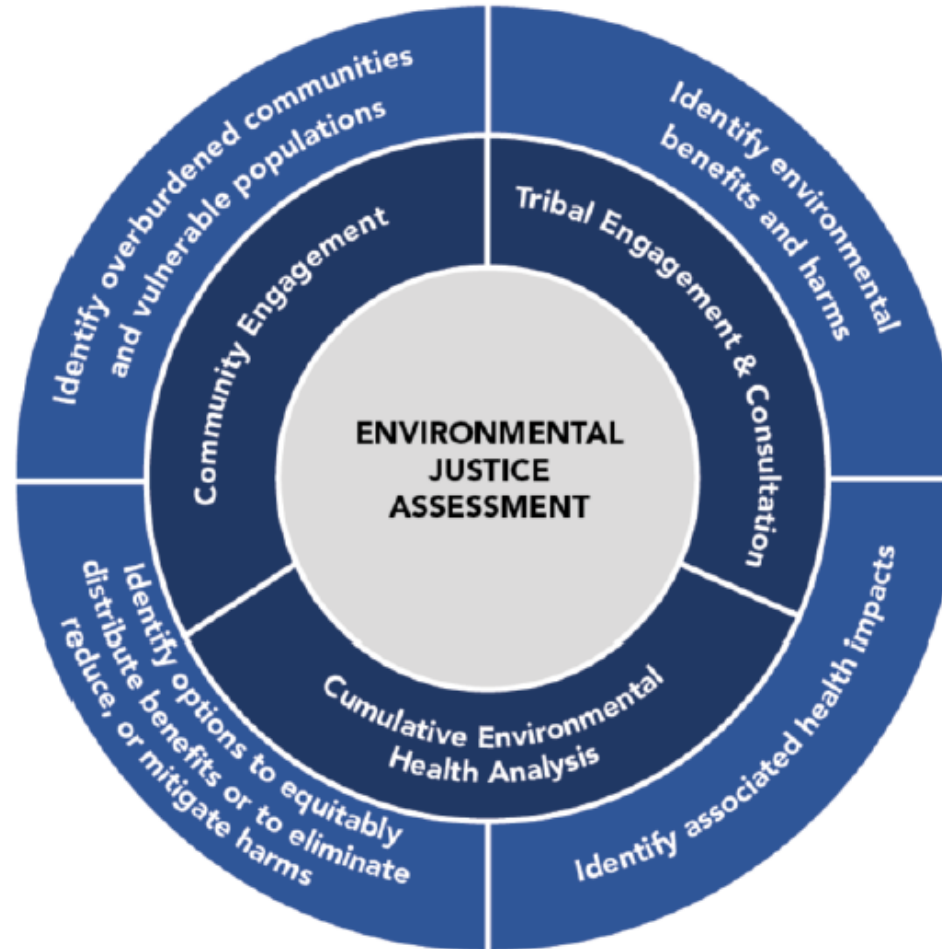
**PHASE 1:  
Notification**

In a public notice to OFM, describe the proposed action and any known or potential:

- Geographic impact areas
- Environmental impacts
- Health impacts
- Impacted communities, tribes, and populations
- Opportunities for public comment

Assess existing agency resources and relationships

**PHASE 2:  
EJ Assessment**



**PHASE 3:  
Reporting & Communication of Results**

Communicate selected strategies and/or justification for not implementing strategies, plan to further involve OBC/VP/tribes, and commitments to tracking and reporting



Report outcomes of EJA to OFM dashboard

**PHASE 4:  
Ongoing Engagement & Accountability**

Ongoing engagement with OBC/VP/tribes throughout SAA implementation

Ongoing evaluation of EJA and SAA

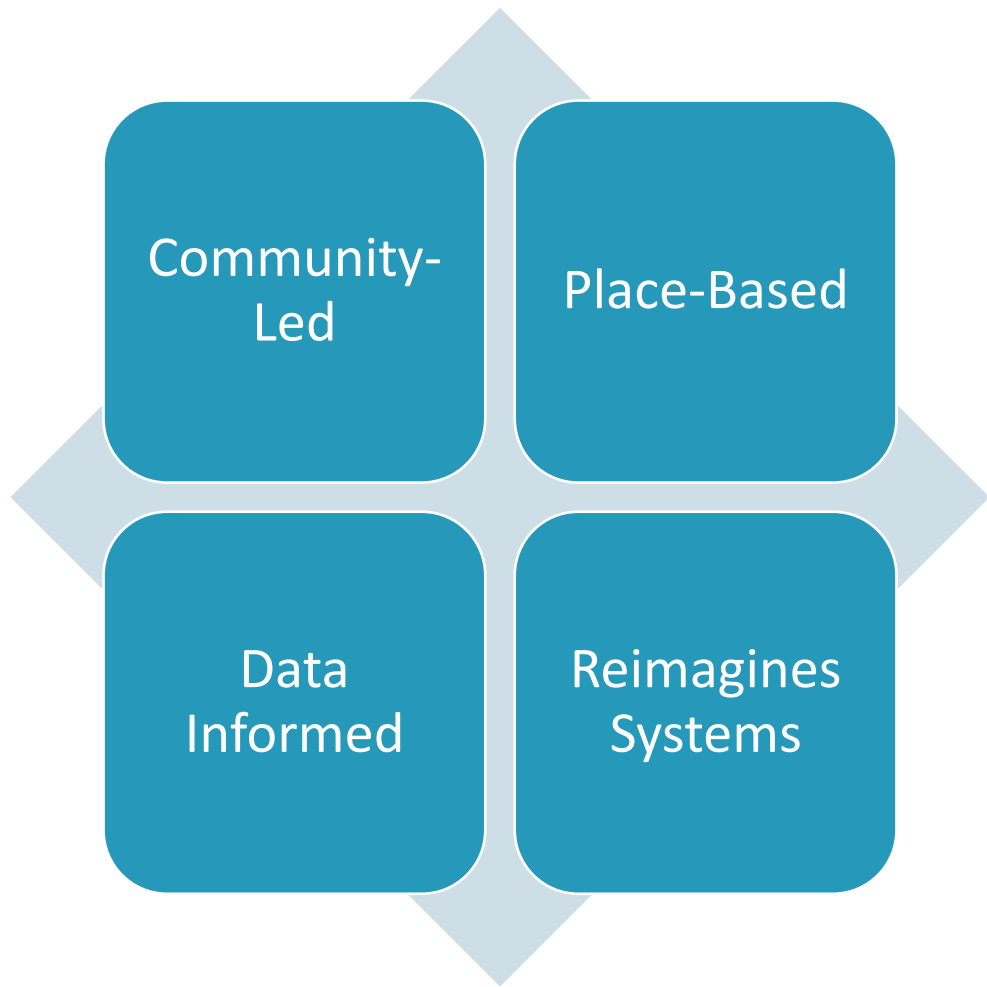


**HEALTH EQUITY ZONES**

## CREATING THE HEALTH EQUITY ZONES INITIATIVE

- Health Equity Zones as Defined in Senate Bill 5052
  - “...‘health equity zone’ or ‘zone’ means a contiguous geographic area that demonstrates measurable and documented health disparities and poor health outcomes, which may include but are not limited to high rates of maternal complications, newborn health complications, and chronic and infectious disease, is populated by communities of color, Indian communities, communities experiencing poverty, or immigrant communities, and is small enough for targeted interventions to have a significant impact on health outcomes and health disparities.”

## HEZ OVERVIEW





## INNOVATIONS



### Infrastructure Development

Each zone will receive \$200,000 per year for two years to support core infrastructure development and capacity building.



### Community Investment

The Department of Health is committed to identifying project funding that align with the health priorities identified by each zone.



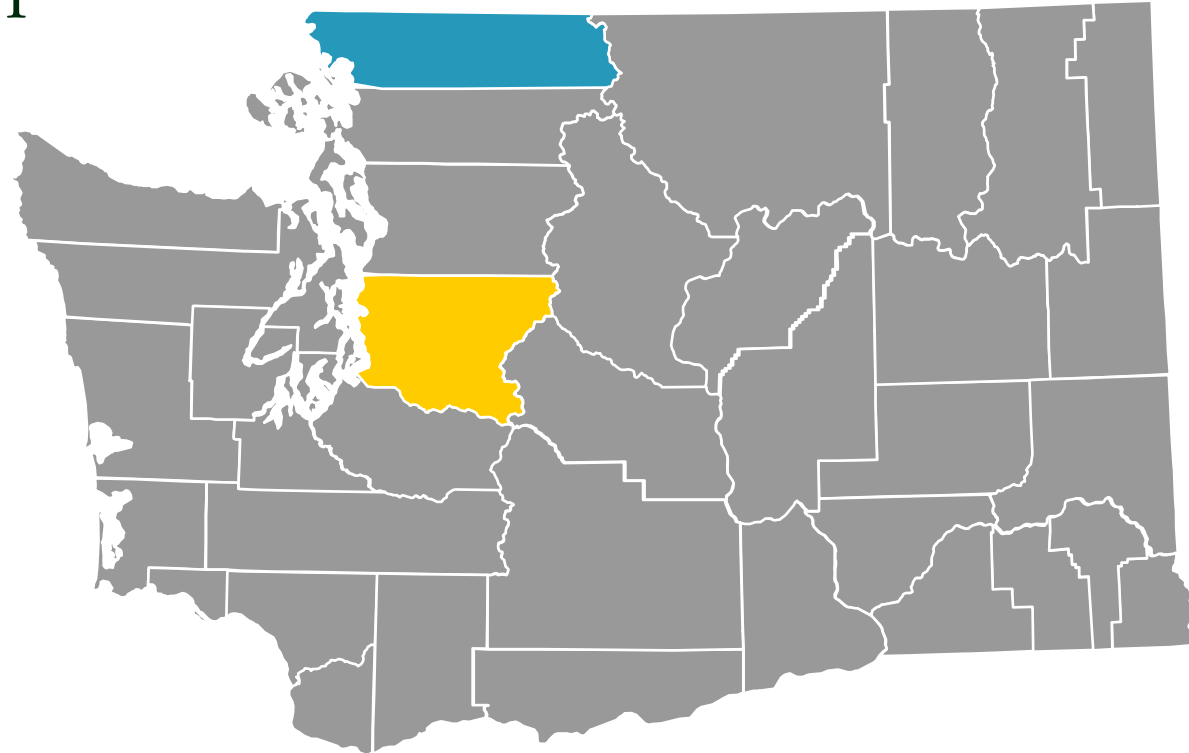
### Participatory Evaluation

Program staff will support the zones in identifying performance measures and health outcomes. Ongoing learnings from the evaluation process will be used to improve the initiative.

## HEALTH EQUITY ZONES PILOT

The initiative piloted two zones in 2023 – Whatcom County and South King County. A zone for Native communities will be identified in 2024.

 Rural Zone     Urban Zone

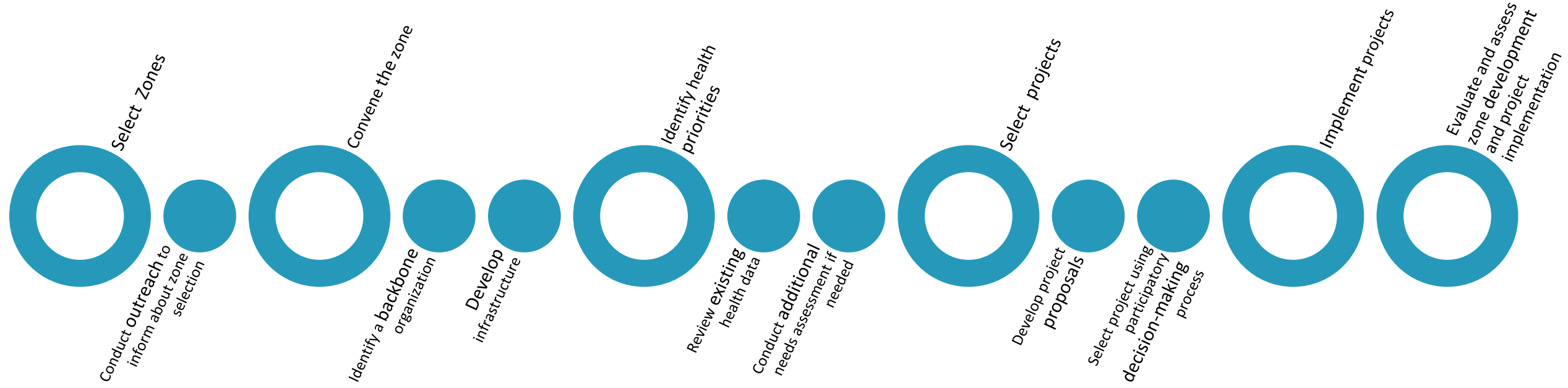




## ZONE FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES

- Tribal community representatives are leading development of the selection process
- A review panel of Native-identifying individuals will review submissions and select the first zone for Native communities
- The submission process will launch in early 2024 and the zone is anticipated to be selected by summer 2024

POST-ZONE SELECTION ROADMAP



**DOH TRANSFORMATIONAL  
TACTICS TO ADVANCE EQUITY**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

**Community-Driven Approaches**  
Engage communities to inform public health prioritization and planning

**Systems and Infrastructure**  
Funding, policy, and structural change for internal and external impact and increased power-sharing

**Data-driven Management**  
Re-imagining how data is collected, shared and used to illuminate needed investments

**Civil Rights & Equity**  
Strengthen DOH's ability to comply with federal laws and better serve most impacted communities.

**Strategy & Whole Community Life Course**  
Strengthen DOH's ability to center communities in public health practice.

**Workforce Development**  
Ensuring DOH's ability to meet current and future public health challenges and improve health and equity outcomes for communities served.

Equitable Policy

Equitable Community Investments & Engagement

Language Access, Accessibility, & CLAS (Equitable Access)

Workforce Pathways

ESJ Collaborative (Assessing Collective Impact)

**CROSS-AGENCY RELEVANCE**

LHJ/county place-based initiatives

Operationalizing equity and strategic planning technical assistance

Equity-centered policies/guidelines and funding and investment systems

Equity program and initiative mapping and evaluation

Equity-centered strategies and initiatives to support belonging and advance a representative workforce

Institutionalize equity leadership team

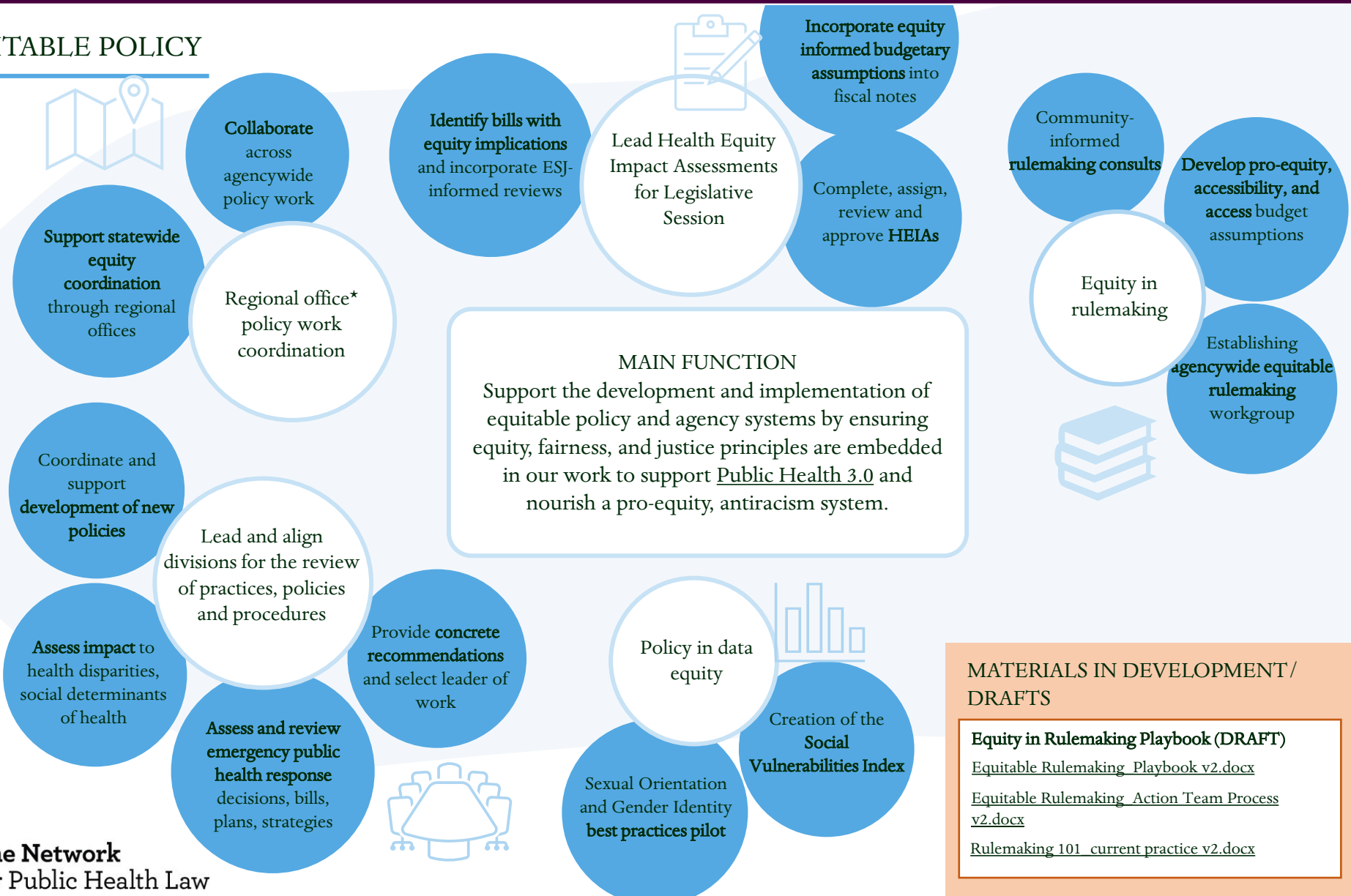
Establish a measurement framework and equity indicators

Participate in whole-of-government approach to address community conditions

Systematically link CRE efforts with efforts initiated by legislative and executive mandates and orders (Equity zones, PEAR, HEAL, etc.)

Cross-agency collaboration and listening

## EQUITABLE POLICY



## INFLUENCE OF POLICY IN EQUITY IN CONTRACTING

CBO pilot during COVID-19 helped change equitable contracting and led to:

- CCRE’s participation in the COVID-19 Farmworker Study with EPH
- Recent Environmental Justice driven legislative proviso to allocate \$10 million every biennium to provide pass through grants to CBOs and provide PPE and financial support to those directly impacted by climate change disasters.

## MATERIALS IN DEVELOPMENT / DRAFTS

- Equity in Rulemaking Playbook (DRAFT)**  
[Equitable Rulemaking Playbook v2.docx](#)
- Equitable Rulemaking Action Team Process v2.docx**  
[Equitable Rulemaking Action Team Process v2.docx](#)
- Rulemaking 101 current practice v2.docx**  
[Rulemaking 101 current practice v2.docx](#)

## TRIBAL NATIONS

- 29 Federally Recognized Sovereign Nations in Washington State
- WA-DOH Collaboration and Consultation
- WA-DOH Office of Tribal Public Health & Relations
- Strong partners in emergency response and other public health efforts
- On the horizon: Tribal Data Sovereignty



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PO Box 47830 | Olympia, WA 98504-7830  
(360) 236-3000 | 711 Washington Relay Service

May 31, 2023

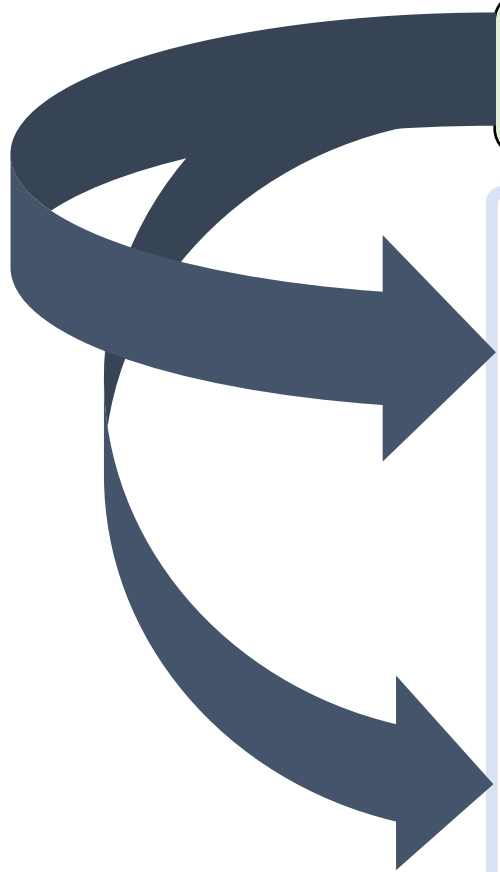
**RE: Washington State Department of Health Launching *\*\*New\*\** Office of Tribal Public Health & Relations (OTPHR)**

Greetings Honorable Tribal Leaders and Tribal Partners,

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to serving the needs of Tribal people and the communities in which they live across Washington and beyond. In accordance with chapter [43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and Washington State Department of Health (DOH) [Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), we invite collaboration with sovereign tribal nations and tribal organizations in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affects Indian tribes and tribal people.

DOH PRO-EQUITY ANTI-RACISM (PEAR) PRIORITIES  
MOVING TOWARD TRANSFORMATIONAL GOALS

- Emergency Response
- Legislative and Administrative Policy
- Human Resources



GOALS

**Policy Agenda:** Address root causes of disparities through policies, practices, and systems to end disparities, including racial and ethnic disparities, and improve outcomes statewide across state government, particularly in hiring and promotions, state spend for public works, goods and services (including client services), procurement, and access to services.



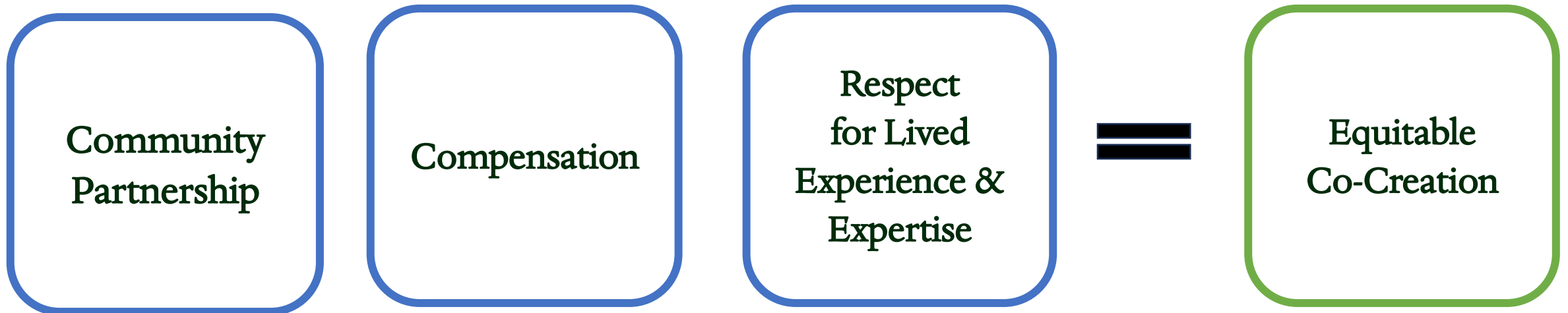
**Workforce Equity:** Develop a PEAR organizational culture by building a diverse (including racially and ethnically diverse) and culturally responsive pipeline for employees at all levels and create opportunities for each employee to bring their full self to work and feel welcomed, supported, and valued.

TRANSFORMATIONS

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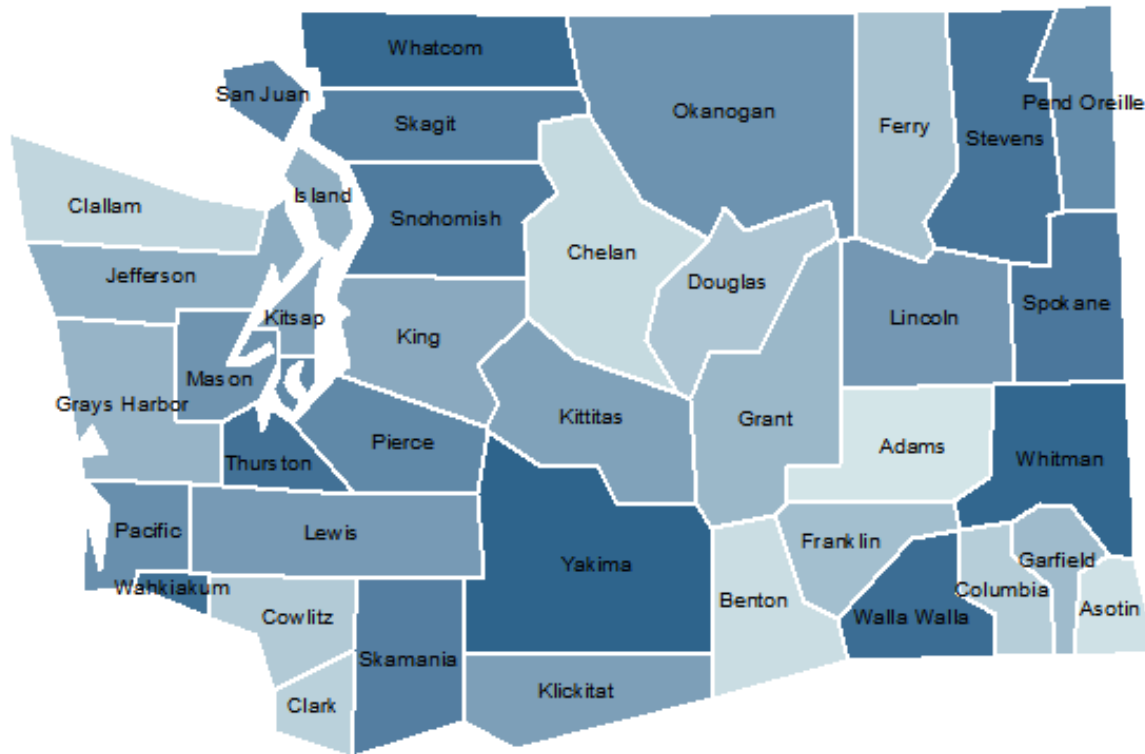
## POLICY AGENDA IN ACTION: COMMUNITY COMPENSATION

equitable public policy discussions should include individuals directly impacted by that policy



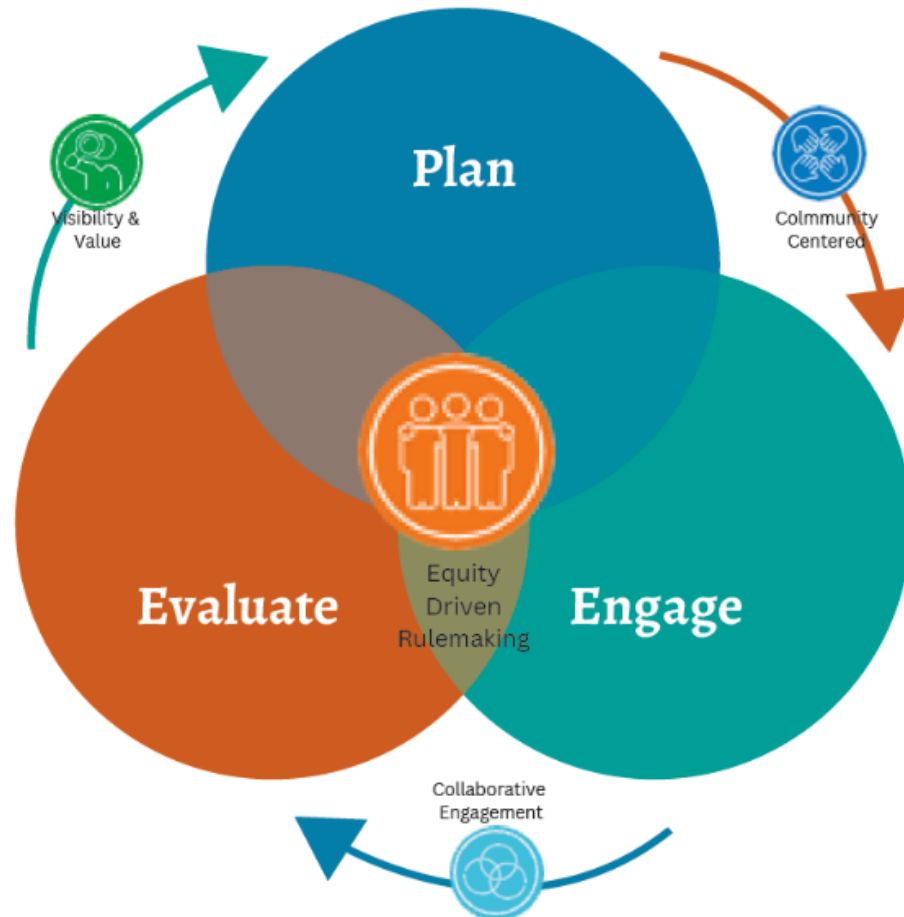


## POLICY AGENDA IN ACTION: COMMUNITY COMPENSATION



Without consistent and equitable standards and procedures for community engagement and compensation, our most vulnerable and marginalized communities are impacted

# Equitable Rulemaking



## Plan

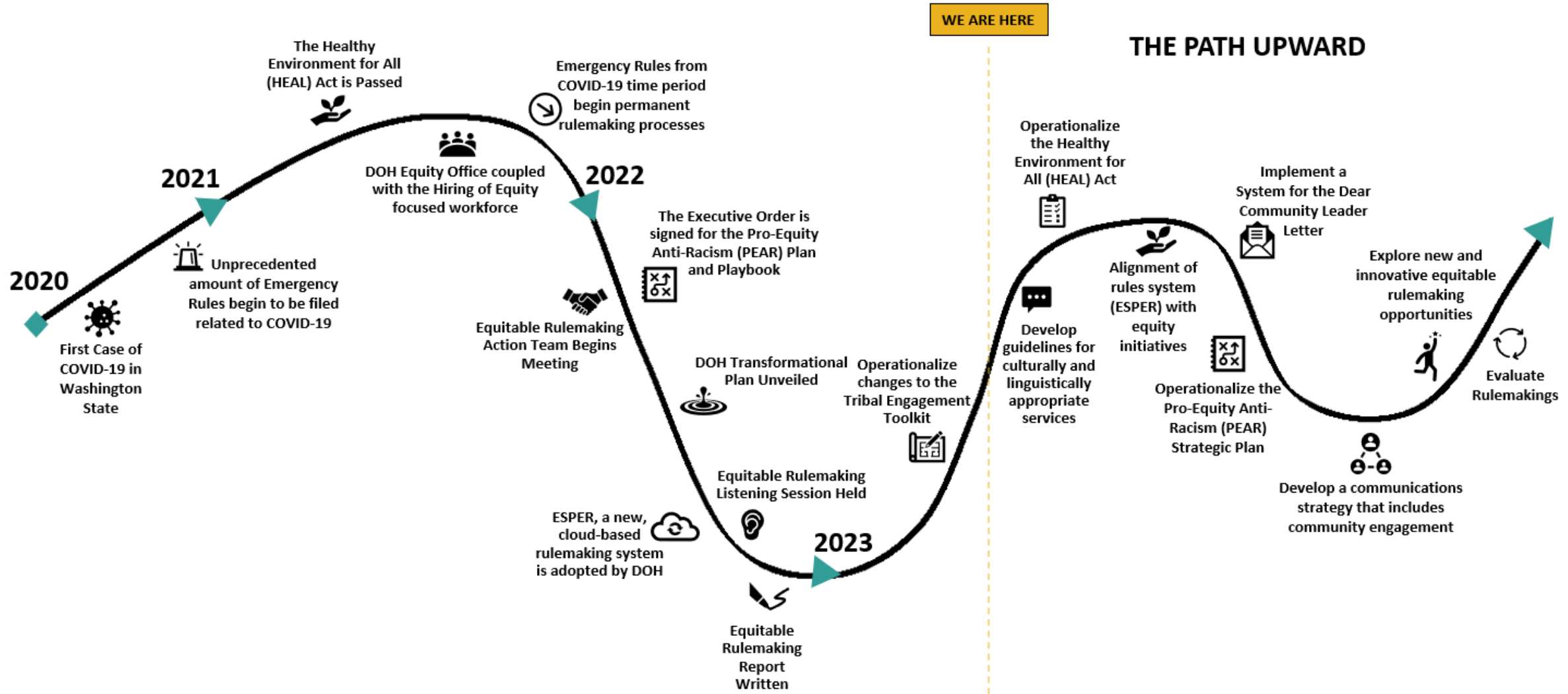
- Anticipate initiation of rulemaking
- Proactive and aligned agency legislative policy analysis
- Strategic communications and community engagement planning
- Monthly Advisory Committee meetings for agency strategic partnership.

## Engage

- Broaden notification system
- Use growing agency toolbox
- Ensure accessible formal hearings

## Evaluate

- Consider what went well and what can be improved
- Evaluate rulemaking from start to finish



| <b>Playbook Mapping</b> | <b>Action</b>  | <b>Lead(s)</b>   | <b>Timeline Start</b> |
|-------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Plan</b>             | Communications strategy that includes community engagement   | OPAE-CCRE        | March 2024            |
|                         | Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)    | OPAE-CCRE        | March 2024            |
|                         | Monthly Advisory Committee Meetings                          | OPPE / OPAE-CCRE | June 2023             |
|                         | Connecting Legislative Bill Review with Equitable Rulemaking | OPPE             | 2024                  |
| <b>Engage</b>           | Sovereign Tribal Nation Consultation                         | OPPE             | Ongoing               |
|                         | Informing, Collaborating, and Consulting with Tribes         | OPPE             | Ongoing               |
|                         | Alignment of Rules System with Equity Initiatives            | OPPE             | June 2023             |
|                         | Engage in Environmental Justice Assessments for HEAL Act     | OPPE / EPH       | July 2023             |
| <b>Evaluate</b>         | Evaluate Rulemakings   | OPPE             | 2024                  |

## HEALTH IN WA MOVING FORWARD

- Transformational Health
- Community Collaborative
- Community Compensation
- Advancing Equity in Policy
- Tribal Consultation Modernization
- Investment / Workforce
- Digital Health / Tech
- Climate and Health
- Social Drivers of Health



# #InvisibilityCrisis

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## THREE V'S OF PUBLIC HEALTH

*Visibility*

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*Value*

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*Validation*

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## OFFENSIVE LINE



## KEY TAKE AWAYS

- There are **silver linings** to the Covid-19 pandemic, increased public awareness of health inequities and policy actions taken to advance equity.
- **Creating confluence** between equity initiatives can align resources and remove silos to address the **intersectionality** of this work.
- **Leveraging and advancing** multisectoral partnerships, we can go further upstream together to address the social determinants of health.
- We must learn from each other in this laboratory of democracy to identify and implement best practices to achieve **Optimal Health for All**.



“All water is **connected** and only land and people are disconnected.”

*The Covenant of Water, Abraham Verghese*





THANK YOU

