

# Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Webinar



January 19, 2022

2:00pm ET/1:00pm CT/12:00pm MT/11:00am PT





## **Tiffney Marley**

*Senior Vice President*

*Practice Transformation Team*

*National Community Action Partnership*

YOU  
ARE  
ON

LAND



#HonorNativeLand  
USDAC.us/NativeLand

Artwork & Design by  
Warren Montoya - Tamaya & Kha'po Owingeh  
Jaclyn Roessel - Dine



## Land Acknowledgement

*Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted.*



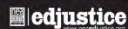
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# Land Acknowledgement

<https://native-land.ca/>

- **This meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the \_\_\_\_\_ People, and I pay my respect to elders both past and present, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations.”**
  - Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today.
- **Deliver** your statement in the chat including the land/people relevant to the land that you are occupying during this session. **Learn more** by taking time to learn about the Indigenous history of the land you live on. The Partnership team will share the link to the US Department of Arts and Culture in the chat now. Visit <https://usdac.us/nativeland> to get started.



# Agenda

- Welcome
- Opening Remarks: Connecting The Community Action and Rev. Dr. King Legacy
- Keynote Address with Jerome Underwood
- Resources
- Closing Remarks



## The Promise of Community Action

*Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*



**Dr. Dalitso S. Sulamoyo**

*Chief Executive Officer*

*Champaign County Regional Planning Commission*

*Board Chair*

*National Community Action Partnership*

# King's Dream: Central to Our Promise

Community Action believes in the promise that everyone should have access to the opportunity for success

# Value Statements



We believe all people should be treated with dignity and respect and recognize that structural race, gender, and other inequities remain barriers that must be addressed.



We believe that this nation has the capacity and moral obligation to ensure that no one is forced to endure the hardships of poverty.



We believe that with hope, adequate resources and opportunities, everyone can reach their fullest potential, and we are committed to achieving that vision.



We pledge ourselves to creating an environment that pursues innovation and excellence through multi-sector partnership and collaboration.



## OUR VISION:

**A NATION THAT CREATES  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL PEOPLE  
TO THRIVE, BUILDS STRONG,  
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, AND  
ENSURES A MORE EQUITABLE  
SOCIETY.**

# Looking to the "North Star"



In the early 1960's though Community Action was born amidst various social tensions, we learned to look towards the "North Star" as we sought the path of opportunity and stability for our families and communities who were being held captive by poverty.

Collectively the Network will continue to look in the right direction towards the path of opportunity a thriving reality for EVERYONE in our communities.



*There is nothing new about poverty. What is new, however, is that we have the resources to get rid of it.*

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**  
-Nobel Peace Prize address, 1964





*The time has come for us to  
civilize ourselves by the  
total, direct and immediate  
abolition of poverty*

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

-“Where do we go from Here: Chaos or Community”, 1967





*The rich nations must use their vast resources of wealth to develop the underdeveloped, school the unschooled, and feed the unfed. Ultimately a great nation is a compassionate nation. No individual or nation can be great if it does not have a concern for 'the least of these.'*

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**  
-Nobel Peace Prize address, 1964



# Equity as a Value & Foundation

- Equity and Economic Mobility Commission
- Community Action Equity Summit Resources
- Intentional training and resource development for the network
- *Racism as a Public Health Crisis* Campaign
- Racial Healing Circles
- National Webinars



**Jerome Underwood**  
*President & CEO*  
*Action for a Better Community, Inc.*



# 2022 Annual Rev. MLK Jr. Commemoration Webinar

## Do We Have the Will?

Jerome H. Underwood  
President & CEO  
Action for a Better Community Inc.  
Jan 19, 2022

# CARIBBEAN MAP


[www.paradise-islands.org](http://www.paradise-islands.org)






# Do We Have the Will?

# NCAP Listening Sessions



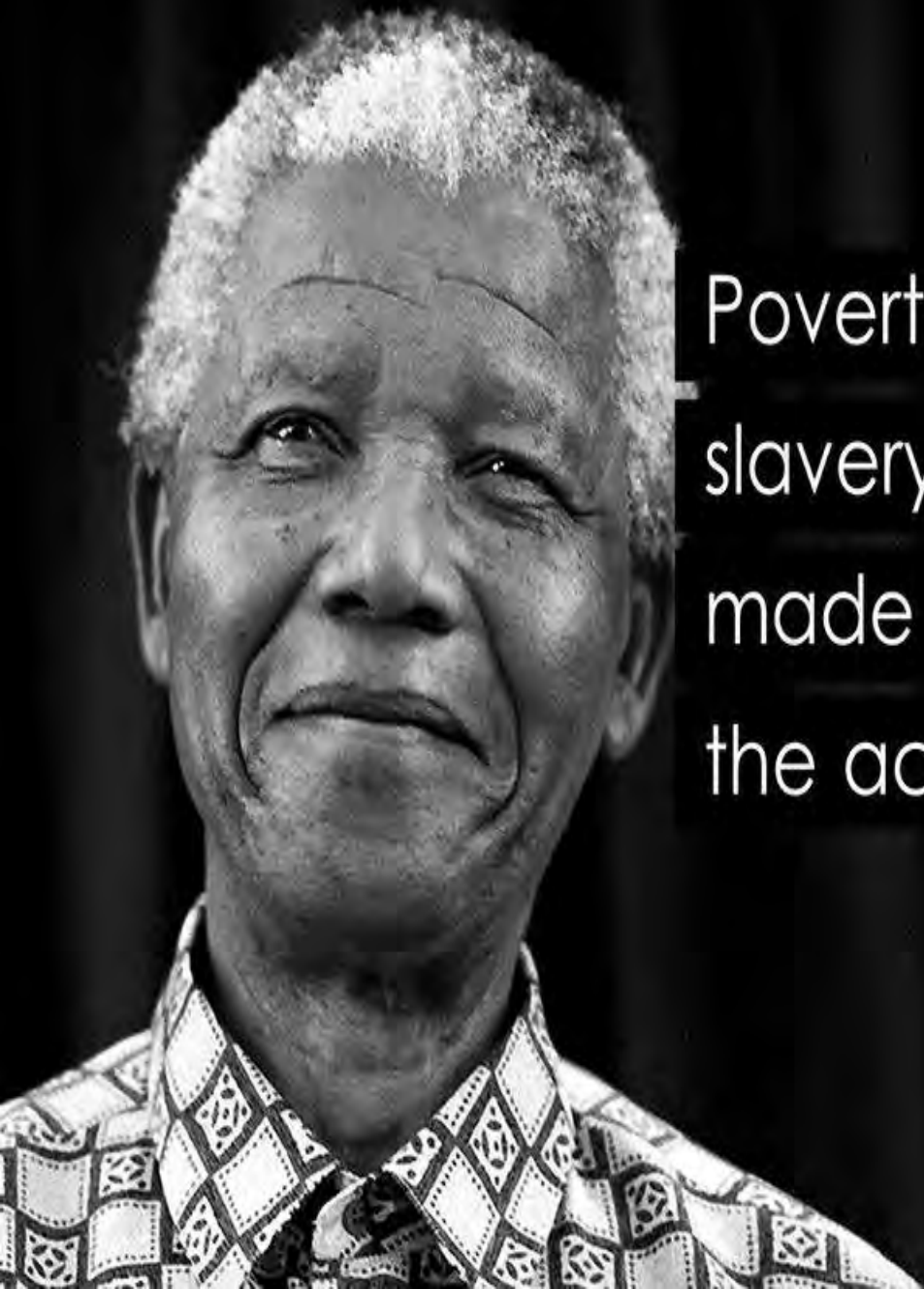
“The opposite of poverty  
isn't wealth. The  
opposite of poverty is  
justice.”

Bryan Stevenson



# “We are the Justice Workers”

Lois Carson



Poverty is not an accident. Like slavery and apartheid, it is man made and can be removed by the actions of human beings.

Nelson Mandela



# Characteristics of an Emerging Anti-Racist Organization

Kenneth V. Hardy, Ph.D.

The Eikenberg Institute for Relationships

## Racism is a Public Health Crisis

*For generations, persons of color have long been denied equal access to opportunity in the United States. Disparities in health between Whites and Black, Indigenous, Latinos and other people of color is one important example. Persons of color are dying at higher rates because of systemic racist policies aimed to exclude persons. It is well documented that social inequities in housing, transportation, education, healthcare, and public safety have caused harm. Racism is a public health crisis, and the remedy requires shifts in policy and systems at the local, state, and federal levels of government.*

*Community Action believes that all people are entitled to human dignity and access to health and well-being. We invite local Community Action Agencies and State Associations to join a host of government and nonprofit organizations in declaring that racism is a public health crisis and pledging to eliminate structural racism and other barriers to health equity through place-based solutions.*



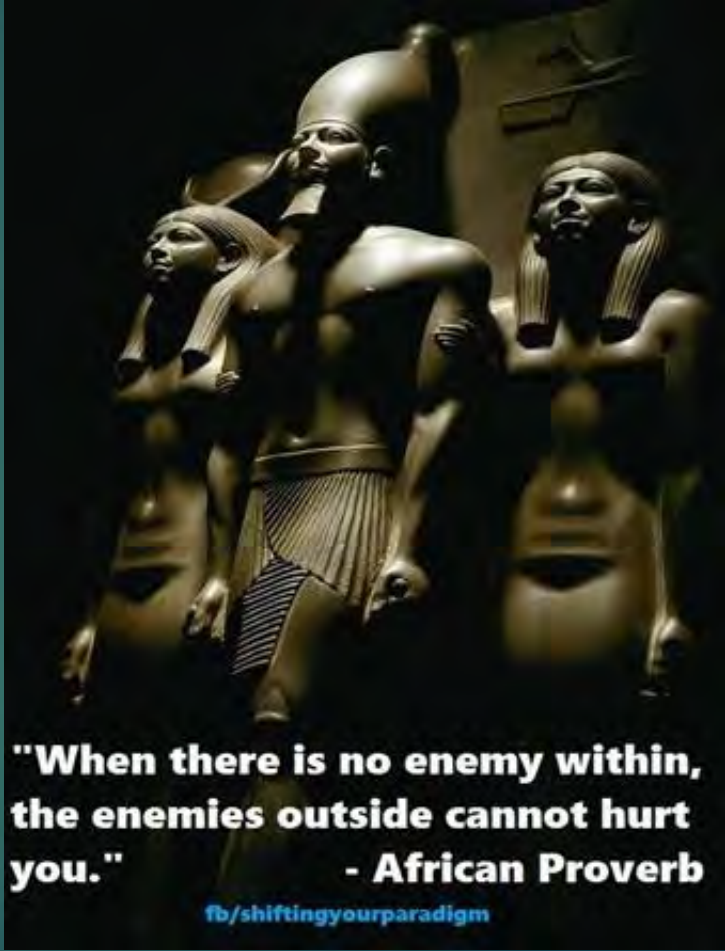
## A RESOURCE GUIDE





“...**seek place**-based solutions to structural racism that support the achievement of racial equity and address health inequities in their **communities**”

*“When the roots are strong, there is no concern in the storm.”* African Proverb

A photograph of three golden Egyptian statues, likely made of bronze or gold, standing in a museum. The central figure is a man with a large, rounded headdress, flanked by two women wearing traditional Egyptian headwraps. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the figures against a dark background.

**“When there is no enemy within, the enemies outside cannot hurt you.”**  
- African Proverb

[fb/shiftingyourparadigm](https://www.facebook.com/shiftingyourparadigm)

# JUSTICE WORKERS...

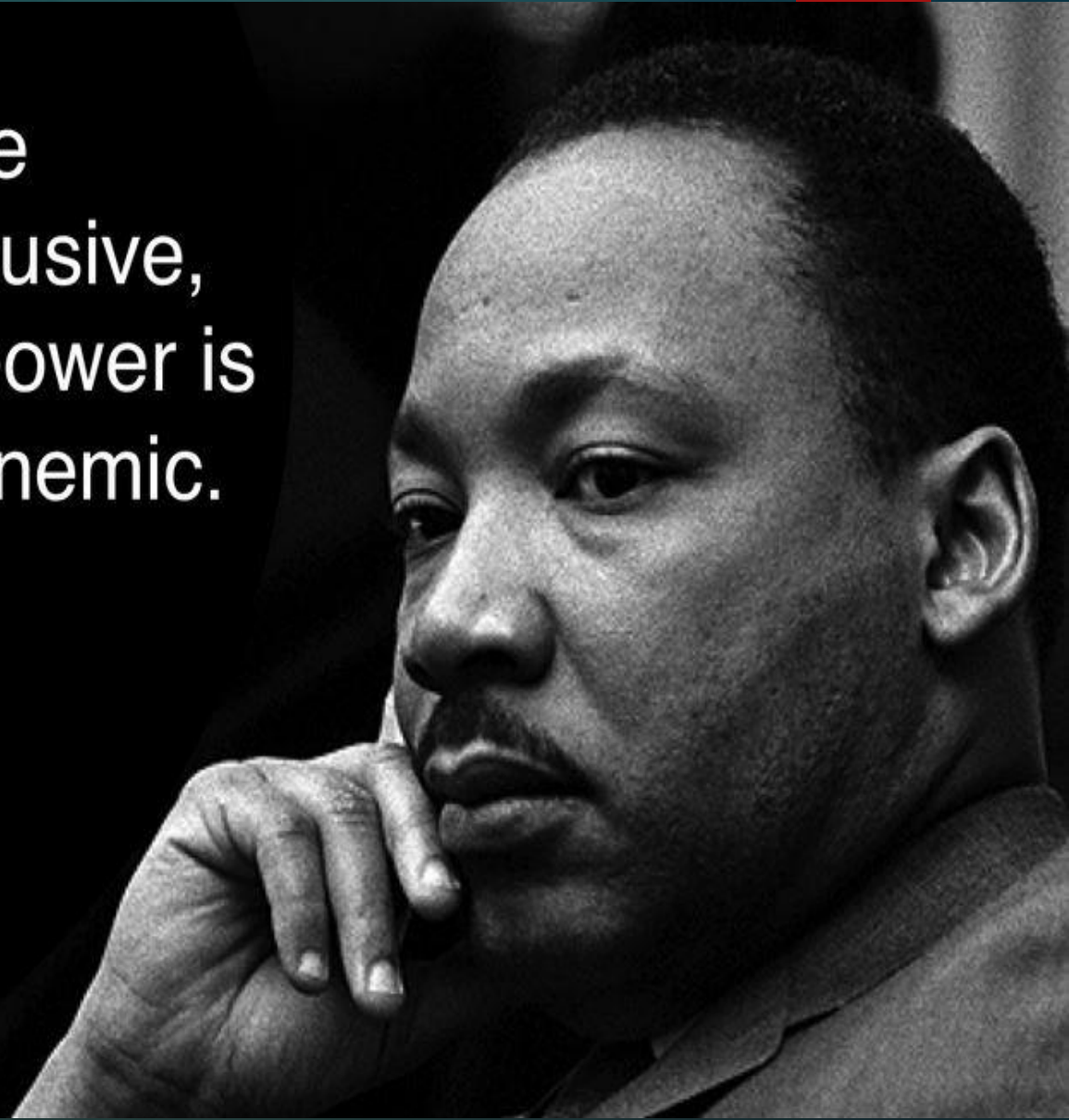
advocate for systemic change so that poverty does not continue to thrive

## A Process for Community Change:



Power without love  
is reckless and abusive,  
and love without power is  
sentimental and anemic.

Martin Luther King Jr





If you want to go fast, go alone.  
If you want to go far, go together.



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?



JEROME H. UNDERWOOD

[junderwood@abcinfo.org](mailto:junderwood@abcinfo.org)

# Questions and Discussion





**SAVE**

**THE**

**DATE!**

**FEBRUARY 2-4, 2022**  
**2022 VIRTUAL MANAGEMENT &  
LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE**

# MLTC Equity Sessions

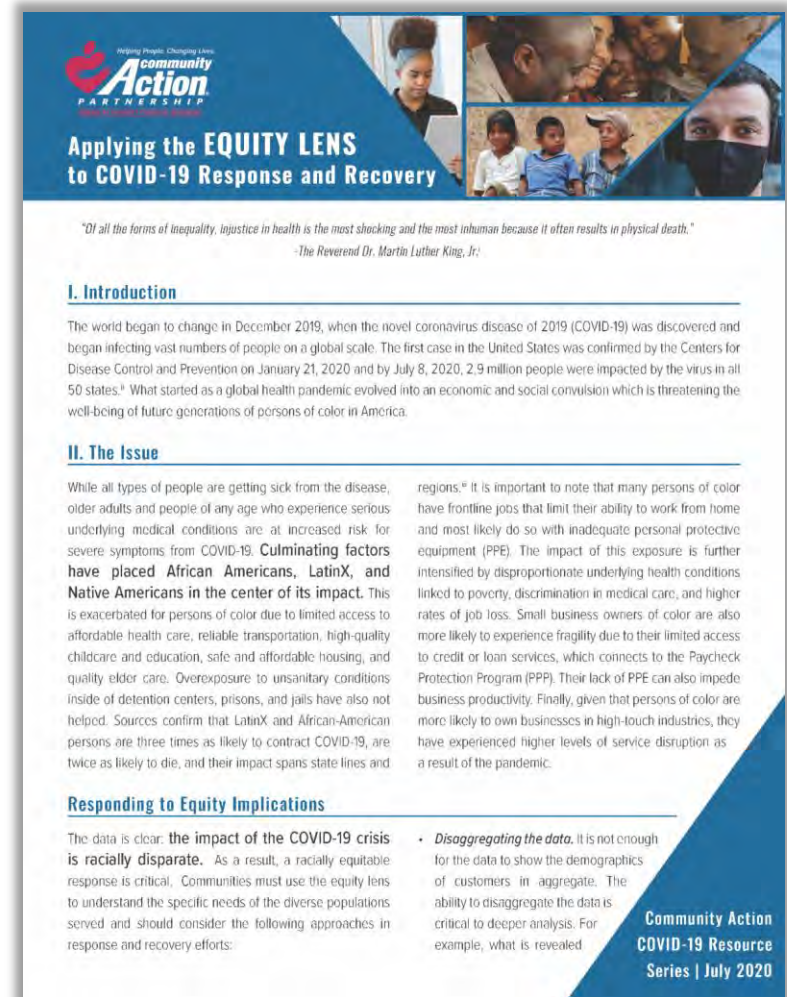
- Racial Healing Circles
- NCAP
  - Transforming Communities Through Place-Based Human Services Ecosystem Change Part 1&2
  - Building Social and Economic Mobility for Families
- Alliance for a Just Society
  - Anchoring Organizational Culture Change in Equity
- ProInspire
  - Leading for Race Equity Impact
- American Public Health Association and Community Action Agencies
  - Leading Community Change to Advance Health Equity: Strategies that Work

# National Partnership Resources

## Community Action COVID-19 Resource Series: Applying the Equity Lens to COVID-19 Response and Recovery

This brief highlights practices that local CAAs can engage in to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic using the equity lens.

[View the brief on our website](#)



The image shows the cover of a report from the Community Action Partnership. The top left features the logo with the tagline 'Weaving People, Changing Lives'. The title 'Applying the EQUITY LENS to COVID-19 Response and Recovery' is prominently displayed. Below the title is a quote from Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The report is divided into sections: I. Introduction, II. The Issue, and Responding to Equity Implications. The cover also includes several small photographs of diverse people, including a woman with a laptop, a group of people, and a man wearing a face mask.

**community Action PARTNERSHIP**  
Weaving People, Changing Lives

### Applying the EQUITY LENS to COVID-19 Response and Recovery

*"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman because it often results in physical death."  
-The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

#### I. Introduction

The world began to change in December 2019, when the novel coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) was discovered and began infecting vast numbers of people on a global scale. The first case in the United States was confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on January 21, 2020 and by July 8, 2020, 2.9 million people were impacted by the virus in all 50 states.<sup>1</sup> What started as a global health pandemic evolved into an economic and social convulsion which is threatening the well-being of future generations of persons of color in America.

#### II. The Issue

While all types of people are getting sick from the disease, older adults and people of any age who experience serious underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe symptoms from COVID-19. **Culminating factors have placed African Americans, LatinX, and Native Americans in the center of its impact.** This is exacerbated for persons of color due to limited access to affordable health care, reliable transportation, high-quality childcare and education, safe and affordable housing, and quality elder care. Overexposure to unsanitary conditions inside of detention centers, prisons, and jails have also not helped. Sources confirm that LatinX and African-American persons are three times as likely to contract COVID-19, are twice as likely to die, and their impact spans state lines and regions.<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that many persons of color have frontline jobs that limit their ability to work from home and most likely do so with inadequate personal protective equipment (PPE). The impact of this exposure is further intensified by disproportionate underlying health conditions linked to poverty, discrimination in medical care, and higher rates of job loss. Small business owners of color are also more likely to experience fragility due to their limited access to credit or loan services, which connects to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Their lack of PPE can also impede business productivity. Finally, given that persons of color are more likely to own businesses in high-touch industries, they have experienced higher levels of service disruption as a result of the pandemic.

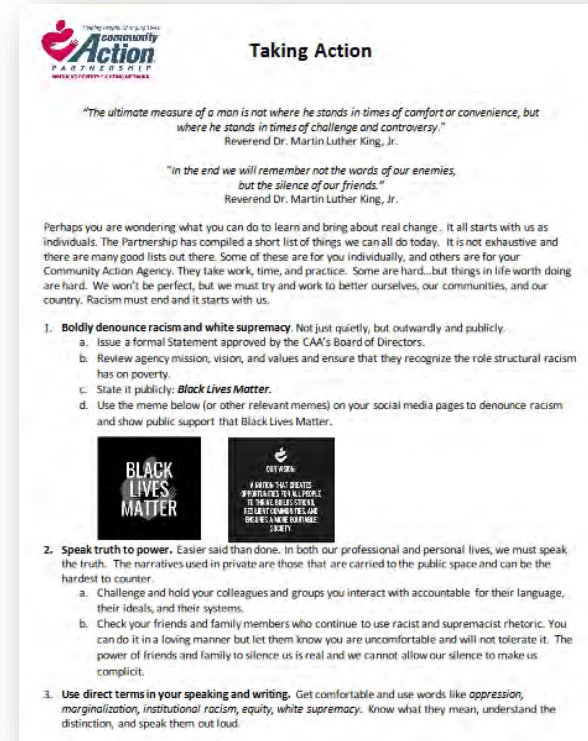
#### Responding to Equity Implications

The data is clear: **the impact of the COVID-19 crisis is racially disparate.** As a result, a racially equitable response is critical. Communities must use the equity lens to understand the specific needs of the diverse populations served and should consider the following approaches in response and recovery efforts:

- **Disaggregating the data.** It is not enough for the data to show the demographics of customers in aggregate. The ability to disaggregate the data is critical to deeper analysis. For example, what is revealed

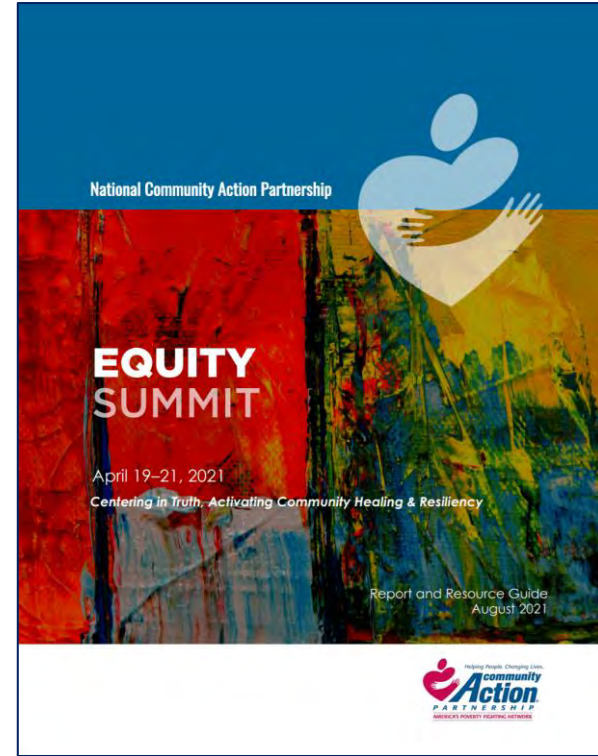
**Community Action COVID-19 Resource Series | July 2020**

# National Partnership Resources



Partnership statements and ideas for [taking action](#) with resources located on the Partnership [website](#)

# National Partnership Resources



## Webinar, Discussion Guide, Moodle Course with APHA

<https://moodle.communityactionpartnership.com/course/view.php?id=87>

## Equity Summit Report and Resources

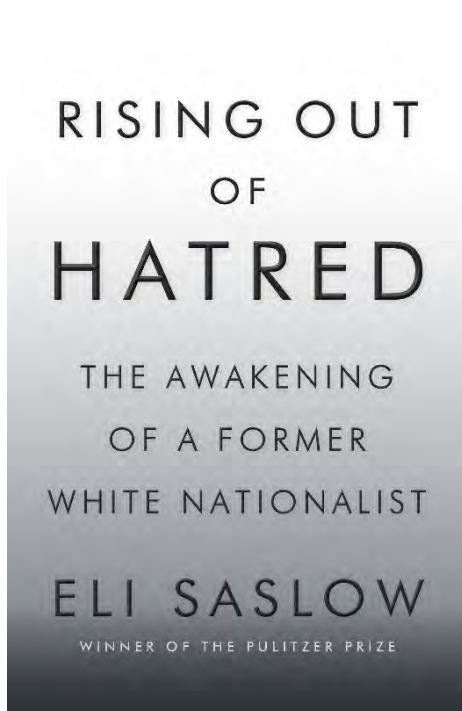
# National Partnership Resources: Redistricting

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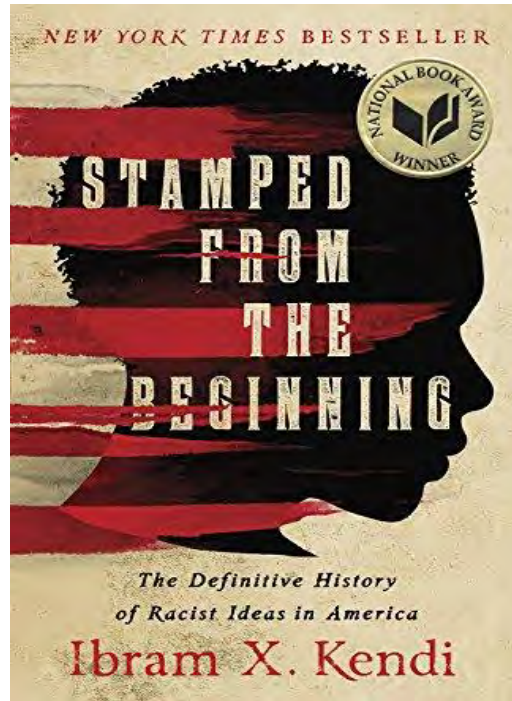
- Equity & Engagement
  - [Redistricting & Equity - Fair Representation in Redistricting](#)
  - [Voting Rights Lab Redistricting Project](#)
  - [Creating Strong Rules for Drawing Maps - The Brennan Center](#)
  - [State Redistricting Campaigns - Common Cause](#)
  - [People Powered Fair Maps Project - League of Women Voters](#)
  - [Find Your Local LWV Chapter by Zip Code](#)



# Book Resources



Rising Out of Hatred

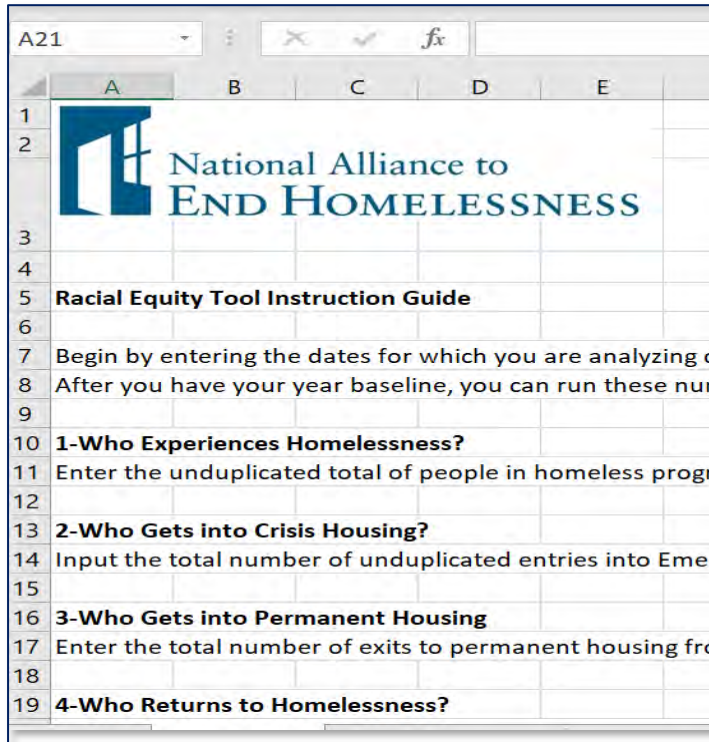


Stamped from the Beginning



The Sum of Us

# External Resources



[NAEH Race Equity Tool](#)

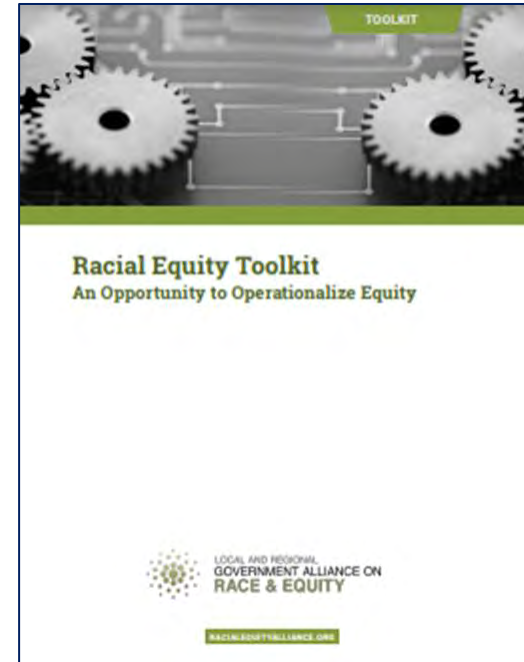


[ProInspire's  
Crisis as a Catalyst: A Call for Race  
Equity & Inclusive Leadership](#)

# External Resources



**Truth Racial Healing and Transformation Implementation Guide – W.K. Kellogg Foundation**



**Racial Equity Toolkit: An Opportunity to Operationalize Equity**

# External Resources



**Othering and Belonging  
Institute at UC Berkeley  
video and curriculum series**



**Equity and Collective Impact  
by Stanford Social  
Innovation Review**

# Contact Us:

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**Thank you for  
joining us!**