

Tillamook County Health Equity Framework

March 2022

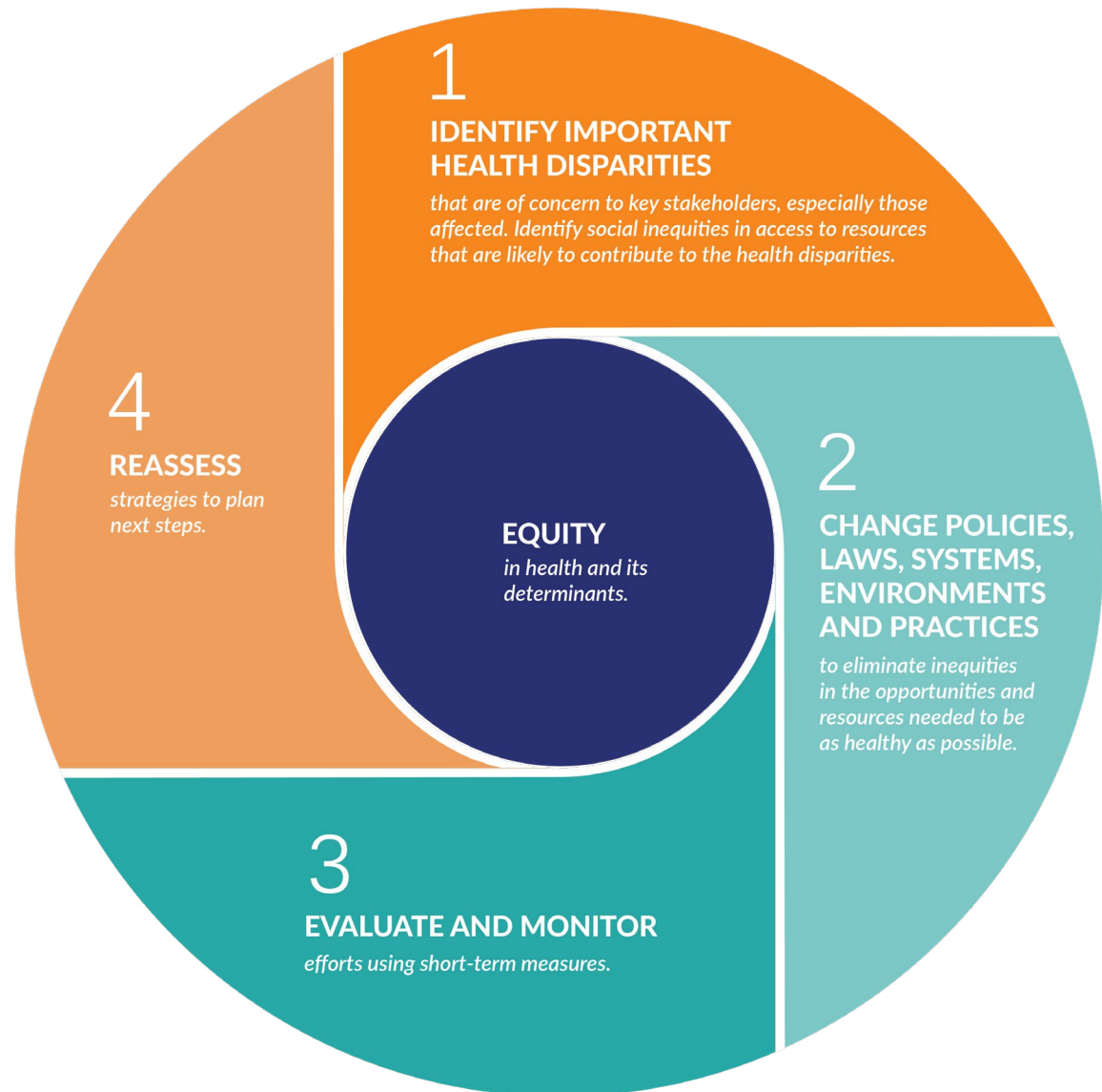
A health equity framework articulates a vision and basic set of theories and principles for improving health equity. A framework does not set out specific goals or timelines but rather seeks to position how we think about a particular issue. The best frameworks act as powerful day-to-day guides for supporting individual and institutional behavior.

● Healthy disparity

Plausibly avoidable, systematic health differences adversely affecting economically or socially disadvantaged groups. (RWJ, 2017)

● Health equity

Reducing and ultimately eliminating disparities in health and its determinants that adversely affect excluded or marginalized groups. (RWJ, 2017)



Objective

By November 2022, finalize a health equity framework to inform and guide Tillamook County Public Health and Community Health Center's work.

RATIONALE: A tailored health equity framework will unify staff and offer an overarching sense of cohesion and momentum around health equity work.

Background in Tillamook County

Over the last year, Tillamook County Public Health and Community Health Centers have sustained work specific to improving health equity practice. Including (but not limited to):

- Organizing and maintaining an internal DEI Committee
- Conducting staff workshops to gauge staff knowledge and attitudes around racism and health equity
- Conducting staff training opportunities such as an annual diversity, equity, and inclusion training for all staff
- Leading regular discussions about health equity at staff meetings
- Utilizing continuous quality improvement to identifying institutional practices that may further exacerbate health inequities and changing some institutional practices and policies based on identified problems
- Working with contractors to develop local and regional videography, web pages, and community engagement to support community initiatives for COVID-19 education
- Directing resources to the development and formalization of a health equity framework

Process and Timeline:

RATIONALE: Taking the time to create and test a framework together will enhance subsequent utilization and allow for exploration, reflection, and discussion.

January 2022

- Share framework concept and timeline with staff, inviting more co-creators and collaborators to join in developing the framework
- Draft a framework

February 2022

- Host a 2-3 hour workshop to review a draft framework and gather staff feedback
- Formalize 1.0 Version of Health Equity Framework

March - September 2022

- Utilize Health Equity Framework Version 1.0

October 2022

- Review efficacy and impact of Version 1.0 and consider adjustments

November 2022

- If necessary, revise Version 1.0 to finalize the health equity framework