

# PURPOSE

## PEOPLE

Who is positively and negatively affected (by this issue) and how?

How are people differently situated in terms of the barriers they experience?

Are people traumatized/retraumatized by your issue/decision area?

*Consider physical, spiritual, emotional and contextual effects*

## PLACE

How are you/your issue or decision accounting for people's emotional and physical safety, and their need to be productive and feel valued?

How are you considering environmental impacts as well as environmental justice?

How are public resources and investments distributed geographically?

## ISSUE/ DECISION

## PROCESS

How are we meaningfully including or excluding people (communities of color) who are affected?

What policies, processes and social relationships contribute to the exclusion of communities most affected by inequities?

Are there empowering processes at every human touchpoint?

What processes are traumatizing and how do we improve them?

## POWER

What are the barriers to doing equity and racial justice work?

What are the benefits and burdens that communities experience with this issue?

Who is accountable?

What is your decision-making structure?

How is the current issue, policy, or program shifting power dynamics to better integrate voices and priorities of communities of color?

## Equity and Empowerment Lens

# Purpose Towards Racial Equity

In a purpose-driven system, all partners at all levels align around transformative values, relationships and goals moving towards racial equity, integrating an emphasis on doing less harm and supporting actions that heal and transform.

## Defining An Individual's Purpose:

- ⇒ What is my purpose towards achieving racial equity?
- ⇒ What gets in the way of maintaining my purpose towards racial equity?
- ⇒ What do I need to maintain my purpose?
- ⇒ Purpose towards racial equity is also further clarified by our positions in the hierarchy.
  1. If you are a manager or other type of leader with positional authority, how can you further clarify your purpose so that you are leveraging the power you have?
  2. If you are at a lower level in the organization, what do you need from leadership in order to feel valued and a key contributor to the organizational purpose?
  3. How does your role and your purpose influence and align with?

## Defining An Institution's Purpose:

- ⇒ What is our institution's purpose towards racial equity?
- ⇒ How are we clearly defining that purpose, and where and how do we communicate that?
- ⇒ How can we ensure that our purpose is integrated into our policies, procedures, and practices?
- ⇒ How can we give our employees a greater sense of meaning in what they do around racial equity, so they feel more enthusiastic and hopeful about their work?
- ⇒ In what practical ways can our institution add more value around racial equity and do less harm?
- ⇒ Is racial equity the central theme in your recruitment and retention efforts?
- ⇒ Do you have the right people around you to achieve your purpose? If not, how can you move towards this reality?
- ⇒ How do you ensure individuals work together with leaders to align to the institution's purpose towards racial equity?