### **BALTIMORE C** Youth Data Hub

Where data and communities come together to support Baltimore's young people

#### **Session Objectives**

- Participants understand the Baltimore City Youth Data Hub
- Participants leave understanding how we have conceptualized community throughout the development process
- Participants leave learning about how we formalized the C-RAC
- Participants leave with practical skills of building and establishing a community participatory committee



#### **Presenters**



Bridget Blount
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Baltimore's Promise



Kerra Dukes Community Advisory Board Baltimore's Promise



Noell Lugay Interim Assistant Deputy Mayor Equity, Health, and Human Services Baltimore City Government



Dr. Geri Peak Chief Insight Facilitator Two Gems Consulting Services



Tamirah Reaves Community Research and Action Committee Baltimore's Promise

#### **Data Equity Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge the people who came before us, our Africana and Indigenous ancestors from the four directions and around the globe. Our heroes, activists and guides. Our creatives, our scholars, listeners, learners, dreamers. We acknowledge those who endured the Maafa, the Trail of Tears, colonialism and exploitation. The peoples of this land who endured invasion, displacement and the terror-forming of the land. We give thanks for all the people who carried themselves forward, so that we could be here today and the knowledge they carried forward about caring for the land, plants, creatures and people. Further, we recognize the harms that have been brought in the name of advancement, including harms related to research, data gathering, experimentation and control. Those whose ways of doing and being were deemed unfit and illegal to strip resources or claim lack of economic contribution; whose bodies were used without consent from the Tuskegee experiments to Henrietta Lacks, from those deemed different enough to be exploited, like the neurodivergent and gay communities plagued by HIV/AIDS. And all the data gathered about us that was not centered by us. The data that describes us but not from our own reality, data that define us as less than. We acknowledge our power to gather and determine how data about us are used and see that they lead to our collective benefit.

We acknowledge that we have the capacity within ourselves. Trained expertise, conscious curiosity, street smarts, activism and our collective community wisdom. We know that we are fit to determine how we move forward and claim our story.

And we all say Ase, Ase, Ase-o!

#### **Encoding Equity**

Data are decisions.

Decisions are power.

And where there is power, there is privilege. Nothing is low stakes.

Rhode Island Data Ecosystem



# Youth Data Hub Overview

#### **Baltimore City Youth Data Hub Overview**





#### The purpose of the Baltimore City Youth Data Hub is:

- (1) to promote the health, safety, security, and well-being of youth; and
- (2) to improve equitable access to and the overall cost-efficiency of programs serving youth.

#### Its mission is:

To evaluate programs and services that youth (residing, schooling, or participating in any youth programming in Baltimore) receive, and assess the operation and effectiveness of their policies and programs to improve the health, safety, security, and well-being of Baltimore youth.

The following principles guide the Data Hub's implementation and operation:



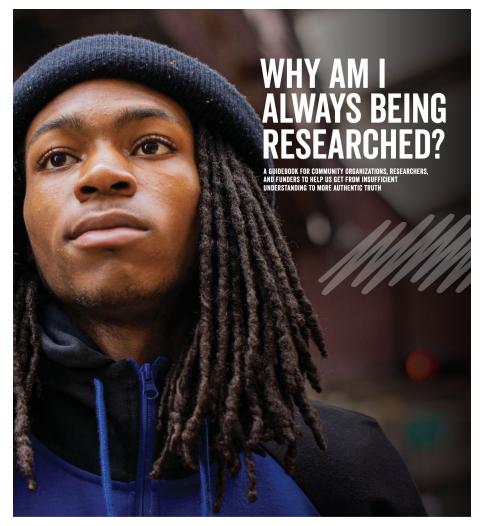
High-quality
data analysis
requires an
understanding
of historical
context and
competence.

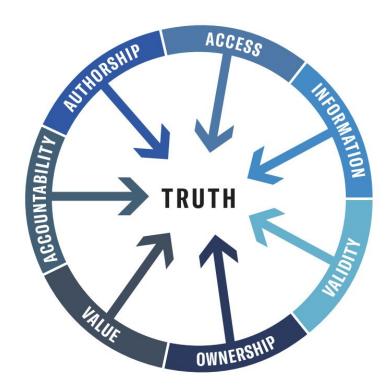
Transparency
and community
trust-building
are priorities
of data use
governance,
and sharing.

The Data Hub
will focus on
improving
systems-level
challenges;
it will not focus
on individuals.

The data in the Data Hub will highlight and work to eliminate racial disparities and inequities.

Data use will be ethical and enforce high standards of privacy.





Seven inequities held in place by power, seven opportunities for change.

WHY AM I ALWAYS BEING RESEARCHED? <a href="https://chicagobeyond.org/researchequity/">https://chicagobeyond.org/researchequity/</a>

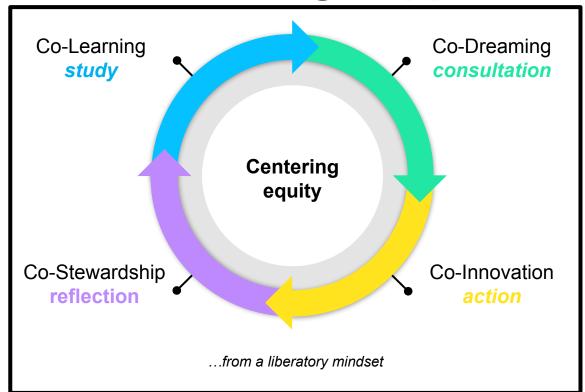
#### Seven Inequities Standing in the Way of Impact

- 1. Access: Could we be missing out on community wisdom because conversations about research are happening without community meaningfully present at the table?
- 2. Information: Can we effectively partner to get to the full truth if information about research options, methods, inputs, costs, benefits, and risks are not shared?
- 3. Validity: Could we be accepting partial truths as the full picture, because we are not valuing community organizations and community members as valid experts?

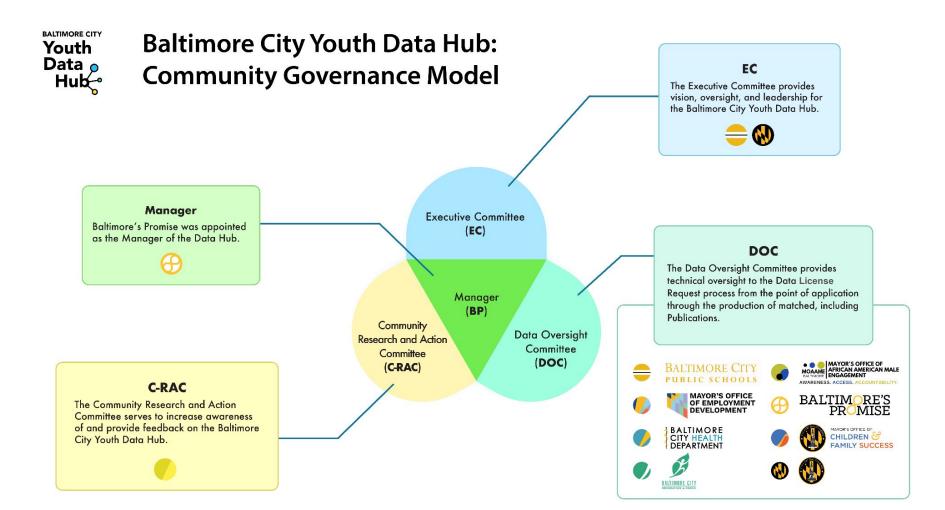
- **4. Ownership:** Are we getting incomplete answers by valuing research processes that take from, rather than build up, community ownership?
- **5. Value:** What value is generated, for whom, and at what cost?
- **6. Accountability:** Are we holding funders and researchers accountable if research designs create harm or do not work?
- **7. Authorship:** Whose voice is shaping the narrative and is the community fully represented?

#### **Transformative Co-Design Approach**

Leverages collaboration as the vehicle for customized planning, organizing and action



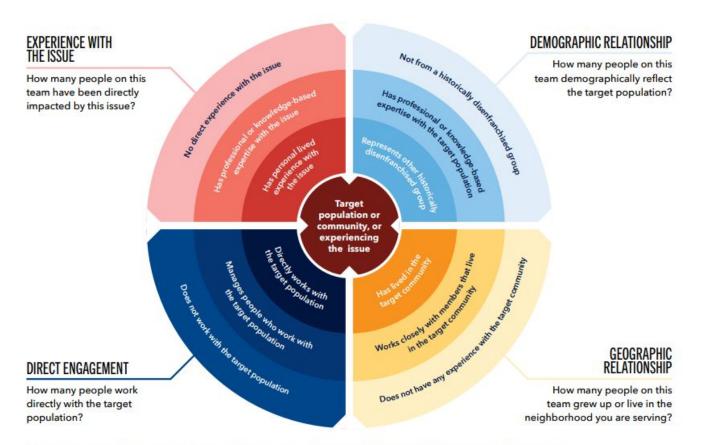
In the LANGUAGE of CO-DESIGN



## Youth Data Hub

**Community Research**and Action Committee

#### Who Is At Your Table?



<sup>†</sup>This tool is a modified version of the Kent County ENTF toolkit, which was developed by Inclusive Performance Strategies to equip a Kent County action team with tools that foster inclusive and collaborative environments designed to achieve equitable outcomes throughout.

#### **Community Research and Action Committee**

The executive committee will appoint community members to an advisory committee consisting of community stakeholders, such as representatives from nonprofit organizations, faith-based institutions, community resident associations, students, and other community members.

The advisory committee's purpose is to raise awareness of and offer feedback on the Baltimore City Youth Data Hub.

#### **Community Listening Sessions: Process**



- 3 sessions held
- **4** critical questions explored
- 217 ideas generated
- 90 verified participants
- ~25%\* under 30
- 86% interested in C-RAC

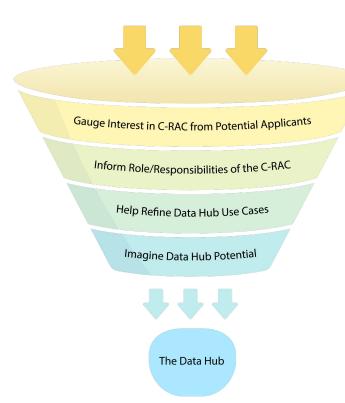
#### **Community Listening Sessions: Data Operations + Use Insights**

- Keep it Baltimore owned.
- Make sure people with LIVED experience are contributing.
- C-RAC sets clear agreements and non-hierarchical structures.
- C-RAC identifies "NEVER THIS" use cases.
- Create youth app for gathering data, fashioned so data gathering feels like empowerment and not "snitching."



#### **Community Listening Sessions: Informing the Data Hub Work**





### Two-Phase Recruitment + Review Process

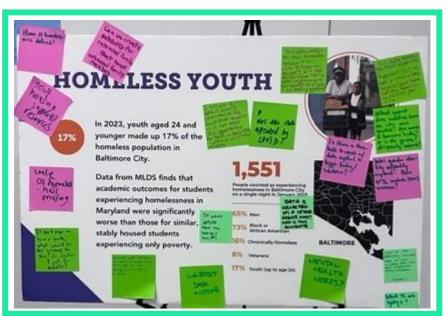
PHASE II

Part I	Part II	Part I	Part II
Applicants Submitted Interest Statements  Selection Rubric Designed  Data Party Idea Generated	Selection Committee Identified & Trained  First Pass Screening of Applicants for Alignment with Youth Data Hub Principles	Selection Committee Conducts Review  Data Party Group Interview + Facilitation Designed	Select Individuals Invited to Data Party  Data Party Hosted at Baltimore Unity Hall June 1, 2024  Reviewers Make Recommendations

#### **Selection Committee**

Seven of the identified representatives participated in applicant reviews and/or the group interactive interview:

- Baltimore City Public Schools
- Baltimore's Promise Community Advisory Board
- The Mayor's Office of Employment Development
- The Mayor's Office of Children & Family Success
- The Mayor's Office of African American Male Engagement









#### Recruitment Results

48

**Applications** Received



**Select Candidates** Interviewed

#### 13 Recommended to Executive Committee

- 69% Female
- **23% Male**
- **8% Gender Nonconforming**
- 69% Black
- 15% Latine
- 8% Black/Native American
- 8% Latine/White
- 62% 25+
- 38% < 25

#### **Best Practices To Ensure Full + Active Participation**

- Provide a Stipend: Compensate youth for their time and contributions.
- Allow Adequate Preparation Time: Ensure ample time to prepare before large intergenerational meetings.
- Remove Barriers to Participation: Address challenges related to transportation, time of day/week, childcare, and meals.
- Manage Power Imbalances: Be mindful of differences in positions, formal authority, age, etc., and actively work to manage these imbalances.
- Co-Design/Facilitate Meetings: Whenever possible, involve youth in the co-design and facilitation of meetings.

#### What did we learn?

- Community Insight: Put it out there and the collective wisdom will bring new insights to pressing community issues
- Set the Vibes: Make the meeting experience one that uses different facilitation styles (bring in graphic designers, poets, allow participants to draw or create, etc.)
- Effective Communication: Over communicate and use different types of communication products
- Differentiate Approaches: Application
- Intergenerational Collaboration: Selection Committee
- Diverse Representation: Demographics and geography



#### **Thank You!**

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Youth Data Hub Updates and Events www.baltimorespromise.org/datahub

