Kenosha County’s Approach to Racial Equity

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Resolution recognizes issue and our need to address it

Adopted by County Board on Aug. 4, 2020
Oct. 6, 2020: County Executive Jim Kreuser presents 2021 budget containing several equity-oriented actions
Funding for Body Cameras

“Striving for best practices on police calls and using the video for continuous improvement in a positive way, this will get all of us the accountability we’re seeking — for our law enforcement officers, and the public.”

— County Executive Kreuser
"We’ve all heard calls for public input in the process of tackling systemic racism. This commission will be a place to focus that energy and deliver meaningful results."

— County Executive Kreuser
Internal Look at Policies/Procedures

- Diversity Task Force convened
- Hiring of HR Business Partner with Diversity Inclusion Specialty
- Review of county workforce minority profile
- County is now a GARE member
Racial Equity Training

- Foundational for all employees; onboarding for new hires
- Goal is to complete in 2021, then re-evaluate
- Training to occur through GARE, REI and other organizations
Training Objectives

- Equity literacy, diversity, respectful communications, creating an inclusive environment
- Working to eliminate racial inequities and improve outcomes for all racial groups
- Law enforcement training to cover awareness and prevention of harassment
Outward-Facing Review

- Racial Equity Commission to report to County Board’s Executive Committee
- Workgroup now developing commission framework to go to County Board for approval
Proposed Mission Statement

“The Racial Equity Commission's mission is to realize greater racial equity in Kenosha County through on-going review of current policies and procedures so as to implement transformative ideas born of research, collaboration, and community engagement.”
Commission goals for 2021

- Finalize mission statement and composition of commission
- Initial overall goal: Look at policies and procedures and how they may contribute to systemic racism
Critical to Ongoing Success

The ongoing involvement of the public!
Thank You!

Any Questions?