

Research Priorities Brainstorm

Fourth Working Group Meeting, December 14, 2021

What is Participatory Action Research (PAR)?

- Driven by people who have a stake in the issue being researched, elevating their knowledge and expertise
- Builds research capacity in communities and ensures communities produce, own, and use knowledge
- Collaborative at every stage
- Intended to result in action, change, or improvement on the issue being researched

What makes a strong research question?

- **Relevant**
- **Novel**
- Feasible
- Ethical
- Specific

Types of research priorities

- Diagnosing/quantifying the problem
- Identifying drivers or points of intervention
- Understanding experiences and perceptions
- Identifying interventions
- Estimating projected impacts

Reminder: Goals of the WEP

1. Collaboratively develop a **transparent, coordinated, evidence-based** Community Plan that will...
 - Identify and address racial disparities across all components of Washtenaw County's juvenile and adult criminal legal systems
2. Collaboratively develop a framework for **implementation, ongoing oversight, and evaluation** of the Community Plan

Breakout group activity

1. What do we already know?

- Ex: Substance use is a growing problem in Washtenaw and is a driver of criminalization

2. What do we need to know?

- Ex: Are drug charges a primary driver of racial disparities in jail incarceration?

3. Top 3 research priorities

- Ex as question: What is the role of drug charges as a driver of racial disparities in jail incarceration?
- Ex as statement: Identifying gaps in substance use treatment for people exposed to the criminal legal system

Goals of activity

1. Determine which areas of inquiry are priorities for this group
2. Practice brainstorming process that could be adapted to each subcommittee