

Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies to Transform Power and Place

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Build Healthy
Places Network



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Acknowledgments

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Community Innovations for Racial Equity Partners

The Community Innovations for Racial Equity (CIRE) initiative focuses on building local BIPOC-led community development capacity, supporting community power, exploring innovative community ownership models, and addressing the barriers and gaps within community development and health partnerships to effectively propel racial equity.

The following CIRE partners contributed their time, effort, and knowledge:

[African Economic Development Solutions](#),
St. Paul, MN

[Cihuapactli Collective](#), *Phoenix, AZ*

[Communities First, Inc.](#), *Flint, MI*

[Co-op Dayton](#), *Dayton, OH*

[Miami Workers Center](#), *Miami, FL*

[Power Center Community Development Corporation](#), *Memphis, TN*

[Rise Community Development](#), *St. Louis, MO*

[Sankofa Community Development Corporation](#),
New Orleans, LA

[Song Community Development Corporation](#),
New Orleans, LA

[Virginia Community Voice](#), *Richmond, VA*

Navigating this Tool

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About this Tool

Grounding data and evaluation in the expertise and experience of healthy communities through community-driven data practices produces stronger research and more useful and actionable information.

By bringing communities to the table, community-driven data and evaluation informs more equitable and just strategies for healthy communities, while building community power through the process.

Too often, researchers outside of communities are leading the health equity data and evaluation projects that impact those communities—instead of communities leading that work themselves. This tool was created to help shift that dynamic.

Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies to Transform Power and Place brings together existing community-driven data resources and strategies to support community-based organizations in leading and supporting institutions to better equip and engage communities.

Practitioners working on the ground in communities, or in institutions seeking to more effectively engage communities, can use this tool to identify community-engaged data and evaluation approaches that fit the capacity, timeline, and goals of grassroots organizations leading healthy communities work.

BHPN and Verge Impact Partners developed this tool in collaboration with the CIRE cohort.

The CIRE cohort, consisting of ten BIPOC-led community development corporations (CDCs), focuses on building local community development capacity, supporting community power, exploring innovative community ownership models, and addressing the barriers and gaps within community development and health partnerships to effectively propel racial equity. Their questions, insights, and knowledge helped shape how this tool could be useful to similar CDCs and other community-based organizations.

Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies to Transform Power and Place was also developed to pair with BHPN's [MeasureUp microsite](#), which synthesizes a range of existing external resources that support the work of healthcare, community development, and public health sectors to develop and implement equitable and participatory data strategies and practices in partnership with community members.

“

[Collecting our own data] helps our organization counter the narrative of what is perceived about the community. We are nestled within the Lower Ninth Ward of Louisiana and the common narrative if you didn't live here would be [negative]. With our own data, we can fight those false narratives. We can say, 'That common narrative is not us—we are a thriving community, doing so many positive things.'"

**Brandin Walker,
Sankofa CDC**

Key Definitions

Asset-based approach—Emphasizes a group's strengths, knowledge, and aspirations; recognizes systemic issues as the problem.

Community-driven data—Collection, analysis, interpretation, sharing, and use of data through processes led and driven by community members themselves, rather than external researchers or institutions.

Deficit-based approach—Emphasizes a group's problems, perceived weaknesses, and needs; defines the group itself as the problem or in need of fixing.

Equitable—Everyone has a fair and just opportunity to shape their communities and attain their highest level of health.

Evaluation—Systematic information gathering and analysis to understand whether and/or how something is working, what it is producing, and where policies, programs, and resources can be changed and improved.

Grassroots—People in communities whose everyday lives are impacted by and form the base for community-level work.

Healthy communities—“A healthy community is one that strives to meet the basic needs of all residents; it is guided by health equity principles in the decision-making process; it empowers organizations and individuals through collaboration and through civic and cultural engagement for the creation of safe and sustainable environments. Vibrant, livable, and inclusive communities provide ample choices and opportunities to thrive economically, environmentally, and culturally, but must begin with health.” ([California Planning Roundtable](#))

Power—“Power comes in the form of resources, access to decision making, alliances and networks, and the dominant stories society chooses to tell about this nation and its people. It can be found in the venues where decisions are made—legislative, administrative, judicial, electoral, communications, and corporate.” ([Human Impact Partners](#))

Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies to Transform Power and Place will help you:

- 1 Define and match your goals for community-driven data and evaluation to approaches, tools, and resources that fit your context.
- 2 Better understand common approaches to produce and use community-driven data and evaluation to advance health equity, promote racial justice, and build community power.
- 3 Explore examples of how community-based organizations are embedding community-driven data and evaluation approaches into their work.
- 4 Make the case for using community-driven data and evaluation processes.

Key terms used throughout are defined above.

Introduction to Community-Driven Data

Data is power. It shapes the way we make sense of and engage with the world.

Data frames what is believed, who is believed, and what actions are taken as a result. When it comes to creating healthy communities, data guides funders, policymakers, and anchor institutions in deciding what resources and opportunities they make available to communities.

The data we collect, the tools we use to collect it, and who leads and participates in these processes all influence who has the power to shape the future of our communities.

Historically, institutions have excluded members of historically disinvested groups from participating in or leading data collection and evaluation efforts that assess and impact their communities. This traditional data collection approach often has outsiders making decisions and fails to recognize the invaluable lived experience and knowledge of community members. Community members know what is needed and useful in advancing health and racial equity where they live. When institutions exclude, fail to partner with, or choose not to invite community members in leading these efforts, they cause harm and perpetuate mistrust between BIPOC communities and institutions.

We have learned in the last several years that **community-driven data and evaluation** invites community members to define what metrics and stories are important to collect, track, evaluate, and share with their communities, with practitioners, and with decision-makers. Community-driven data and evaluation involves development and implementation of data collection tools that recognize the knowledge, power, and capabilities of communities. When done in partnership between communities and institutions, it builds the trust that facilitates the shift in power from institutions to communities needed to create more equitable solutions and sustainable strategies.

What Community-Driven Data Looks Like

Figure 1 illustrates how community-driven and evaluation differs from the historical data collection approach. Community-driven data and evaluation strengthens community capacity, builds community power, and de-centers **whiteness** by shifting decision-making to communities of color.

Figure 1. How Community-Driven Data Differs from Traditional Data Approaches

CHARACTERISTICS	COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DATA APPROACH	TRADITIONAL DATA APPROACH
Research focus	Explores community assets, strengths, community member stories or experiences, and root causes	Explores deficits, problems, issues, and risk factors.
Questions and methodologies	Chooses qualitative and quantitative methods that are most useful for community-led change; analyzes data through asset and desire-based frames.	Chooses generalizable data most useful to institutions to understand the topic under study; values quantitative data as more valid and rigorous than qualitative data.
Who is involved	Community members lead or partner with staff to determine goals, questions to explore, data to make sense of, and dissemination of results. Community members with lived experience are experts.	Outside institutions and organizations are tasked with studying and analyzing communities. Academics and professionals who study the topic or issue are experts.
Decision-makers	Community members with lived experience and who are affected by the data or evaluation are decision-makers.	People external to the community who hold institutional control over resources for the project are decision-makers.
In practice	Connects community members with one another, helps to restore trust in communities, and builds community participation and power.	Information is produced primarily for the use of people outside of the community; perpetuates mistrust between institutions and communities.

Who Can Use This Tool

Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies to Transform Power and Place is designed to support individuals working in community and institutional spaces to engage in data collection and evaluation strategies that are led, defined, and analyzed by the community itself.

Community organizations and members

We invite practitioners, advocates, and people working on the ground in their communities (e.g. CDCs, community-based organizations) to use this tool to explore ways to take the lead in creating and using data that centers your community goals, priorities, and expertise.

Institutions

We invite healthcare systems, public health departments, healthcare payers, community development financial institutions, and philanthropic organizations to consider how your entity could improve the use of (or begin using) community-driven data and evaluation strategies and become a better community partner in this process. The data you collect informs how your organization frames and makes sense of the community, and, most importantly, it influences the decisions that impact the community.



Photo credit: The Cihuapactli Collective, 2020 Ancestral Womb Wellness Gathering

In Practice: Using Community-Driven Data and Evaluation

Are you considering community-driven data and evaluation for your healthy communities work? Use this tool early in the ideation and planning phases to identify the strategies for creating or using community-driven data and evaluation that are well suited for your context. This guide will ask you to reflect on your work and explore data and evaluation strategies in four steps:

Foundational Step: [Ensure the community is at the table](#)

[Step 1: Know your goal](#)

[Step 2: Explore strategies and examples](#)

[Step 3: Maximize equity impacts and community power](#)

As you move through this guide, we encourage you to:

ITERATE: Identifying the strategies that fit your work can be a learning process. It's okay to revisit previous steps and adjust as you go.

EXPLORE: There are many ways to apply each strategy, and some projects use more than one. Check out the examples and resources to see how other communities have used the strategies.

MAXIMIZE IMPACT: There is no "silver bullet" or "one right way" to engage in community-driven data and evaluation. Learning with and from the knowledge and expertise of community members will strengthen your project's impact on equity. Building community power will make all the difference.

“

We intentionally engage communities through ongoing dialogue, conversations, and impact surveys and see these as opportunities to amplify community voice, foster deeper community connections, involve community members in the data collection process, and, ultimately, provide investments that matter to residents in New Orleans East.”

Tap Bui and Mai Tran, Song CDC

Foundational Step: Ensure the Community Is at the Table

Before any data collection or evaluation steps, **engage the community**. Community trust is **vital and foundational**. In strong community-driven data and evaluation projects, community members with lived experience are recognized as decision-making leaders or partners in the project design and implementation. **Begin by creating space for community members at the table, and allow them to decide who else should be at the table.**

DESIGN QUESTIONS:

1. Who are the community members whose lives will be impacted by the project?
2. How and why did you select this community?
3. Is the focus on the community’s assets, desires, and strengths, or on damage, harm, and deficits? If your approach has been deficit-based, how can you shift to an asset-based approach?
4. What role(s) will community members play? How will you determine their level of involvement? What level of power will they have in decision-making?

The spectrum of community participation (Figure 2) is a helpful resource in facilitating community participation in decision-making.

Figure 2. Community Participation Spectrum

LEVEL	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
	low <----- level of community decision-making power -----> high				
Community member role	receive information about project	provide feedback on goals and alternatives	strengthen goals, preferences, and alternatives	partner in goal-setting and decision-making	lead goals and decision-making
Examples	town hall, open house, website	polls, open comment, focus groups	advisory boards, charettes	participatory budgeting, collaborative analysis	participatory action research, citizen science monitoring

Facilitating Power’s [Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership](#) illustrates how to strengthen and transform local democracies through deep, equitable community participation.

Step 1: Know Your Goal

Community-driven data and evaluation can strengthen your research and produce data that is more useful and actionable for communities in their own planning, advocacy, and action. Identifying useful and impactful community-driven strategies begins with a clear understanding of the project goal and the difference the data project will make in the community. Therefore, the next step is **getting clear on the goals for the project**.

DESIGN QUESTIONS:

1. What is/are the goal(s) of the project?
2. What impact will this project have, and for whom? Consider both community members and institutional actors.
3. Whose lives will be directly impacted?
4. Who will use the information?
5. How will the project advance health and racial equity?
6. How can using community-driven data and evaluation help you achieve your goal(s)?

Explore these questions by creating a [theory of change](#) about how and why using community-driven data will strengthen your project. For example: if we use community-driven data to do “x”, then we expect “y” to happen, because “z”.

Step 2: Explore Strategies and Examples

Now that you have a sense of how and why community-driven data and evaluation will help advance racial equity in the project, the next step is to **explore strategies that are the best fit for your context**. Figure 3 identifies common community-driven data and evaluation strategies in three categories: (1) assessing community conditions, needs, and opportunities, (2) ways of working that advance equity/shift power, and (3) impacts of practices. You can find more in-depth information on the strategies, including examples of what they look like in practice, in Figure 4.

As you explore Figures 3 (p. 10) and 4 (p. 11), remember that they do not show the entire set of strategies. More are out there! Consider them a starting point to determine what is useful and relevant to your work. Specifically:

You may use multiple strategies at once.

Strategies may differ across phases and aspects of your work.

DESIGN QUESTIONS:

1. What categories are most aligned with your community-driven data and evaluation project goals?
2. What categories do the goals for your current work fall under? Which categories would you like to move toward or deepen your work in?
3. Which strategy (or set of strategies) could help enable the project goals?
4. Which strategies align with your organization's values, relationships, organizational partnerships, and ways of working related to equity?
5. Which of these strategies have you already used, if any? What did you learn from using them?

“

At Community Voice we use data storytelling to blend story and data so that people can better understand the meaning of the data, and move more quickly toward action. Data alone is persuasive, but stories are memorable and compelling.”

Lea Whitehurst-Gibson,
Virginia Community Voice

Figure 3. Overview of Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies

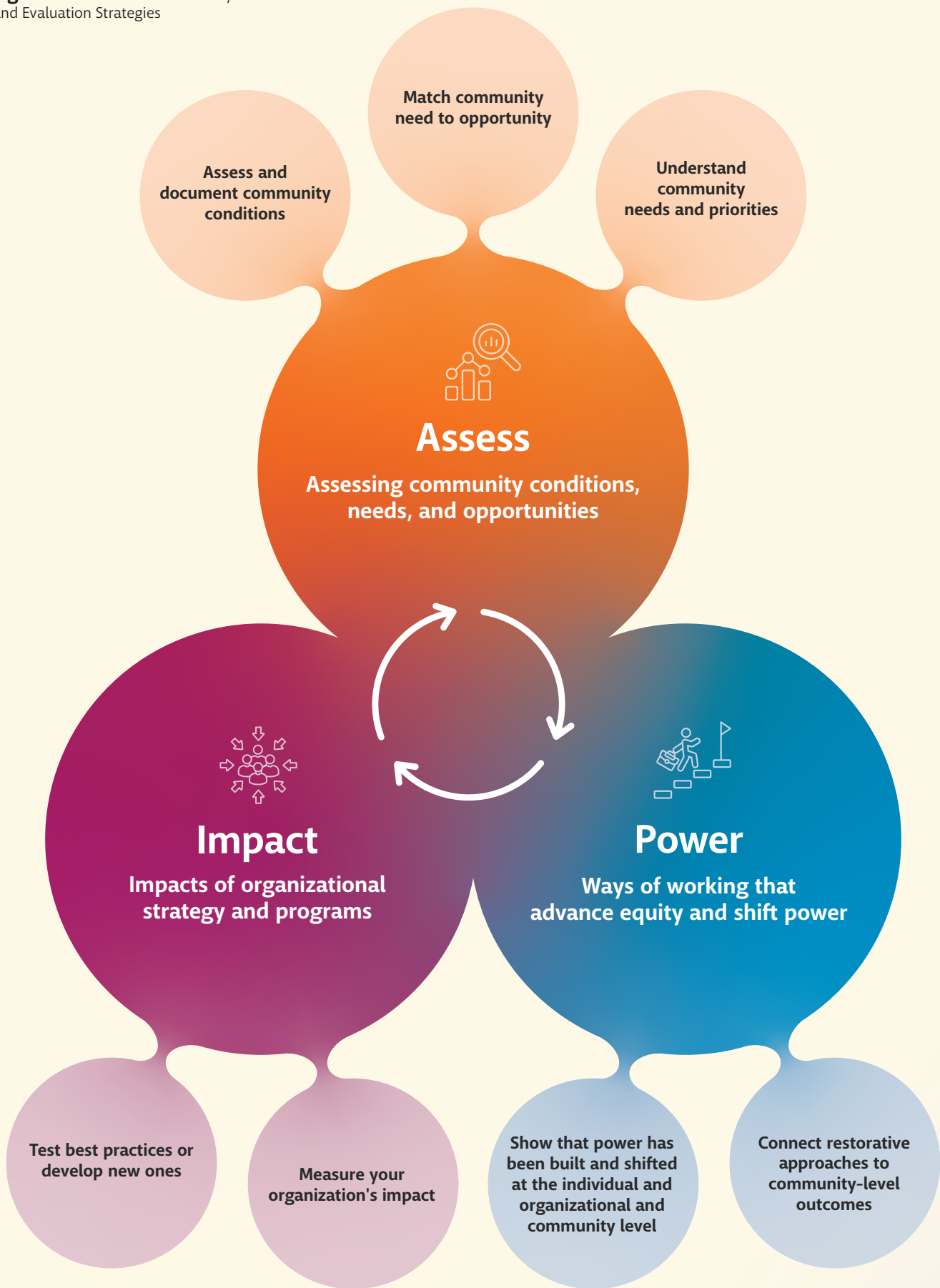


Figure 4. Exploring Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies *Strategies with an asterisk are defined in the glossary at the end of this tool.



Assessing community conditions, needs, and opportunities

Includes strategies for collecting/using data to describe or better understand the conditions, happenings, and possibilities of communities.

Examples: community health needs assessments, community census projects, walkability audits, air quality monitoring

Frequently used methods: [collaborative design and analysis](#) of [surveys](#), [interviews](#), [focus groups](#), [photovoice](#), story banking, and [observations](#)

Assess and document community conditions

USEFUL FOR:

Generating a snapshot of community conditions (i.e., environmental, socioeconomic, civic, resource, and political context) at a specific moment in time.

SAMPLE METHODS:

*[Participatory asset mapping](#) identifies and builds strategy or action around a community's existing strengths, including people, relationships, power, capacity, and material resources.

*[Community audits](#) (e.g., sidewalk audits, park audits, trash audits) assess and document current conditions, including assets, needs, and priorities, to inform and shape community-driven investment and action.

*[Citizen science monitoring](#) (e.g., air quality, heat, evictions, rents, green space) monitors changes in natural, physical, social, civic, and economic community environments to inform local organizing, planning, and decision-making.

Match community need to opportunity

USEFUL FOR:

Assessing how and to what extent current and future opportunities meet community needs, and how to make adjustments to improve them over time.

SAMPLE METHODS:

*[Regularly repeated community assessments](#) clarify the standing of current issues, make strategic and action planning more effective, and show what's working, what needs improvement, what can be discontinued, and what new measures should be taken.

*[Scorecards](#) assess and improve the quality of public services through community engagement, feedback, and dialogue with service providers.

*[Community-engaged mapping](#) visually represents data by geography or location and links it to community conditions and issues.

Understand community needs and priorities

USEFUL FOR:

Understanding a community's visions, goals, priorities, and strengths for change toward an equitable and inclusive future.

SAMPLE METHODS:

*[Design charrettes](#) collaboratively identify and prioritize needs, goals, and solutions through inclusive, participatory design processes.

[Participatory budgeting](#) engages residents in direct decision-making processes that can lead to necessary policy changes and reallocation of funds towards projects and initiatives addressing specific needs and priorities.

[Participatory visioning](#) (e.g., [future search](#), [open space](#), [appreciative inquiry](#)) engages community members in identifying a common future based on shared aspirations and priorities, building on what already works.

Figure 4. Exploring Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies, *continued*



Ways of working that advance equity/shift power

Includes strategies for collecting/using data or conducting evaluations to demonstrate that an approach (a way of doing work) in an organization or in a community is advancing equity or building community power.

Examples: anti-racist practices, organizing approaches, Indigenous and culturally specific frames and practices, community-led planning and research practices

Frequently used methods: [developmental evaluation](#), [community leadership and participation](#) assessments (surveys, interviews, observations), [reflection and storytelling](#)

Show that power has been built and shifted at the individual and organizational and community level

USEFUL FOR:

Identifying the ways community members build, share, and exercise power to affect community norms, leadership, decisions, and outcomes, and how they change over time.

SAMPLE METHODS:

***Network analysis** (e.g., [community network analysis](#), [civic network analysis](#)) analyzes the network of connections and relationships among community members to understand power dynamics.

***Power analysis** identifies key stakeholders, their relationships, and their influence within the community and on decision-making.

Assessing capacity for change and movement-building identifies and tracks changes in resources, skill, and capabilities within the community (e.g., [capacity assessment](#)), and shifts in power (e.g., [power through social movement-building](#)) as residents mobilize for change.

Connect restorative approaches to community-level outcomes

USEFUL FOR:

Understanding how using approaches and practices intended to dismantle racism, counter oppression, facilitate healing, and advance equity make a difference in the process, outcomes, and experience of a project.

SAMPLE METHODS:

Assessing people power (e.g., [connecting people power to change outcomes](#)) measures progress toward community empowerment and influence using qualitative and quantitative metrics.

Anti-racist research methods (e.g., anti-racist principles for [community-academic partnerships](#), research related to [planning and urban development](#) or [public health](#)) integrate racial justice principles into research and data collection.

Restorative evaluation (e.g., [Indigenous truth and reconciliation evaluation](#)) connects restorative approaches to work with equitable processes, changes, and outcomes.

Figure 4. Exploring Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies, *continued*



Impacts of organizational strategy and programs

Includes strategies for collecting/using data or conducting evaluations to demonstrate the impact of your organization's work on the community.

Examples: evaluating best practices, organizational performance, or outcomes and impacts of organizational strategies, programs, and initiatives

Frequently used methods: [participatory](#) and [equitable evaluation](#) approaches using surveys, interviews, and observations

Test best practices or develop new ones

USEFUL FOR:

Documenting the process, outcomes, and lessons learned from adopting effective community-based practices from other contexts or designing and piloting new ones.

SAMPLE METHODS:

Community-led evaluation (e.g., [process monitoring](#), [outcome mapping](#)) *measures the progress and impact of community-led initiatives, using participatory and adaptive management approaches.*

Participatory action research and evaluation *assesses and informs practices by including the people and groups who are most affected by an inquiry in the design and execution of the process.*

Process tracing *determines how a particular large-scale change actually happened within a complex, dynamic context.*

Measure your organization's impact

USEFUL FOR:

Documenting and assessing how well an organization or community collaborative implements a program or initiative and improves outcomes.

SAMPLE METHODS:

Participatory organizational performance assessments (e.g., measuring the delivery of [initiatives](#) or [services](#) according to resident outcomes) *measure the performance of community-based work, including partnerships, resources, capacity building, community satisfaction, and outcomes.*

Culturally grounded and liberatory evaluation approaches (e.g., empowerment evaluation, transformative evaluation, culturally responsive evaluation) *assess programs, projects, or interventions in ways that embody and contribute to equitable practices and outcomes.*

Collective impact evaluation *measures progress, outcomes, and the overall impact of collaborative efforts aimed at addressing complex social issues.*

EXAMPLE 1: Short-term action for long-term community leadership in climate justice

GROUNDWORK OHIO RIVER VALLEY

Groundwork Ohio River Valley established resident advisory groups to empower community members with the tools, knowledge, and skills to advocate for their needs with politicians and decision-makers. Community members influenced the distribution of climate funding to prioritize disadvantaged communities and established community leadership and engagement in climate-related projects.

Methods used from Figure 4:

- Surveying, participatory mapping, citizen science monitoring, participatory budgeting
- Power analysis

EXAMPLE 2: Evictorbook: Collecting landlord data to reveal eviction patterns

ANTI-EVICTION MAPPING PROJECT

Tenants, organizers, and advocates working in housing justice and data analytics organized to answer the question “Who really is my landlord?” Together with data scientists, they reflected on community lived experiences, collected data from residents on evictions, and acquired secondary datasets to create an interactive mapping tool showing landlords, the networks of properties they own, and evictions across properties. Community members used information from the tool to organize and push back against corporate landlords and house flippers fueling evictions in their communities.

Methods used from Figure 4:

- Participatory monitoring
- Network analysis

EXAMPLE 3: Change Stories: Implementing an Indigenous evaluation framework to understand how organizations support the health of urban Indigenous communities

URBAN INDIAN HEALTH INSTITUTE

Urban Indian Health Institute in Seattle developed an evaluation framework grounded in Indigenous foundations and knowledge to include and empower urban Indigenous communities to reclaim their narratives by using evaluation as a tool to tell their stories and build capacity for ownership of research and evaluation. The framework is structured around four main tenets aligned with values, beliefs, cultural identities, priorities, and ways of being resonant for urban Native communities and work: (1) recognize that community is where Native people are, (2) prioritize strengths and resilience, (3) decolonize data, and (4) center community perspective. Urban Indian Health Institute used this framework to develop Change Stories, a participatory evaluation method that builds community ownership of the evaluation process and qualitative data, and worked with 18 community-based partner grantees to implement it.

Methods used from Figure 4:

- Story banking, photovoice
- Reflection and storytelling, restorative evaluation, network analysis
- Culturally grounded and liberatory evaluation approaches

EXAMPLE 4: Evaluating the delivery of resident housing services with a resident-centered approach

STEWARDS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR THE FUTURE

Through a member-engaged research and development process, Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future developed a [measurement framework and toolkit](#) to outline how community residents can engage and inform each step of the resident services process for affordable housing. The toolkit is grounded in the idea that data collection and analysis is strengthened when layered with equitable, resident-centered processes. The strategies can be applied across sectors to integrate community engagement into data analysis practices. This example is also included in [BHPN's MeasureUp microsite](#).

Methods used from Figure 4:

- Participatory asset mapping, needs assessments, participatory budgeting, collaborative analysis
- Network analysis, assessing community capacity for change
- Participatory organizational performance assessments, participatory action research and evaluation

Step 3: Maximize Equity Impacts and Community Power

Using community-driven data and evaluation strategies not only strengthens a project; it can also help build community power.

Once you have identified community-driven data strategies, the final step is to **consider how to implement these strategies to maximize the ability to build community power and advance health and racial equity.**

While there is no “silver bullet” or “one right way” to do this, strong community-driven data and evaluation projects embody several common principles. With community members at the table, work through the design questions in Figure 5 to maximize community power through the project.

Figure 5. Design Questions to Help Maximize Community Power

CHARACTERISTICS	COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DATA APPROACH	DESIGN QUESTIONS
Research focus	Explores community assets, strengths, community member stories or experiences, and root causes.	<p><i>How does the project frame, describe, and build toward the desires and strengths of the community rather than focusing on damage, harm, and deficits?</i></p> <p>Asset and desire-based frames tell the whole story of communities and community members through the lens of their aspirations, strengths, contributions, and ability to create change, rather than defining them by their problems, ignoring their contributions, and framing them as burdensome to society.</p>
Questions and methodologies	Chooses qualitative and quantitative methods that are most useful for community-led change; analyzes data through asset- and desire-based frames.	<p><i>How do community members directly benefit from asking and answering the questions of the project? What opportunities are available to build the leadership, ownership, position, and resources of community members or the community at large?</i></p> <p>Prioritizing community leadership helps ensure that the opportunities, investments, and actions related to the project support community self-determination.</p>
Who is involved	<p>Community members lead or partner with staff to determine goals, questions to explore, data to make sense of, and dissemination of results.</p> <p>Community members with lived experience are experts.</p>	<p><i>How does the project elevate and value lived experiences and narratives of the community or communities involved in the project?</i></p> <p>Uplifting authentic stories of community members with lived experience can counter dominant racist and deficit-based narratives and uphold the value of community expertise and knowledge as credible information.</p>
Decision-makers	Community members with lived experience and who are affected by the data or evaluation are decision-makers.	<p><i>How does the project center community members and create avenues for them to be partners and leaders?</i></p> <p>How much room do you have for improvement on the spectrum of community participation (Figure 2)?</p> <p><i>How does the project enable community access, use, control, and ownership of the data it produces?</i></p> <p>Participatory processes give local communities the ability to control the collection, ownership, and application of their own data, and ensure data is shared with communities in accessible, meaningful, and useful ways.</p>
In practice	Connects community members with one another, helps to restore trust in communities, and builds community participation and power.	<p><i>How can the project's structure, process, and community involvement build or strengthen community networks of power?</i></p> <p>Community-driven data and evaluation processes can accomplish more than data collection. They can connect people to people (e.g., through organizing and advocacy networks or community-led initiatives) and help build the base of power so residents can change the issues under study in their communities.</p>

Glossary of Strategies

Citizen science monitoring is the practice of public participation and collaboration in scientific research to increase scientific and community knowledge.

Community audits (e.g. sidewalk audits, park audits, trash audits) are participatory processes in which community members identify, observe, assess, and document conditions in their own community.

Community-engaged mapping is a group mapping exercise designed to answer specific research questions and gather neighborhood-level primary data from community members (who live, work or attend school in the area), for the purpose of developing place-based planning, policy, and interventions.

Design charrettes are intensive, hands-on workshops that bring community members together with practitioners from different backgrounds to create design options for a particular community challenge (e.g., building resilience), project (e.g., park, housing, or clinic), or geographic area (e.g., block).

Participatory asset mapping is a process in which community members identify and map the assets (community strengths and capacities; i.e., people, places, things, services, resources, and connections) of their community that are important to the members of the community and that the community wants to keep, sustain, and build upon.

Participatory budgeting is an innovative policymaking process in which citizens are directly involved in policy decisions. It can be used on small-scale or large-scale levels and on a discrete or continuous basis to allow community members to inform resource allocation, influence policy priorities, and monitor public spending.

Power analysis is an interactive tool that is used to map and understand power relationships in the communities where people live and work. It explores questions like these: Who has power? How and for what do they use it? How do unequal power relationships shape the challenges communities are working to solve?

Regularly repeated community assessments may be conducted on a particular issue or on overall community health and quality of life. In the latter case, an assessment would examine a large number of issues and might question community members about their level of satisfaction with the community or their sense of well-being.

Scorecards are participatory, community-based monitoring and evaluation tools that enable community members to assess and rate the quality of public services, amenities, processes, and programs. When designed and led by community members, scorecards increase transparency, build accountability, and can be used to help improve services.

Thank you for taking the time to read and engage with **Community-Driven Data and Evaluation Strategies to Transform Power and Place.**

We would greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete [this brief survey](#). This will allow us to better understand how to engage with you and other organizations, institutions, and communities to support community-driven data and evaluation. Your responses will help inform our next steps as we prepare to engage interested folks around this topic. Thanks in advance!



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