**Equity Storytelling Activity**

**Why Equity Storytelling**

Storytelling is a means of sharing experiences. It strengthens social ties. It provides information in a way that statistical data cannot. Check out our storytelling resource in ERBpedia to learn more.

This exercise aims to help ground the discussion of actions in an equity framing, aid brainstorming by illustrating the many types of action that exist and orient the discussion towards implementation. It also will foster an atmosphere of sharing experiences and listening.

**Instructions**

Break up into groups of 3. Each person takes on a role, switching roles with each turn:

**Storyteller:** Share an experience that addresses one of the topics

**Notetaker**: Take notes on important points of the story

**Listener:** Listen; after the storyteller is done, you may ask follow-up questions

Give everyone 5 minutes to prepare their stories. Then take turns sharing, listening, and taking notes.

If you have time, go through a second round of prompts in the same or different groups.

**Storytelling prompt:**

Tell a 5-minute story about the following prompt: Share an experience about how you and/or others helped identify and address an inequity. It could be an experience from this community, from before you came here, or a story about a larger group you worked with.

**Wrap-up and synthesis**

Group discussion prompts:

* What were the common factors or themes across the stories that came up about integrating equity into implementation?
* What stood out as an impactful way of advancing equity?
* What is most difficult about putting any one of these principles in practice?
* How can the moments your small group discussed inform real-world solutions to encouraging diverse and trusting participation on the core team and in planning workshops?
* If time: are there other challenges/issues that you can think of that didn’t come up in this activity that you think are important to consider?