

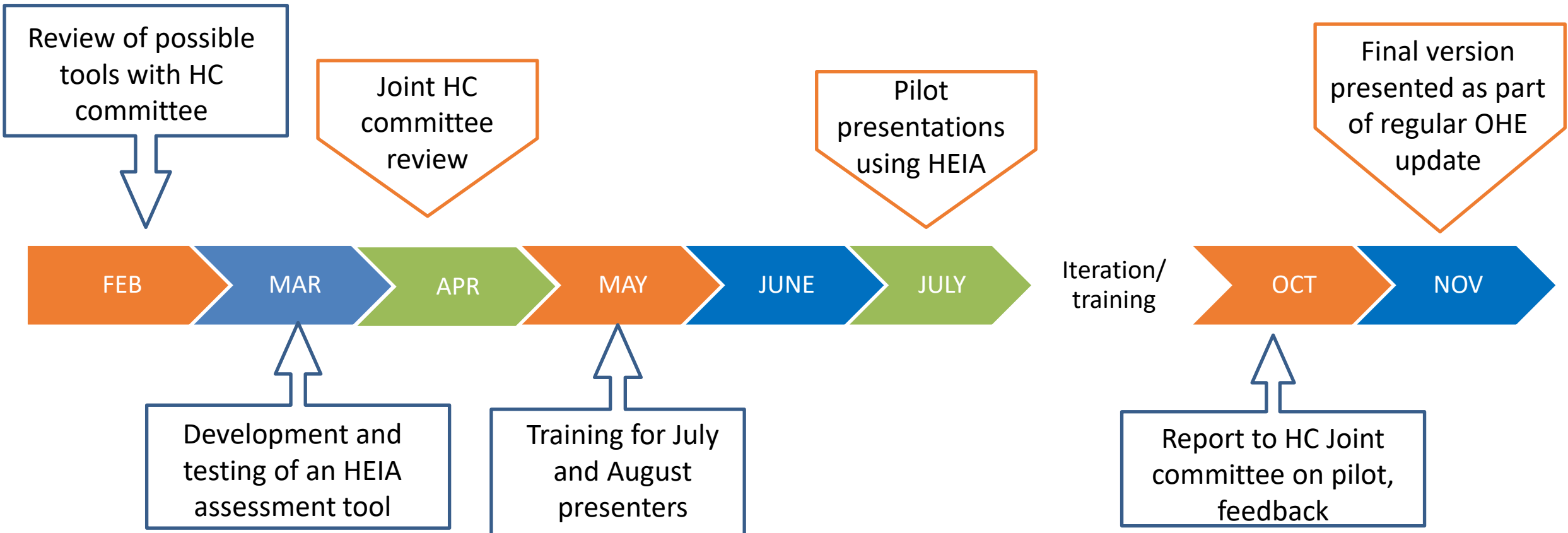


HEALTH EQUITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Health Commission Presentation
Finance and Planning Committee

OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY 4/6/21
AYANNA BENNETT, DIRECTOR

HEIA TOOL LAUNCH PLAN – goal finalize in



HEIA - A RACIAL EQUITY TOOL + A HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

* Proposal	Data Review	Community Engagement	Analysis & Strategy	Implementation	Accountability + Communication	
Identify program or contracted service	Review data on inequity + health effects	Direct community feedback from those whose health is affected	Project (quantitative) estimates of impacts on equity and health	Add health + equity mitigation elements to the plan to deliver the program/service	Evaluate the program's impact on equity and health, and the tool's impact on the program	Report back to community and decision makers
**Screening	Scoping	Assessment		Recommend	Reporting	Monitoring and Evaluation

* Based on the Government Alliance on Race and Equity, Racial Equity Assessment

** Based on the CDC Health Impact Assessment framework



CALIFORNIA 
wic
WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN


**VOUCHERS
4 VEGGIES**
EAT SF

STEP #1: PROPOSAL

1. What is the proposal and its intended impact?

Expand food security funding and programming for pregnant people enrolled in WIC or Black Infant Health programs.

2. What are the health conditions that this proposal will impact?

Food insecurity and inadequate maternal nutrition are associated poor health for mothers and newborns. The impact on infants can last into childhood.

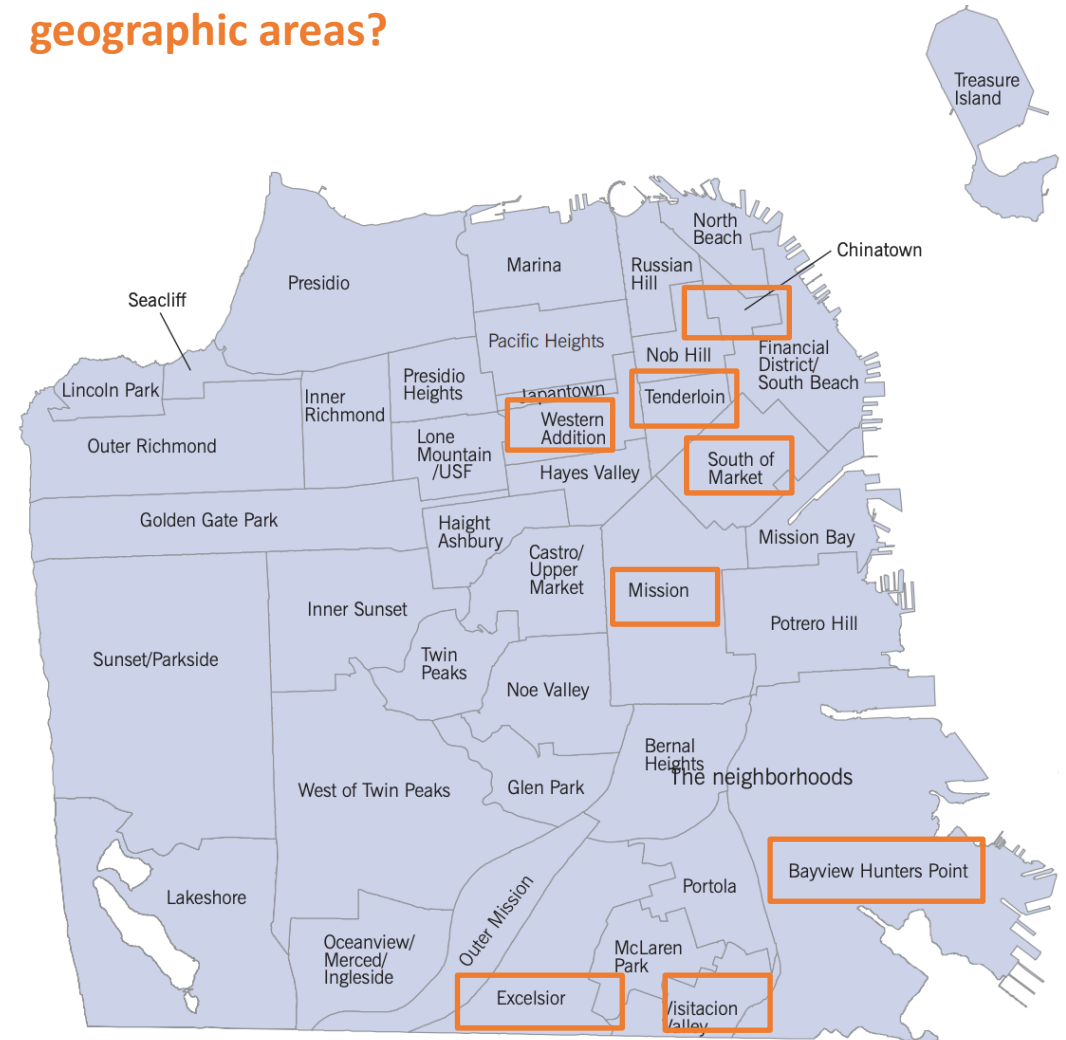
Specific Conditions
Gestational hypertension
Gestational diabetes
Low birth weight
Premature birth
Later metabolic conditions for mother and child

STEP #2: DATA REVIEW

1. What does the population level data (qualitative/quantitative) tell you about existing racial health disparities in these conditions ?

- Perinatal health conditions are a disproportionate burden on Black/African American, Pacific Islander and other racial/ethnic minorities.
- Other factors: (Data from MIHA)
 - Recipients of MediCal
 - Less than a high school education
 - Residents of areas with over 20% of residents living below poverty level.
 - Pregnant people experiencing their second or more live birth

2. Will the proposal have impacts in specific geographic areas?



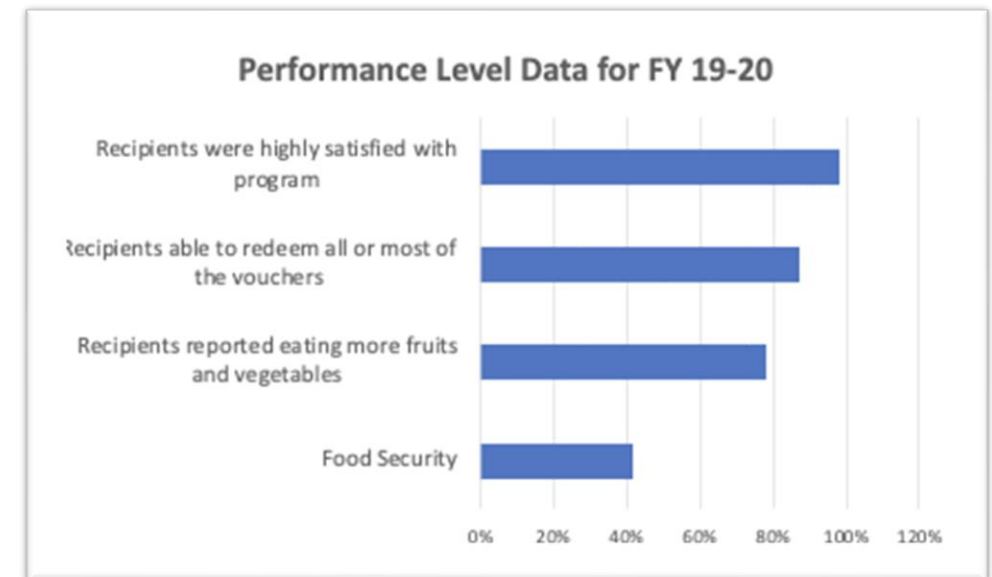
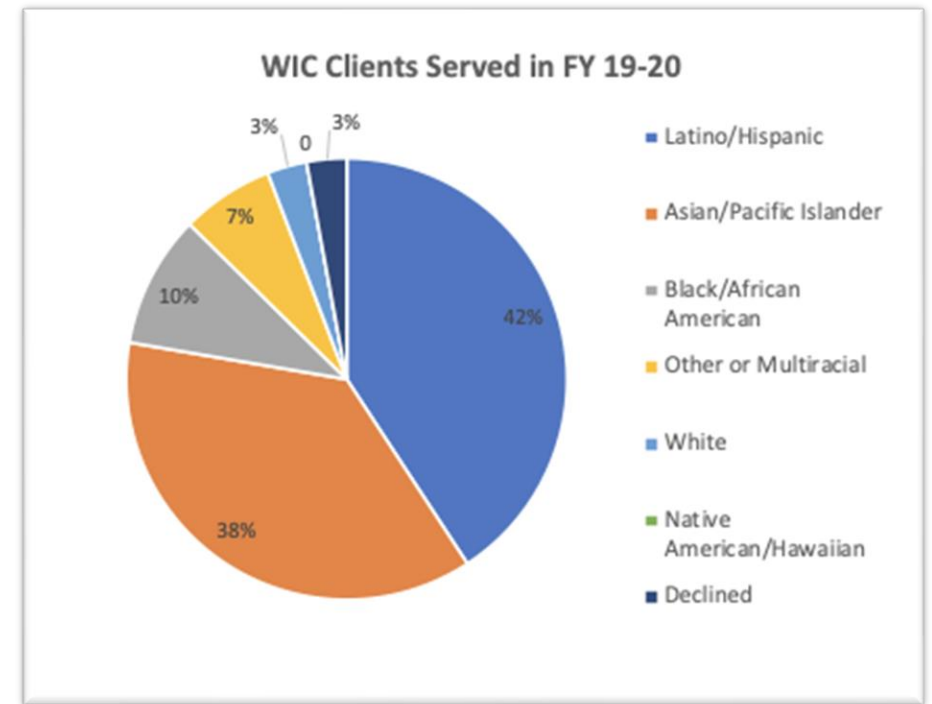
STEP #2: DATA REVIEW (Continued)

4. What performance level data informs your proposal?

Performance level data for a similar intervention - \$40/month in fruit and vegetable vouchers for WIC clients for 9 months.

- For every \$1 invested in a healthy food incentive program, we can expect to see up to \$3 in economic activity generated
- Overall, food security rates among EatSF WIC participants increased 13% from 44% to 57% (p=0.03).
- There was also a statistically significant change in F/V intake +0.7 times/day (p=0.015).
- Odds of a preterm delivery were 37% lower in the intervention group compared to historical baseline (10.0% vs 6.5%, p = .018; OR 0.63, 95%CI 0.43–0.93).

Ronit A. Ridberg , Sanjana Marpadga , Melissa M. Akers , Janice F. Bell & Hilary K. Seligman (2020): Fruit and Vegetable Vouchers in Pregnancy: Preliminary Impact on Diet & Food Security, Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition, DOI: 10.1080/19320248.2020.1778593)



STEP #3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. What has your engagement process told you about the burdens or benefits for different groups?

- Focus groups (pre-Covid) with pregnant people who are food insecure .
 - 1. African Americans, 2. Spanish speakers, 3. Chinese speakers, 4. Multi-ethnic English speakers

Notable themes:

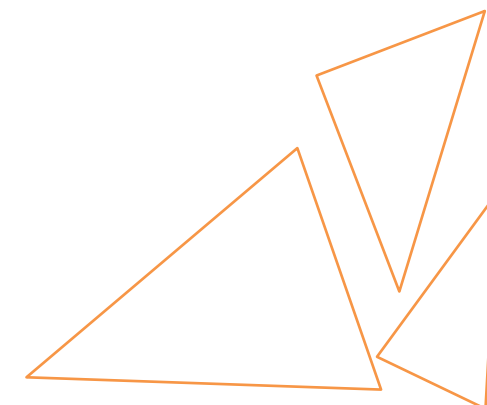
- Latinx immigrants – fear of public charge impact and exposure to police/ICE enforcement
- Chinese participants - want more protein and use at small Asian grocery stores
- Black/African American – also more protein and need for benefits at incomes above the cutoff



3. What has your engagement process told you about the factors that produce or perpetuate racial inequality related to this proposal?

Known barriers mediated by race:

- Housing instability
- Discrimination and Shame
- Low income
- Transportation
- Immigration
- Language



STEP #4: ANALYSIS & STRATEGY

1. Given what you have learned from research and stakeholder involvement, how will the proposal increase or decrease racial equity?

Currently food insecure pregnant people would have better perinatal nutrition. Long term access to food, decrease in barriers or income inequality are not addressed by this program.

The program is designed to maximize usability based on community feedback

- Fruits and vegetables are highly desirable across cultures
- Provides flexibility in what fruits and vegetables can be purchased
- Both large and small grocers/vendors participate

2. What are potential unintended consequences?

- Stigma of paper vouchers
- Increased stress from hassles to use
- Food diversion to other family members because of focus on pregnancy
- Opportunity loss of not investing funding in more upstream solutions



STEP #5: IMPLEMENTATION

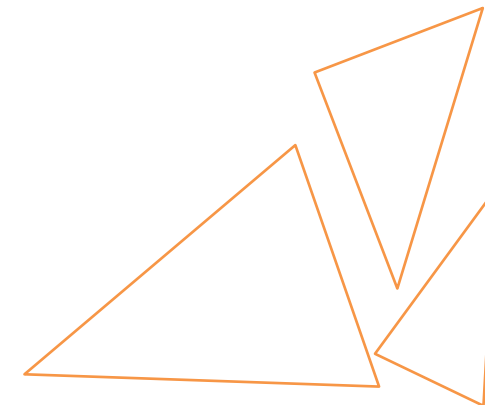
1. Describe your plan for implementation.

- Request for a limited amount of food security services
- Fruit and vegetable vouchers for WIC clients for 9 months during pregnancy and first 1000 days of life
- Add staff to connect WIC/BIH families to employment, education, opportunities, and child-care



2. Is your plan: Realistic? Adequately source and funded for sustainability?

- Not adequately resourced to meet the need
- Desire to provide additional funds for interventions community requested
- During COVID-19, many food security interventions were implemented, but most do not have sustainable funding
- Must identify staffing to convene and connect multiple partners



STEP #6: ACCOUNTABILITY & COMMUNICATION

1. How will impacts be documented and evaluated?

- Outcome Metrics: self reported food security and consumption of fruits and vegetables
- Client process metrics: client satisfaction, including redemption of vouchers, reported ease of redeeming vouchers
- Utilization metrics: volume of voucher redemption by vendor, monthly dollar amount used

2. What are your messages and communication strategies that will help advance racial equity?

- To partners: The need to address food insecurity as a key social determinant of health. Food insecurity primarily impacts communities of color and is a driver for health disparities.
- Staff to client in-person communication: Impact of maternal nutrition on health, ease of use, flexibility of use

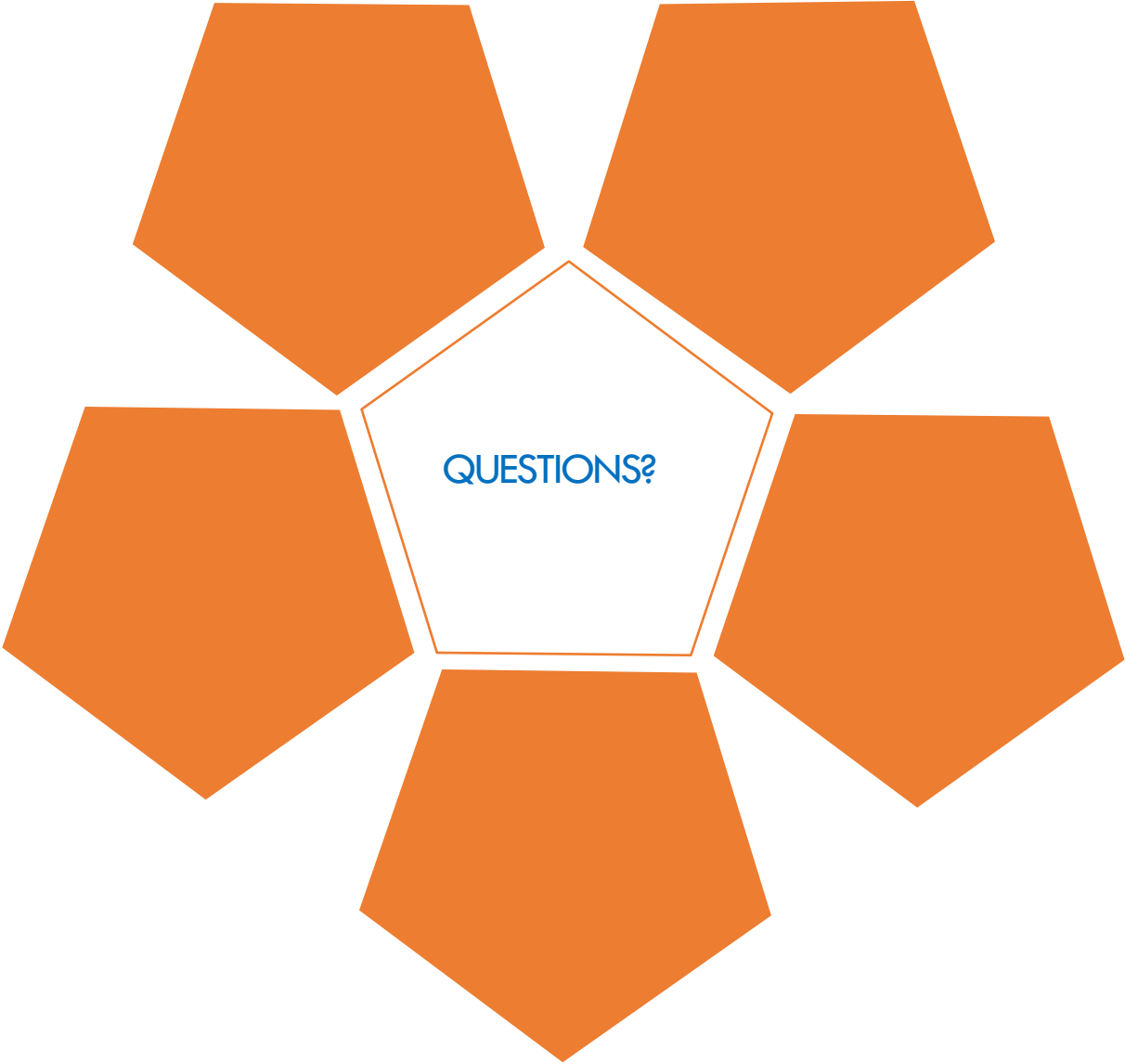


COMMISSION MONITORING THE RACIAL EQUITY ACTION PLAN

Monitor implementation of the Racial Equity Action Plan

Goal is for the first uses of the HEIA tool will be at the start of the fiscal year, increasing from 1 presentation to 50% by October. Early evaluation process and full implementation plan at the November OHE update.

JAN	FEB	MAR 2
APR	MAY 18	JUN
JULY 6	AUG	SEPT
OCT	NOV 12	DEC



QUESTIONS?