# **Kent County**

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



### **ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH**

Kent County Population Health Consortium: Addressing social determinants of mental health. **Diverting People of Color from:** 



**Emergency Departments** 



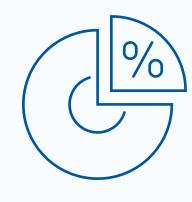
**Corrections** 



Psychiatric Hospitals

## **BETTER JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

Examining trends in the race and ethnicity of youth in County detention. Why? To identify and eliminate practices that may lead to bias or injustice.



Sheriff's Office + Hispanic
Center of Western Michigan:
Building understanding &
bridges with the Latino Citizen
Police Academy



#### **ALLOCATING FUNDS**

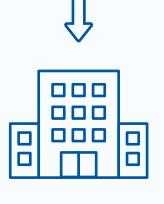
Kent County Board of Commissioners allocates **CARES Act** dollars to reduce the disparate
economic effects of the pandemic on the
community, especially on people of color.

# \$9.5 million Nonprofit Organization COVID Grant Fund



Programs addressing family crisis, food insecurity, education, transportation and healthcare.

# \$34.2 million Small Business Recovery Fund



Small businesses, including those from underserved communities + those that face language or other barriers.

# INCLUSIVE EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES



**Training to manage biases** is offered to all employees



Hiring protocols proven to reduce the potential for unconscious bias in hiring



Cultural intelligence assessment and training for all new employees

### **WELCOMING NEW AMERICANS**

Joined Gateways for Growth to develop the Kent County Welcome Plan, our roadmap to a more welcoming and inclusive environment for New Americans in Kent County.



### **PANDEMIC SUPPORT**

Kent County Health Department partnering with diverse community groups to mitigate the disparate impact of the pandemic on People of Color in our community.

# **COVID Infection Rates**

Community	Before Engagement	After Engagement
African Americans	2 x expected rate   □	> 1.3 x expected rate
Hispanic/Latinx	4 x expected rate	> 1.3 x expected rate
Asian	3 x expected rate	1 x expected rate

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

"Unrest in America" – Kent County all-staff town hall where County staff openly discussed with the County Administrator their sentiments, fears, struggles and questions related to the racial justice movement and relevant County policies and practices.