Diversity and Equity Initiatives in Employment

City of College Park, MD

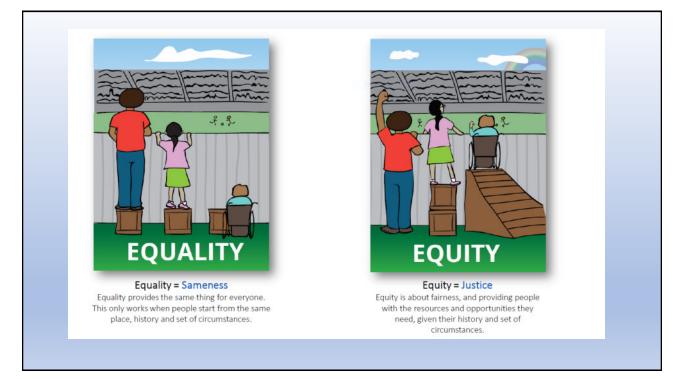
Jill Clements and Robert Marsili



DIVERSITY Areas of Focus

Race National Origin Gender LGBTQ Religion





What is Bias?



- The evaluation and association of one group and its members relative to another.
- Inescapable reality of humanity
- We do have a choice over how much we let bias influence our actions.
- Acting on bias can be discriminatory and create negative outcomes for particular groups

Explicit

Expressed directly

Aware of bias / operates consciously

Example:

Sign in the window of an apartment building noting

"Mexicans need not apply"

Implicit

Expressed indirectly

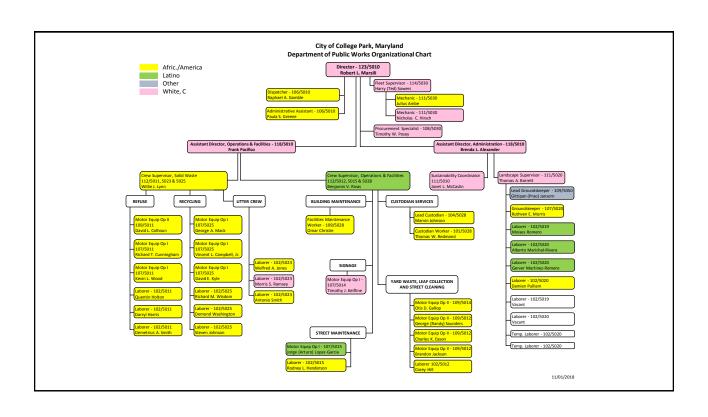
Unaware of bias / operates sub-consciously

Example:

A property manager doing criminal background checks on black applicants and not white applicants.



- Incorporated in 1945
- Population ~ 32,000
- · Home of University of Maryland
- 112 employees (no public safety positions)
- Fill 6-16 positions a year
- DPW has 45 employees



Goals of our project

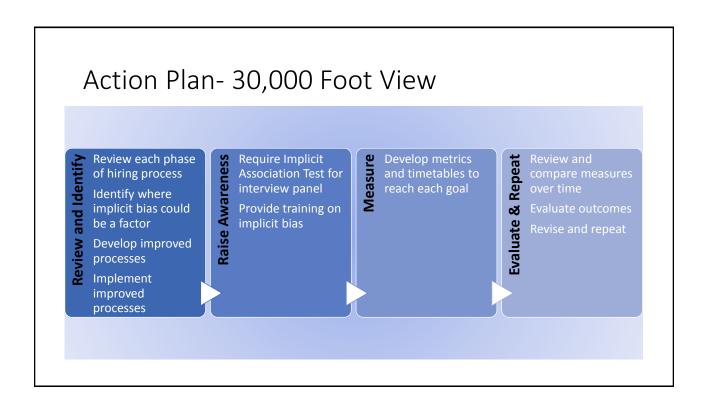
- Raise awareness of implicit bias in any hiring process
- Take specific actions to reduce effects of implicit bias and increase diversity throughout all levels of the workforce
- Measure effectiveness using baseline and future workforce data (EEO-4)

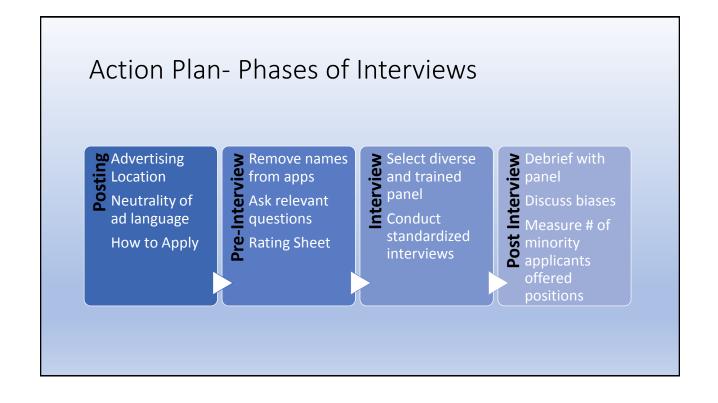
"It's easier to de-bias organizations' practices and procedures than to de-bias mindsets"
-Iris Bohnet, author What Works: Gender Equality by Design,

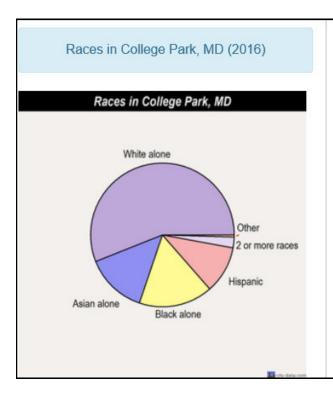
Equity and Diversity Priorities

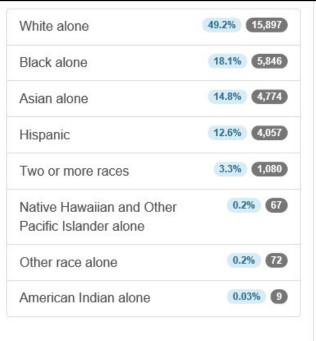
College Park

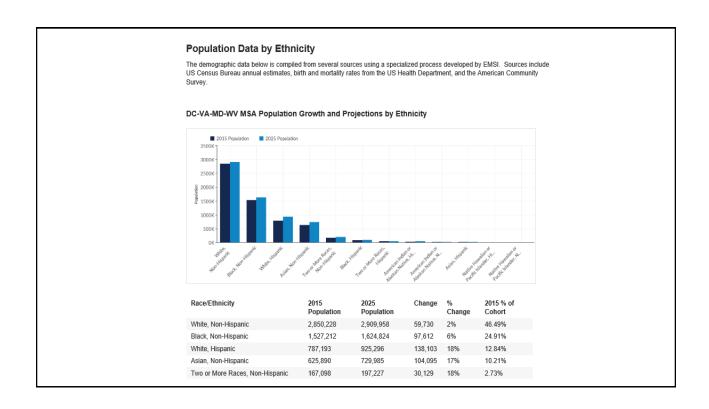
- 1. Increase the number of racial minorities in management.
- 2. Increase number of employees who are bilingual in Spanish and Mandarin.

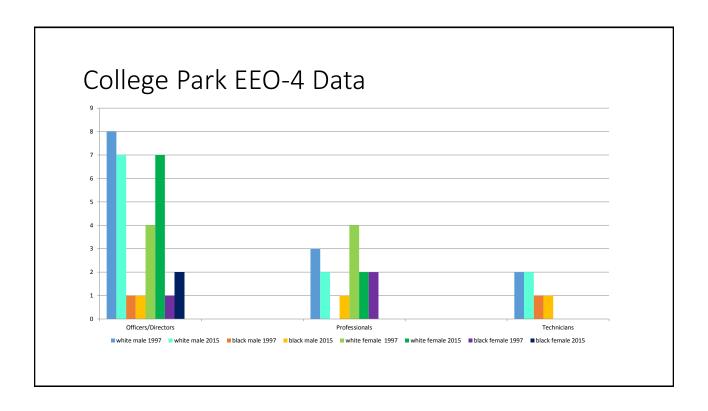












Resources

Gender Decoder for Job Ads

- http://gender-decoder.katmatfield.com/
- https://www.forbes.com/sites/hbsworkingknowledge/2016/12/14/how-to-take-gender-bias-out-of-your-job-ads/#7b52c9e91024

Implicit Association Test

• https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html

National League of Cities Racial Equity and Leadership Initiative

www.nlc.org/REAL

Government Alliance on Race and Equity

· www.racialequityalliance.org

