

Developing Remote Learning Initiatives During COVID-19: Equity Considerations

WHEN DECIDING WHICH COVID-19-RELATED INITIATIVES TO IMPLEMENT...

- Are you **taking full account of technical and other accessibility issues** in your community, especially for those in essential or high-demand occupations, as well as learners from diverse backgrounds and identities?
- Do the initiatives address the **emotional and mental health aspects** of living through the crisis, including challenges unique to pandemics?
- Are you **including the voices** of community leaders who hold diverse occupations and identities?
- To what extent **do you share lived experiences** with the marginalized group in question, or with those in high-demand occupations? To what extent do your own experiences **differ**?
- How might your perspective **imbue bias** into the initiative/s you are considering?

WHEN MESSAGING YOUR COMMUNITY...

- Are you **addressing community members from diverse backgrounds and occupations** deemed essential and therefore uniquely challenged by circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 crisis?
- Are your topics **of concern** to community members from diverse backgrounds and with diverse occupations?
- Are you considering **your own perspectives** when selecting your message content? Are you including information and ideas of **diverse thought leaders** in your message?
- To what extent do you **share lived experiences** with those in stressful, in-demand occupations or from the marginalized group in question?
- How might your experiences **imbue bias** into your message, or **exclude** members of your community?

WHEN REVIEWING REMOTE LEARNING ASSIGNMENTS...

- Do the parameters of the assignment **account for the flexibility and accessibility** that some members of your community may require, particularly if they're working on assignments while also working in essential, high-demand occupations, or serving as caretakers?
- Does the assignment **reference the work** of people from diverse backgrounds and occupations challenged by the pandemic? Does it **call for reflection and responses** to challenges faced by people in healthcare or other occupations overtaxed by the pandemic, and/or of diverse identity groups and backgrounds?
- Will the themes of the assignment **resonate with** underrepresented or specially affected populations and aspects of the COVID-19 crisis they may be experiencing?
- Does any of the information in the assignment **pertain to** populations other than the majority group or those in uniquely affected occupations?
- Does the assignment **include voices that challenge/counter narratives** that are not covered in mainstream news outlets or by government officials, or that may be exclusive to majority groups?