

Office of Equity

2024 Annual Report to the Milwaukee County
Board of Supervisors



Who We Are & What We Do

The Office of Equity has the unique role of providing support for all Milwaukee County government departments while also having the advantage of being a direct link to external systems, organizations, resident-based leaders and community members.

We provide:

- Research
- Community Engagement
- Technical Assistance
- Policy Advocacy for Systems Change
- Strategic Partnership

Strategic Plan

MILWAUKEE COUNTY GOALS

Create Intentional Inclusion

- 1A Reflect the full diversity of Milwaukee County at every level of county government.
- 1B Create and nurture an inclusive culture across Milwaukee County.
- 1C Increase the number of Milwaukee County contracts awarded to minority and women-owned businesses.

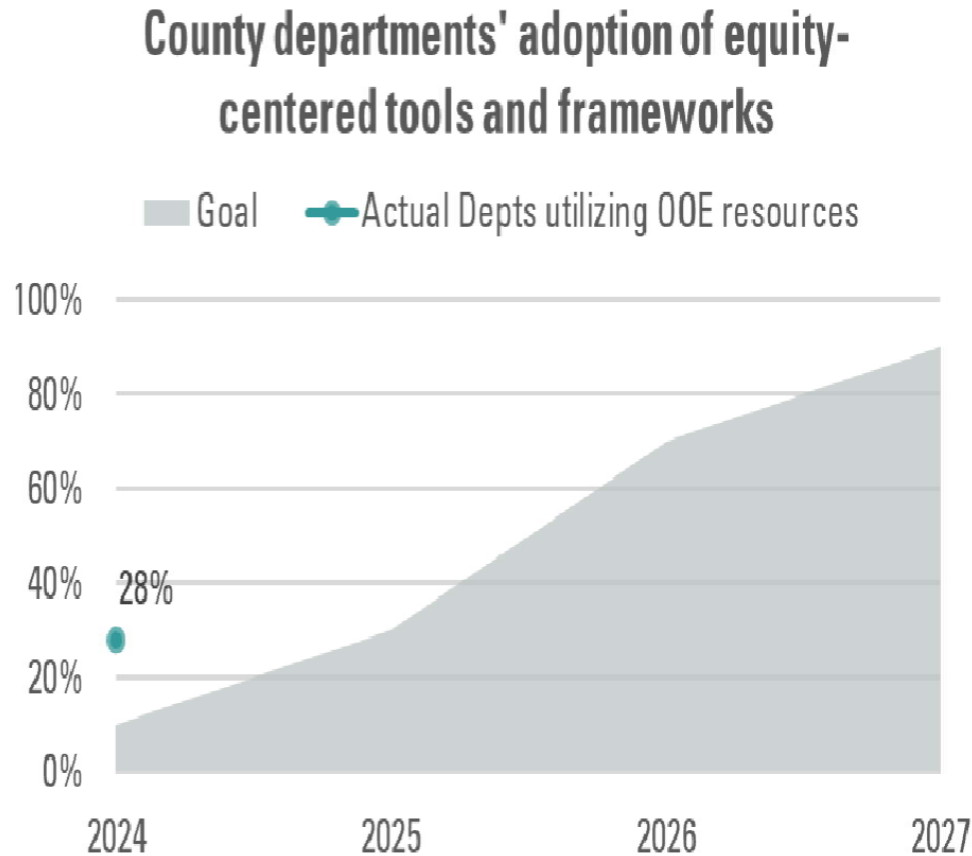
Bridge The Gap

- 2A Determine what, where and how we deliver services based on the resolution of health disparities.
- 2B Break down silos across Milwaukee County government to maximize access and quality of services offered.
- 2C Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions.

Invest in Equity

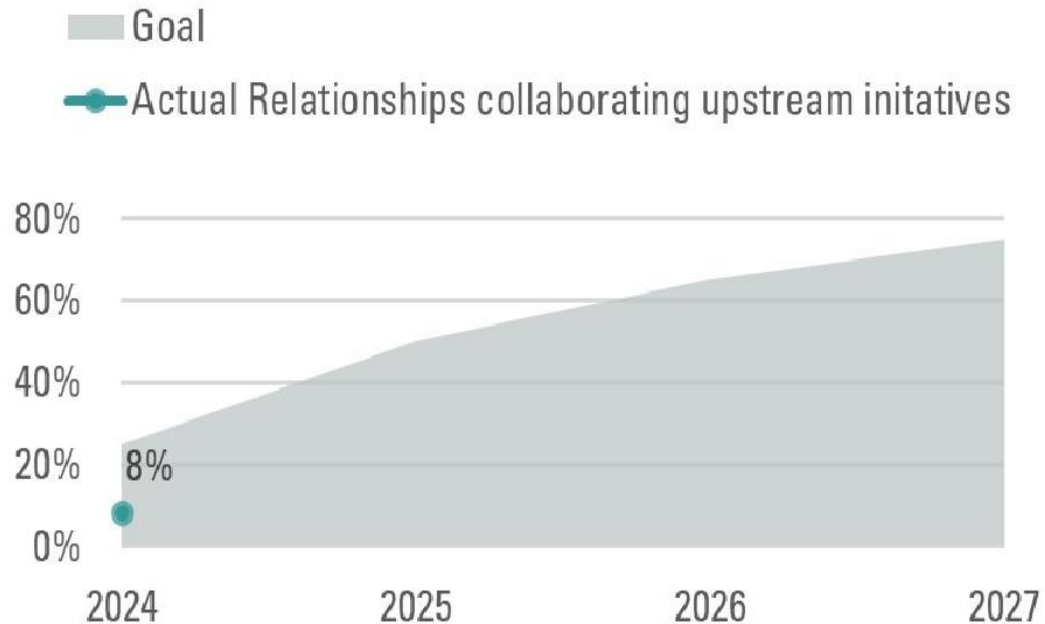
- 3A Invest "upstream" to address root causes of health disparities.
- 3B Enhance Milwaukee County's fiscal health and sustainability.
- 3C Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities.

Goal 1



- *By 2027, 90% of County departments supported by OOE will have adopted at least one equity-centered tool, policy, or decision-making framework.*
- *As of 2024, 28% of the departments have adopted OOE's tools and frameworks.*

Strategic Partnerships Engaged in Upstream Initiatives

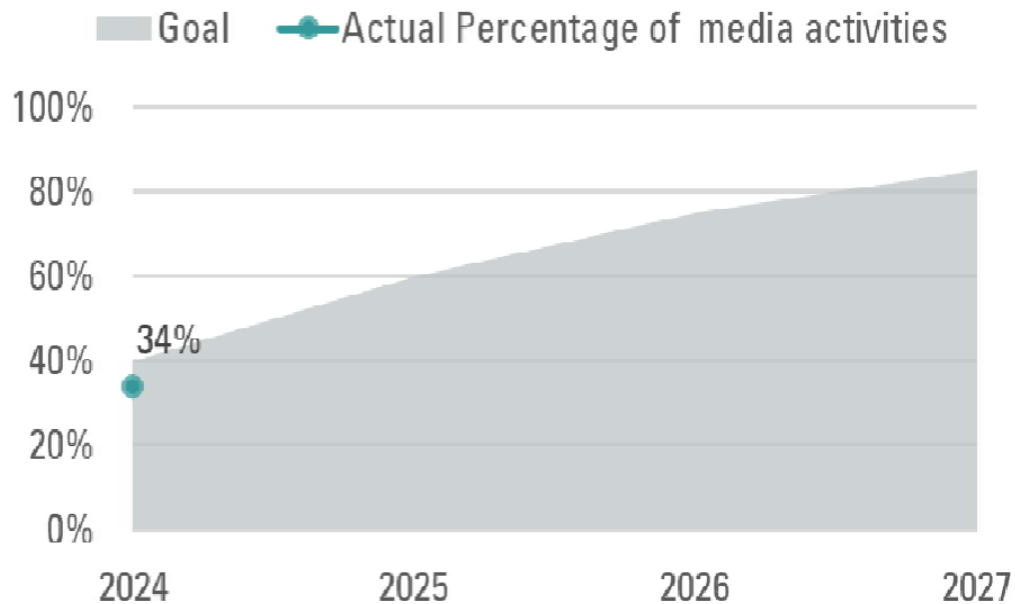


Goal 2

- *By 2027, 75% of identified strategic partnerships have engaged in at least one joint project, policy initiative, or resource-sharing effort.*
- *As of 2024, 8% of OOE's strategic partnerships have already taken part in such collaborations.*

Goal 3

Community informed Media and Outreach Activities



- *By 2027, 85% of OOE-led media activities, including events, stories, and public segments-will be developed in direct collaboration with community members and community-based organizations.*
- *As of 2024, 34% of these activities are informed by community.*



Goal 4

OOE sustainability plan complete.

Goal target completion date
12/31/2027

Office of Equity (OOE) will develop a sustainability plan that will include strategies such as, fiscal planning, policy change, community investment, infrastructure development, advancing health and racial equity, stewarding relationships, connecting with community, and ensuring continuous improvement through on-going research and evaluation. This plan will foster development that benefits those most affected by the social determinants of health.



Other highlights from 2024

- In 2024, the Office of Equity (OOE) advanced its mission by integrating strategic partnerships, community-rooted investments, and impactful storytelling.
- Leveraging ARPA funding, OOE supported over 30 community-based partners and engaged thousands of residents through place-based events.
- A notable success was the collaboration with Nō Studios and DHHS to showcase the Credible Messengers program on WISN 12's 'Project commUNITY,' highlighting youth justice reform and fostering civic trust through visibility and storytelling.

Looking forward to 2025

Economic Development

- Launch the Wealth Building Blueprint to expand access to financial resources.
- Develop referral pathways to support underserved communities through targeted outreach and culturally responsive events.

Research & Community Engagement

- Implement targeted research to identify barriers and opportunities for communities.
- Implement strategies to strengthen engagement and advocacy pathways.

Language Access

- Curate and promote multilingual resources to enhance equitable access to County services.
- Foster inclusive communication to ensure all residents can meaningfully engage with County programs.



**MILWAUKEE
COUNTY**