



City of Seattle
Department of Information Technology

Date: December 31, 2014

To: Councilmember Bruce Harrell, Chair
Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee

From: Michael Mattmiller, Chief Technology Officer and Director

Subject: DoIT Presentation on 2014 Race and Social Justice Initiative Work Plan

I look forward to sharing DoIT's Race and Social Justice accomplishments from 2014 with your committee in January 2015.

DoIT remains committed to expanding our ongoing RSJI work. In addition to our internal change team, we participate in both the Inclusive Outreach and Public Engagement Committee (IOPE) and the citywide RSJI Subcabinet. In particular, over the past year, we have focused on both public facing initiatives and internal projects. Public facing projects include increasing awareness of the diversity programming on the Seattle Channel through public events and awarding technology matching funds to communities seeking help in bolstering their technology acumen. Internal initiatives include a commitment to diverse recruiting and employee development, which is still in progress.

The attached table describes our accomplishments thus far in 2014, as well as those items still underway and areas for growth in 2015. Among these accomplishments, I would like to highlight that we have:

- Hosted six local community screenings and discussions of “Honor Totem” and “One Generation’s Time” combined.

- Completed the Technology Access & Adoption Report and distributed the report in seven languages (Amharic, Chinese, Oromo/Afaan Oromo, Somali, Spanish, Tigrinya, Vietnamese).
- DoIT hosted a public forum with more than 100 diverse attendees, and offered eight additional presentations and interest group consultations inside and outside the city.
- Selected 23 projects for Technology Matching Fund grants totaling \$320,000 which are expected to serve more than 3,000 people. Of these, 10 projects will serve immigrants and refugees directly. In addition, DoIT procured a one-time grant of \$150,000 which will allow us to offer increased support in 2015.
- Worked with community partners including Seattle Public Library to offer “Get Online” information to people with less experience on the Internet. These programs included get online for health, jobs and education with some programs offered in Spanish.

We appreciate your support in this important area and look forward to working further with the citywide change team on how we can collectively work for greater racial equity in our region.

Attachments

Cc DoIT Change Team
SOCR – Patricia Lolly, Brenda Anibarro