

ADVOCACY GUIDE TO INCLUSION PLEDGE

WORKING WITH HEALTHCARE
PROVIDERS TO END RACIAL
DISPARITIES.



Tigerlily Foundation
#InclusionPledge



THE FACTS

- Breast cancer death rates are 40% higher among Black women than white women.
- Black women represent only 5% of women in breast cancer clinical trials
- TNBC is more common in Black women.
- 71% of Black women are single parents

PURPOSE

- The #InclusionPledge provides a transparent and tangible framework across stakeholders to identify and track equity actions, holding organizations accountable to making specific, measurable outcomes that will result in dismantling systemic barriers and co-creating solutions that will result in health equity for Black women and end disparities in our lifetime.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SYSTEMIC BARRIERS

- Racism today, sometimes results in biased decision-making by medical providers, researchers, and people in positions of power
- Black women are among the least represented groups in clinical trials
- Black women are not being recruited into the medical field and are not given adequate opportunities to pursue medical training
- Black women face socio-economic, psycho-social, and systemic challenges that limit access to medical care, health-promoting activities and environments, and support systems

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT RACIAL BARRIERS

- Medical racism results in mistrust of medical professionals by patients due to both historical and present-day experiences of harmful and exclusionary practices
- Underrepresentation increases health risks for Black women and limits the impact of the clinical trial
- Breast cancer is typically depicted as a disease that affects white women

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WHAT ADVOCACY TEAMS SHOULD UNDERSTAND BEFORE CONNECTING WITH PATIENTS

1. Understand the abuse that has caused the mistrust in the medical system amongst African Americans
2. Educate yourself on possible emotional and mental traumas
3. Be prepared to offer resources to eliminate barriers
4. Strengthen patient confidence in medical system



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SUGGESTED COMMITMENTS

1. Create programming around awareness, early detection and the importance of screenings
2. Create resources with the intention of distributing to those with a lack of access to healthcare in rural areas
3. Provide screening methods for underserved areas
4. Act as a connector between patients, their peers and support groups through partnerships with organizations with cultural awareness
5. Build out and create a partnerships network providing resources for young Black cancer patients
6. Provide education on how diet and exercise can affect your overall health as a breast cancer patient
7. Assist in providing education about the history of the medical system in order to help eliminate medical mistrust
8. Recommend the Inclusion Pledge and facilitate introductions to other advocates to activate the inclusion of Black women across initiatives impacting their breast and overall health

