FAITH -BASED GUIDE TO INCLUSION PLEDGE

WORKING WITH HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS TO END RACIAL DISPARITIES.



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

 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 decisionmaking 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 FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD UNDERSTAND

- 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 through open forums with the specialists



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SUGGESTED COMMITMENTS

- 1. Development of and evaluation of breast cancer prevention and intervention onsite screenings
- 2. Dissemination of information regarding breast cancer
- 3. Implement a Health Ministry to provide guidance from professionals regarding diet, exercise and mental wellness
- 4. Encourage involvement in clinical trials and research through education and partnership for breast cancer patients
- 5. Implementation of an Advisory board to field and communicate hesitations, confustion, or mistrust
- 6. Create a spiritual support group for breast cancer patients to ensure care for their mental health
- 7. Recommend the Inclusion Pledge and facilitate introductions to partner organizations in order to advocate and activate the inclusion of Black women across initiatives impacting their breast and overall health

