

# POLICY MAKER'S GUIDE TO THE 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 POLICY MAKERS SHOULD UNDERSTAND

1. Understand the unfairness that has caused the mistrust in policies set forth by the government 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 political system



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## SUGGESTED COMMITMENTS

1. Listen to and believe Black women about their experiences with healthcare
2. Formulate policies to increase breast cancer awareness, research and prevention efforts
3. Provide the space for breast cancer patients and advocates to share their stories and needs in a larger forum on a consistent basis
4. Implement policies for government funded research for breast cancer in underrepresented communities of color
5. Back stronger environmental laws that will limit peoples exposure to mammary carcinogens due to environmental chemicals
6. Create policies to address health disparities outside of the medical system and demonstrate its measurable impact and effectiveness.
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

