



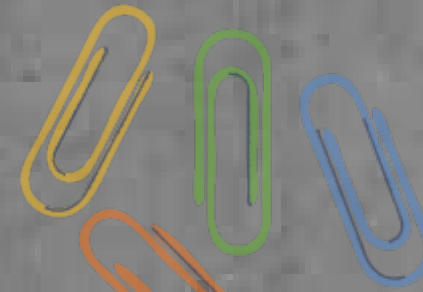
RUTGERS

Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy



NBCDI

National Black Child  
Development Institute



RACISM'S IMPACT ON BLACK  
AMERICAN HEALTH & K-12 EDUCATION

# Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis

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Jessica Dufort

# Agenda

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## **TODAY'S PRESENTATION**

National Black Child Development Institute

Mission & Vision

Critical and Timely Issues

Public Health Crisis Declaration

Health Impact of Racism on Black Americans

Outcomes & Projections



# NBCDI

National Black Child  
Development Institute

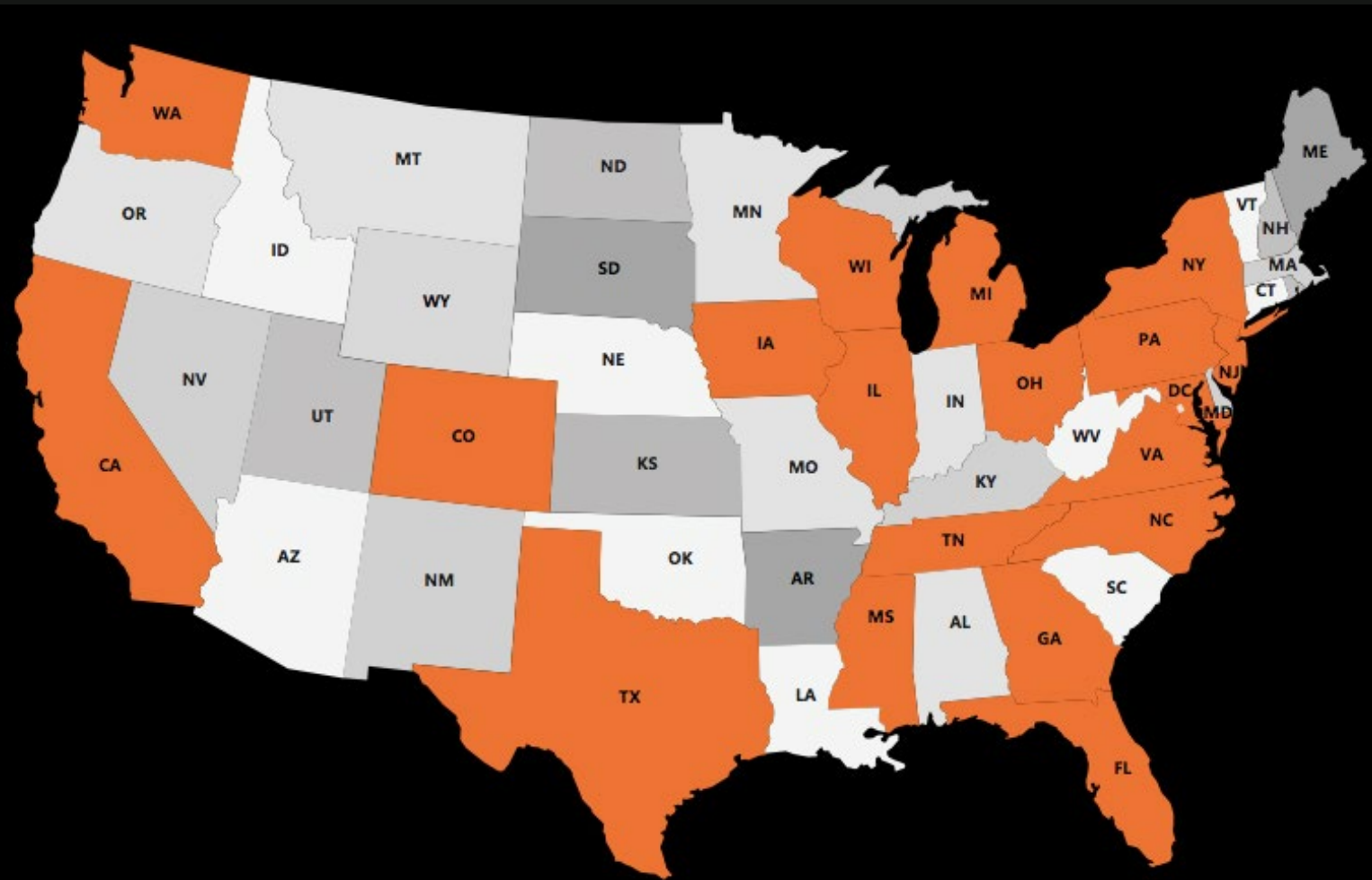
## MISSION:

For more than 40 years, the National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) has been at the forefront of engaging leaders, policymakers, professionals, and parents around critical and timely issues that directly impact Black children and their families. We are a trusted partner in delivering culturally relevant resources that respond to the unique strengths and needs of Black children around issues including early childhood education, health, child welfare, literacy, and family engagement. With the support of our Affiliate network in communities across the country, we are committed to our mission “to improve and advance the quality of life for Black children and their families through education and advocacy.”

## VISION

NBCDI envisions a society that ensures a successful future for all children.

# NBCDI Affiliates



2017

# Publications

2018

2018

**Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and Racial Equity**

Opportunities in the CCDBG Reauthorization to Support Racial Equity in State Child Care and Early Learning Systems

Cemere James, National Black Child Development Institute  
Hannah Matthews, Center for Law and Social Policy

March 2017

Prepared with the support of the Alliance for Early Success

Logos: Alliance for Early Success, NBCDI, CLASP

**Delivering on the Promise of Effective Early Childhood Education**

CEMERE JAMES, Vice President, Policy, NBCDI  
BHEOMA BRUKA, Sr. Research Fellow, NBCDI  
Chief Research Officer, HighScope Educational Research Foundation

December 2018

Logo: NBCDI National Black Child Development Institute

**NBCDI**  
National Black Child Development Institute

**STATE OF THE BLACK CHILD REPORT CARD**  
TEXAS

**What's in this Report Card?**  
The policy recommendations in the 2018 State of the Black Child Report Card for Texas highlight the racial disparities that affect learning outcomes for Black children. The Report Card provides parents, caregivers, educators, community leaders and policymakers with high priority policy recommendations to improve education, health and family support systems for Black children and families.

**1 END SUSPENSIONS AND EXPELLSIONS FOR ALL YOUNG CHILDREN IN TEXAS**

**2 IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELLNESS AMONG BLACK CHILDREN IN TEXAS**

**IN TEXAS SPECIFICALLY, BLACK PRESCHOOLERS WERE 5X MORE LIKELY TO RECEIVE AN OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION DURING THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR. THEY WERE ALSO 2X MORE LIKELY TO RECEIVE IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION.**

**BLACK CHILDREN ARE APPROXIMATELY 2X MORE LIKELY TO LIVE IN LOW-INCOME AND FOOD-INSECURE HOUSEHOLDS THAN WHITE CHILDREN IN TEXAS**

INDICATOR	BLACK CHILDREN	WHITE CHILDREN
IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION	21.1	3.9
OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION	10.1	5.1

Source: Center for Equity Policy Research, State of Black Children, LLC. Data from the 2015-2016 Texas Statewide Longitudinal Assessment of Early Childhood Development (SLA-ECED) and the 2015-2016 Texas Statewide Longitudinal Assessment of Early Childhood Development (SLA-ECED).



## CRITICAL AND TIMELY ISSUES

According to the COVID Tracking Project Black Americans are dying at nearly 3x the rate of white Americans. In part these rates are exacerbated by socioeconomic factors such as employment status & healthcare access



Given the horrific deaths Black Americans, like George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Bree Black, Breonna Taylor, and countless more--A number of agencies, cities, counties, and even states have declared racism a public health crisis.



# Public Health Crisis Declaration

HOUSING | EMPLOYMENT | EDUCATION +

The American Medical Association notes “Racism in its systemic, structural, institutional, and interpersonal forms is an urgent threat to public health”

Dr. Georges Benjamin, the executive director of the American Public Health Association, “Racism attacks people’s physical and mental health. And racism is an ongoing public health crisis that needs our attention now!”

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<https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/ama-statements/ama-board-trustees-pledges-action-against-racism-police-brutality>

# Evidence of Racism's Health Impact



**HEALTHCARE**



**PHYSIOLOGICAL HEALTH**



**NATIVITY**

## **2017**

Wisconsin pioneered the declaration of racism as a public health crisis, following the Healthiest State Agenda Setting conference. Created the Sign-On Petition

## **2019**

States and Cities within Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin

## **2020**

California, Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington join the list

## **JUNE 2020**

Chicago's largest hospitals, clinics, 36+ Chicago organization pledge to employ anti-racist strategies

## **JUNE 2020**

Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin School Districts make their declarations

# Declaring the Crisis

## **A BRIEF TIMELINE**

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\* Updated as of July 20th, 2020. This data may not include all cities, counties, or national agencies that have declared racism as a public health crisis.



A black and white photograph of a young Black boy sitting on the floor, smiling broadly while reading a book. He is wearing a light-colored polo shirt and dark pants. In the background, other children are visible, slightly out of focus.

# Outcomes & Projections

Since many of the declarations are still in early phases , the outcomes of these resolutions are difficult to determine.

Supporters of the declaration, as noted by Pew Trusts, are intended to incite change across all sectors of government including, **criminal justice, education, health care, housing, transportation, budgets and taxes, economic development and social services.**

Overarching goal is to shrink the health gap between Black Americans and White Americans.

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# Outcomes & Projections

**Occupational Trainings**

**Budget Reallocations towards Education & Public Health**

**Engagement with various community stakeholders in oversight or review committees**

# Reallocation of Budget Funds Towards Education

MAYOR MARY WALSH OF BOSTON EXAMPLE

**20%** OR 12 MILLION OF THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT'S OVERTIME BUDGET TO INVEST IN EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- \$1 million to support trauma teams and counseling services at the BPHC
- \$2 million to fund community-based programs, such as violence intervention grants, youth programming, language and food access, immigrant advancement
- \$2 million for additional public mental health services
- \$2 million to support economic development initiatives for minority and women owned businesses
- \$2 million to provide additional housing supports and youth homelessness programs

# Thank You

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

