

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

**WHEREAS**, Sacramento County is one of the Nation's most diverse communities broadly recognized for celebrating its multi-cultural and ethnically diverse population, and it is the diversity of people of color who make the mosaic of Sacramento County such a wonderful place to live, work, play, learn, worship and raise a family; and

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent on all locally appointed and elected policy makers to embrace, nurture, and protect the diversity of our community, and to ensure everyone has the opportunity to enjoy a life free from institutional, structural, systemic and interpersonal racial prejudice, bigotry, bias, derision, and hate; and

**WHEREAS**, institutional, structural, systemic and interpersonal racism adversely impacts the physical, mental and emotional health of people of color, and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism is a social determinant of health that threatens health equity objectives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors acknowledges and welcomes the inherent responsibility to shape policies, appropriate resources, implement programs, issue directives, and to

otherwise advocate for racial equity and to speak-up and -out when it is clear institutional, structural, systemic and interpersonal racial prejudice, bias, derision, and hate threatens the health and wellbeing of those they represent and serve; and

**WHEREAS**, Sacramento County is dedicated to improving health and wellness, eliminating health disparities and achieving health equity for all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, one such deliberative initiative to address racial health inequities and disparities that Sacramento County is proud to have initiated and continues to support, is the 'Black Child Legacy Campaign,' (BCLC) originally conceived as the 'RAACD' effort - 'Reducing African American Child Deaths;' and

**WHEREAS**, the BCLC/RAACD's purpose is to address decades of health and social disparities in Sacramento County's African American childhood population that have contributed to disproportionate death rates; and

**WHEREAS**, since commencing programmatic implementation of the BCLC/RAACD in 2015, Sacramento County has seen a considerable decrease in the disproportional mortality rate of African American children who have

died due to well-documented leading causes of death; and

**WHEREAS**, the BCLC/RAACD effort serves as a clear example of Sacramento County's commitment to racial equity, health for all, and to fight against institutional, structural, systemic, and interpersonal racism in all its manifest forms, but it is clear more must be done to confront continuing inequities that undermine fair and just governance and service delivery.

**WHEREAS**, more recently and in response to the coronavirus pandemic, Sacramento County Public Health commenced an initiative to further advance health equity by focusing on racial equity and confronting racism as a public health crisis from within and across its operations, programs and policies; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sacramento, that Sacramento County commits to the following:

1. Assert that racism, and the health inequities therefrom, constitutes a public health crisis affecting our entire community; and
2. Work to shape an inclusive, well-informed governmental organization that is conscious of injustice and inequity through robust training and continuing education to expand understanding of how racial

discrimination adversely affects individuals and communities most impacted by racism; and

3. Actively work to nurture and enhance diversity across the County workforce, especially in leadership and management positions; and

4. Review all policies, procedures, practices and protocols to ensure racial equity is a core value of Sacramento County, and work to eliminate those policies, procedures, practices and protocols that facilitate and/or harbor racial discrimination against specific populations; and

5. Ensure the consistent collection, analysis and reporting of disaggregated demographic, socioeconomic and public health data to assess, evaluate and measure progress towards eliminating racial inequities; and

6. Prioritize the investment of time and budget in promoting racial equity to address social determinants of health, including but not limited to continuing support for the Black Child Legacy Campaign; and

7. Promote and cultivate early and ongoing community involvement to identify and implement strategic interventions and solutions such as trauma-informed practices, and give voice to the lived experiences of our communities of color; and

8. Encourage and build upon Sacramento County Public Health's

strategic work to address racial equity and institutional racism; and

9. Identify, deploy and expand upon best practices used in other jurisdictions that promote racial equity and that address institutional, structural, systemic and interpersonal racism; and

10. Identify and implement solutions to eliminate institutional, structural and systemic racial inequity in all community services provided by the County including, but not limited to: public health, human assistance, protective services, homelessness and housing, economic development, land use and environment, finance, and criminal justice/law enforcement; and

11. Design, develop, enhance and deploy public education and messaging efforts to increase understanding and awareness around systemic racial inequity from a public health perspective, with special attention given to the experiences of communities of color; and

12. Design, develop, enhance and deploy community-based alternatives to prevent trauma and eliminate harm associated with racial inequity; and

13. Advocate for relevant local, state, and federal policies that improve health and wellness in communities of color, and support local, state, and federal initiatives and legislation that advance racial equity; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Supervisors, through the County Chief Executive Officer and Assistant County Executive Officers, will work with the Department of Health Services, all County departments and other community partners, to assess and apply a racial equity lens to internal policies, procedures, practices and protocols; adopt preventive measures, and refine programs to fight institutional, structural and systemic racism and bigotry to promote the health, wellness and equity of Sacramento County's valued workforce; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Supervisors intends to establish by separate resolution a "Sacramento County Racial Equity Policy Cabinet" which would issue periodic public reports to the Board of Supervisors and be responsible for promoting strategic coordination, cooperation and collaboration across all County Departments and the community regarding all efforts documented herein to promote racial equity.

On a motion by Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sacramento, State of California this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors,

NOES: Supervisors,

ABSENT: Supervisors,

ABSTAIN: Supervisors,

RECUSAL: Supervisors,

(PER POLITICAL REFORM ACT (§ 18702.5.))

Chair of the Board of Supervisors of  
Sacramento County, California

(SEAL)

ATTEST: Clerk, Board of Supervisors