January 19, 2021

Dear President-elect Biden and Presidential Transition Co-chairs:

As a broad and diverse group of Reproductive Justice advocates and stakeholders who strongly support policies that support the health and well-being of people across the country, we congratulate you on your historic victory and express our appreciation for your commitment to protect and improve health care for all. We write to urge that the comprehensive scope of reproductive health care be an early priority for the Biden Administration, and as such ask that on day one of the new administration, you establish the White House Office of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Wellbeing (OSRHW), under the Domestic Policy Council.

Sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing is an expansive frame for the issues that determine outcomes for all people in America. It is a human rights agenda ensuring that all people have access to non-coercive healthcare services and the social supports needed to enable them to prevent and treat illness, experience the best health outcomes possible, and make the reproductive decisions that are right for them. This broad goal of the OSRHW reflects the Reproductive Justice focus on the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.

This holistic agenda is a necessary remedy to the current sexual and reproductive health services and social support policies, regulations, and funding streams that are siloed, disjointed and ill-suited for ensuring that federal agencies, states and healthcare systems address systemic racism and assist providers in serving patients. The gravest effect of our broken system is persistent inequity which denies people of color, people in rural communities, people with disabilities and people of low income without autonomy to determine their reproductive futures, and therefore the array of health and economic decisions key to their lives.

Establishing the OSRHW will ensure a permanent infrastructure to (1) develop a federal strategy for promoting equitable sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing through a human rights, gender and racial equity lens, and (2) better coordinate the actions of the many departments and agencies whose actions in both domestic and foreign policy contexts impact sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing of people in America and around the world, including the Departments of Defense, Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Labor, Housing and Urban Development, Treasury, and Veterans Affairs, and the Office of Personnel Management. To fully actualize this comprehensive approach to health and wellbeing across intersectional issues and agencies the OSRHW should sit within the Domestic Policy Council structure, be led by someone with demonstrated expertise, and report to the President.

In response to the ongoing need for policy initiatives to promote reproductive health and well-being, the diverse organizations listed below write to you in support of creating the White House Office of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Wellbeing. It has been my pleasure to engage members of the Transition team, and we hope that ongoing discussions will effectively achieve our common goal of ensuring that all people have access to the comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, services, and supports they need.

Sincerely,

Joia Crear Perry, MD, President and Founder
The National Birth Equity Collaborative
Abortion Care Network
Advancing Health Equity
Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH)
The Afifa Center
African American Policy Forum
Amaka Consulting and Evaluation Services, LLC
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Medical Student Association
Ana Delgado
Ancient Song Doula Services
Audrey Lyndon
AWHONN (Association of Women's Health, Obstetric & Neonatal Nurses)
Black Feminist Future
Black Girls Guide to Surviving Menopause
Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA)
Black Women for Wellness
Black Women’s Health Imperative
Board Certified Ob/Gyn, Complex Family Planning Subspecialist
Bold Futures
Boston University School of Public Health
Brittany Chambers, PhD, MPH
California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative/Stanford University
Center for Family & Maternal Wellness
Coalition to Expand Contraceptive Access (CECA)
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity & Reproductive Rights (COLOR) & COLOR Action Fund
Commonsense Childbirth Inc.- National Perinatal Task Force
Community Catalyst
Deborah L. Kaplan, DrPH, MPH, PA
Department of Ob, Gyn and Reproductive Sciences, UCSF
Devi Women's Health
Every Mother Counts
Feminist Women's Health Center
Health Justice
Human Rights Watch
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda
Institute for Women’s Policy Research
Ipas
Jacobs Institute of Women's Health
Jasmine Burnett
Lillian's List Action Fund
Mamatoto Village
Marsha Jones
Mary Amelia Center for Women’s Health Equity Research, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Medical Students for Choice
Mia Keeyes
Midwifery Melanated LLC
Mississippi Reproductive Freedom Fund
MomsRising
Monica McLemore
NARAL Pro-Choice America
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)
National Association of Certified Professional Midwives
National Black Nurses Association
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Network of Abortion Funds
National Organization for Women
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
New Voices for Reproductive Justice
New York University
Dr. Oni Blackstock
Partners In Health
Perinatal-Neonatal Quality Improvement Network of Massachusetts
Physicians for Reproductive Health
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Power to Decide
Rachel Hardeman PhD, MPH
REACH Beyond Solutions LLC
Renee Bracey Sherman, MPA
Reproductive Justice Initiative
Restoring Our Own Through Transformation
Shades Of Blue Project
Signing as an Individual
SISTERLOVE, INC.
SisterReach
SisterSong National Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective
SPARK Reproductive Justice Now!, Inc.
Stephanie Mash Sykes
Tara Health Foundation
T.E.A. Academy
Teresa Nguyen
The Anarcha Institute, LLC
TOUCH, The Black Breast Cancer Alliance
Tulane University Women's Center for Health Equity Research
UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health
UCSF Black Women's Health & Livelihood Initiative
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
USF
Vision1st
Watts Healthcare Corporation
We Testify
Women Engaged
Women With A Vision, Inc.