March 8, 2021

Dear President 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
A Better Balance
Abortion Care Network
Access Reproductive Care-Southeast
Advancing Health Equity
Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH)
The Afia Center
African American Mayors Association
African American Policy Forum
Amaka Consulting and Evaluation Services, LLC
The Amandala Group
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Medical Student Association
American Public Health Association – Sexual and Reproductive Health Section
Ana Delgado
The Anarcha Institute, LLC
Ancient Song Doula Services
Audrey Lyndon
AWHONN (Association of Women's Health, Obstetric & Neonatal Nurses)
Birth Place Lab, University of British Columbia
Black Feminist Future
Black Girls Guide to Surviving Menopause
Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA)
Black Women for Wellness
Black Women’s Health Imperative
The Bloom Collective
Board Certified Ob/Gyn, Complex Family Planning Subspecialist
Bold Futures
Boston University School of Public Health
BreastfeedLA
Brittany Chambers, PhD, MPH
California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative/Stanford University
Center for Family & Maternal Wellness
CHANGE (Center for Health and Gender Equity)
The Children’s Partnership
Chocolate Milk Café National Inc
Cityblock Health
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
Daniel Dawes
Deborah L. Kaplan, DrPH, MPH, PA
Department of Ob, Gyn and Reproductive Sciences, UCSF
Devi Women's Health
Elephant Circle
Empower Her Health
Equity Quotient
Every Mother Counts
Feminist Women's Health Center
Guttmacher Institute
Health Justice
Hudson Valley Midwifery
Human Rights Watch
Ibis Reproductive Health
Ifeyinwa Asiodu PhD, RN, IBCLC
If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda
Institute for Women’s Policy Research
Interfaith Voices for Reproductive Justice (IVRJ)
Ipas
Jacobs Institute of Women's Health
Jamila Perritt MDMPH FACOG
Jasmine Burnett
Len M. Nichols, Ph.D.
Lillian's List Action Fund
Majaica
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 Keeys
Midwifery Melanated LLC
Mississippi Reproductive Freedom Fund
Mommy Up
MomsRising
Monica McLemore
NARAL Pro-Choice America
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)
National Association of Certified Professional Midwives
National Black Midwives Alliance
National Black Nurses Association
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Health Law Program
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Network of Abortion Funds
National Organization for Women
National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
New Voices for Reproductive Justice
Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health
NYS Organization of Licensed Midwives
Dr. Oni Blackstock
Partners In Health
Partum Health
Pegasus Health Justice Center
Perinatal-Neonatal Quality Improvement Network of Massachusetts
Physicians for Reproductive Health