



Access Alliance Statement on Anti-Black Racism and Anti-Oppression

As an organization committed to addressing systemic inequities, we denounce the persistent and systemic anti-Black racism that undermines the safety and well-being of Black communities in the United States and Canada. We stand in solidarity with Black communities seeking justice. Black Lives Matter.

Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services recognizes systemic oppressions based on race, and the ways they intersect with class, gender, sexual orientation, gender orientation, immigration status, religion, mental health status, age, and ability. Many forms of interlocking systems of oppression are mutually enforcing and cannot be addressed in isolation. Therefore, the struggle against anti-Black racism, for us, is integrated with the struggles against other forms of inequities. Any struggle against oppression must be informed by an anti-racist framework.

Black communities in Canada continue to be over-policed and criminalized. Poverty is racialized and has impacts on wellbeing and access to the determinants of health. Black women are over over-represented in precarious employment, contributing to ongoing disparities which COVID-19 has highlighted.

Anti-Black racism causes suffering and humiliation that has far-reaching consequences. It prevents equality in opportunity, access to asylum, immigration opportunities, education, jobs, housing, health care and social services, and limits participation in decision-making bodies.

Access Alliance will continue to advocate for change in an inclusive and informed way respecting the lived experiences of the communities we work with. We are one of many voices denouncing inequitable practices and resource distribution, creating systemic barriers for Black communities. We will continue prioritizing our focus on marginalized community members and calling for structural change.

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