



Commissioner's Request for Agenda Item

Agenda Item N^o. F-2

Requested Meeting Date 9/16/2020

☐ Consent Section

☒ Regular Section

Commissioner Name:	Kemp
Date Submitted:	9/10/2020
Nature of Request: (check one)	☒ Action by the BOCC ☐ Identification of issue and referral to staff ☐ Referral to staff for review and scheduling at a subsequent BOCC meeting
Request for Waiver of Rules due to: (check one)	☐ Health, Safety , or Welfare Emergency ☐ Schedule an off-the-agenda item ☐ Deadline requires action prior to next scheduled BOCC meeting
Commissioner's Recommended Board Motion: Approve a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis in Hillsborough County.	

Staff Requested for Agenda Item:
☐ County Administrator ☐ County Attorney's Office ☐ Constitutional Officer ☒ Other: <u>Pastor Anthony C. White, Bible Based Community Church</u>
Material requested to be provided by staff:

Background: This resolution is work of the Bible Based Community Church community and other community members and faith leaders: "Our Community, Our Voice." The resolution acknowledges the public health consequences of racial inequities and seeks and "to imagine and create a more equal and just Hillsborough County." The resolution has broad support, including from HOPE (Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality) and from local public health professionals. Letters of support are included with this item. This resolution is based on a resolution that was passed in Dallas County, Texas, in June of this year. The Dallas County resolution is included with this item. The Dallas resolution was amended to include local health data and circumstances to create the draft Hillsborough resolution. Similar resolutions have been passed in many US counties this year, including Dekalb County, Cobb County, and Gwinnett County, Georgia; Mecklenberg County, North Carolina and Montgomery County, Maryland. This effort complements many other efforts in this community and at Hillsborough County including the BOCC's approval of the creation of an equity profile, a resolution related to historic racism in transportation policy at the Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization, a resolution about historic racism by the City Council of Tampa and a research program involving 23 studies into racial inequity at the University of South Florida.

Links about these complementary efforts are provided below:

<https://eagenda.hillsboroughcounty.org/portal/PTL29560/search?D=06/03/2020&T=Regular%20BOCC%20Meeting&Y=Backup&o=F-4.pdf>

<http://www.planhillsborough.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/August-31-MPO-Draft-Agenda-Packet.pdf>

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/tampa/2020/09/03/tampa-city-council-member-calls-for-racial-apology-reconciliation/>

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/education/2020/09/09/at-usf-23-research-projects-will-focus-on-racism-and-disparities/>

List Attachments: 1) Draft Hillsborough resolution; 2) Dallas County Resolution; Letters of support: (3) "Our Community, Our Voice" with 2 pages of signatories; (4) Letter from HOPE; (5) Letter from Dean Peters, USF College of Public Health; (6) Letter from Dr. Holt, Florida Department of Health.

Resolution



BE IT REMEMBERED, at the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, Hillsborough County, on the 16th day of September, 2020, on a motion of _____ and seconded by _____, the following Resolution was adopted:

**Hillsborough County Board of County Commission
Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Crisis.**

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever effects one directly, affects all indirectly!"

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHEREAS, the Hillsborough County Commission has a demonstrated track record of promoting racial equity, inclusion and diversity in county government. This commitment is exemplified in Hillsborough County's Human Rights Ordinance, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race in employment, public accommodations, real estate transactions and county contracting and procurement. This commitment is further exemplified through the Commission's recent action to develop an independent equity profile for Hillsborough County that will identify and highlight racial disparities across varying aspects and dimensions;

WHEREAS, Hillsborough County also has demonstrated a commitment to providing for the health of its residents by establishing and funding a health care plan for residents of limited income and assets;

WHEREAS, these initiatives are in direct response to addressing race as an identifying stumbling block for career advancement and employment opportunities in Hillsborough County and this lack of opportunity is also directly linked to root causes of poverty and constricted economic mobility; and

WHEREAS, race is a social construct with no biological basis¹; and

WHEREAS, racism is a negative social system with multiple dimensions including: individual prejudices that are internalized or interpersonal; and systemic racism that is institutional or structural, and is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks²; and

WHEREAS, "racism unfairly disadvantages specific individuals and communities, while unfairly giving advantages to other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources"³, and Hillsborough County's collective prosperity depends upon the equitable access to opportunity for every resident regardless of the color of their skin; and

WHEREAS, racism causes persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes in many areas of life, including housing, education, business, employment and criminal justice; and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism itself is a social determinant of health⁴; and

WHEREAS, the US Census and the Florida Department of Health report that in Hillsborough County, residents of color experience dramatically higher unemployment rates (Black: 10%, Hispanic: 7%, White: 5%); face a higher poverty rate as a community (Black: 24%, Hispanic: 21%, White: 10%); have lower home ownership rates (Black: 37%, Hispanic: 48%, White: 64%); significantly more likely to experience food insecurity (Black: 43%, Hispanic: 46%, White: 26%); have substantially less annual median income (Black: \$39,746, Hispanic: \$44,445, White: \$60,829)⁵; and

WHEREAS, through the leadership of Hillsborough County State Attorney Andrew Warren and Public Defender Julianne Holt, Hillsborough County is committed to the elimination of racial disparities in the criminal justice system, to prioritize racial equity in our decision making processes, to acknowledge that Black and minority communities have borne the burdens of inequitable social, environmental, economic, and criminal justice policies, practices, and investments, to understand that the legacy of these inequitable policies has caused deep disparities, harm, and mistrust, and to recognize that racial justice requires a system that treats everyone equally; and

WHEREAS, institutional racism and discrimination in Florida and Hillsborough County have also exacerbated a health divide between white residents and residents of color; and when people are healthy they create strong successful communities. Being healthy is about more than genetics, our health depends on the conditions of our daily life where we live, work, and play; and these conditions are not the same for everyone in Hillsborough County. Compared to white residents: Black residents are more likely to be overweight or obese and die of heart disease, cancer

¹ Garcia JJ, Shariz MZ. Black Lives Matter: A Commentary on Race and Racism. Am. J. Public Health 2015; e27-30.

² Jones CP. Confronting Institutional Racism. Phylon. 2002; 50 (1/2): 7-22.

³ American Public Health Association. Racism and Health. Available at: <https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/health-equity/racism-and-health>. Accessed May 2, 2020.

⁴ Flynn, A., Holmberg, S., Warren, D., and Wong, F. REWRITE the Racial Rules: Building an Inclusive American Economy. Roosevelt Institute, 2016.

⁵ The Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County. (2020) Health Equality Profile. http://hillsborough.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/community-health-planning-statistics/health-equity/_documents/health-equity-profile-web-2020.pdf

or stroke; twice as many Black residents die from diabetes; Hispanic residents are twice as likely to feel unsafe in their neighborhood; and Black and Hispanic babies are more likely to die in their first year of life. Health comes down to whether the conditions of our daily life presents us with **OPTIONS or OBSTACLES**⁵; and

WHEREAS, Black communities, working class residents, and those that suffer from disabilities, are more likely to experience poor health outcomes as a consequence of the social determinants of health -- health inequities stemming from economic instability, education, physical environment, living in food and broadband deserts and inadequate access to health care systems. In Hillsborough County two-thirds of these residents live far from a healthy food source and many lack adequate transportation, limiting access to these needs. Safe and affordable homes are essential for well-being, but half of the renters pay more than 30% of their income in rent and face housing challenges. People are in better health when they can get health care services, yet 33% of residents with household incomes of under \$25,000 don't have health insurance. Income has a strong influence on health and longevity, and due to a history of discriminatory policies residents of color are more likely to experience economic hardships than white residents⁵; and

WHEREAS, a contemporary example of this disparity is highlighted by the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the Black community. According to a recent CDC- MMWR study, Blacks are hospitalized at a much higher rate than other groups and the death rate of Blacks in that study is twice the rate of whites⁶; and according to the Florida Department of Health, Black residents of the state are disproportionately more likely to die of Covid-19. While Black residents make up 15.5 percent of the population, they represent 19.4 percent of the Floridians who have died of the virus. This disparity is even more acute when looking at younger residents. For example, Black residents make up 18 percent of Florida's population from ages 25 to 44, while representing 44 percent of deaths in this age range⁷.

WHEREAS, more than 100 studies have linked racism to worse health outcomes⁸; and

WHEREAS, a June 2020 report from the Florida Department of Health of Hillsborough County, Office of Health Equity, states that these racial health inequities “are nothing new in our nation’s history in which Black, Indigenous and other people of color have been marginalized for over 400 years⁵,” and

WHEREAS, the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners stands with the residents of Hillsborough County with the declaration of racism as a public health crisis and acknowledge that all lives will matter in America only when there is recognition and affirmation that "Black Lives Matter"; now, therefore,

⁶ CDC- Centers for Disease Control - Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: COV^oID-19 in Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups

⁷ New York Times . *The Virus is Killing Young Floridians. Race is a Big Factor*, August 11, 2020.

⁸ Institute of Medicine. Unequal Treatment. <https://www.nap.edu/read/10260/chapter/2#7>. May 2, 2020; and American Public Health Association. Racism and Health. Available at: <https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/health-equity/racism-and-health>. Accessed May 2, 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED THAT THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

1. Assert that racism is a public health crisis affecting our entire county.
2. Work to progress as an equity and justice-oriented organization, with the Board of County Commissioners and the County Administrator and its staff leadership continuing to identify specific activities to further enhance diversity and to ensure antiracism principles across county leadership, staffing and contracting.
3. Promote equity through all policies approved by the County Commission and enhance educational efforts aimed at understanding, addressing and dismantling racism and how it affects the delivery of human and social services, economic development and public safety.
4. Continue to advocate locally and through the National Association of Counties for relevant policies that improve health in Black communities, and supports local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systemic racism.
5. Further work to solidify alliances and partnerships with other organizations that are confronting racism and encourage other local, state, regional and national entities to recognize racism as a public health crisis.
6. Support community efforts to amplify issues of racism and engage actively and authentically with communities of color wherever they live.
7. To always promote and support policies that prioritize the health of all people, especially people of color by mitigating exposure to adverse childhood experiences.
8. Promote racial equity training with the goal of reaching all county commissioners, county leadership and staff.
9. Encourage racial equity training among all community partners, grantees, vendors and contractors.
10. Identify clear goals and objectives, including periodic reports to the Board of County Commissioners, to assess progress and capitalize on opportunities to further advance racial equity; and, be it

Further resolved, that the Board of County Commissioner supports all additional efforts in Hillsborough County, the State of Florida and nationwide to address racism and public health disparities due to racial inequities.

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, Pat Frank, Clerk of Circuit Court and of the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at its regular meeting of _____, as the same appears Minute Book of the Public Records of Hillsborough County, Florida.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this _____ day of _____, 2020.

PAT FRANK, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency

By _____

Resolution

ORDER NO: 2020-0583

DATE: June 16, 2020

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas on the 16th day of June, 2020, on motion made by John Wiley Price, Commissioner District No. 3 and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner District No. 4, the following Resolution was adopted:

Dallas County Commissioners Court

Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Crisis.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever effects one directly, affects all indirectly!"

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHEREAS, the Dallas County Commissioners Court has a demonstrated track record of promoting racial equity, inclusion and diversity in county government. This commitment is exemplified in Dallas County's hiring practices as 49% of the Dallas County workforce is Black and Dallas County adopted the "Ban the Box" initiative in its hiring practices, eliminating the question of past criminal record on employment applications in specific County positions; and

WHEREAS, these initiatives are in direct response to addressing traditional reactions to race as an identifying stumbling block for career advancement and employment opportunities in Dallas County and this lack of opportunity is directly linked to root causes of poverty and constricted economic mobility; and

WHEREAS, race is a social construct with no biological basis¹; and

WHEREAS, racism is a negative social system with multiple dimensions including: individual prejudices that are internalized or interpersonal; and systemic racism that is institutional or structural, and is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks²; and

WHEREAS, "racism unfairly disadvantages specific individuals and communities, while unfairly giving advantages to other individuals and communities, and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources"³, and Dallas County's collective prosperity depends upon the equitable access to opportunity for every resident regardless of the color of their skin; and

WHEREAS, racism causes persistent discrimination and disparate outcomes in many areas of life, including housing, education, business, employment and criminal

1 Garcia JJ, Sharif MZ. Black Lives Matter: A Commentary on Race and Racism. AmJ Public Health. 2015; 105: e27–e30. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2015.302706)

2 Jones CP. Confronting Institutionalized Racism. Phylon. 2002; 50(1/2):7–22.

3 American Public Health Association. Racism and Health. Available at: <https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/health-equity/racism-and-health>. Accessed May 2, 2020.

justice; and an emerging body of research demonstrates that racism itself is a social determinant of health⁴; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census noted Dallas County's Black residents experience dramatically higher unemployment rates (White: 3.9%, Black: 8.1%), face a higher poverty rate as a community (White: 12.5%, Black: 18.4%), have incomes that are less than 60% of the median income of White residents (\$65,902 vs. \$43,717), have lower home ownership rates (White: 57%, Black: 33%)⁵, are more likely to live in neighborhoods with low performing schools and experience disproportionately higher incarceration rates in the Texas prison system (Whites: 457 per 100,000, Black 1,844 per 100,000)⁶; and

WHEREAS, through the leadership of the Commissioners Court, the Dallas County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, the Dallas County District Attorney and the Dallas County Sheriff, Dallas County is committed to the elimination of racial disparities in the criminal justice system, to prioritize racial equity in our decision making processes, to acknowledge that Black communities have borne the burdens of inequitable social, environmental, economic, and criminal justice policies, practices, and investments, to understand that the legacy of these inequitable policies has caused deep disparities, harm, and mistrust, and to recognize that racial equity is realized when, and only when, race can no longer be used to predict life outcomes; and

WHEREAS, racism and segregation in Texas and Dallas County have also exacerbated a health divide resulting in Black residents having lower life expectancies than White residents; Black residents being far more likely than other races to die prematurely (before the age of 75); and Black residents to die of heart disease, cancer or stroke. Black residents also have higher levels of infant mortality, lower birth weights, are more likely to be overweight or obese, have adult diabetes, have long-term complications from diabetes and report poor mental health⁷; and

WHEREAS, Black communities, working class residents, and those that suffer from disabilities, are more likely to experience poor health outcomes as a consequence of the social determinants of health — health inequities stemming from economic instability, education, physical environment, living in food and broadband deserts and inadequate access to health care systems; and

WHEREAS, a contemporary example of such disparity is highlighted by the coronavirus data and its impact on the Black Community. According to a recent CDC-MMWR study, Blacks are hospitalized at a much higher rate than other groups and the death rate of Blacks in that study is twice the rate of Whites⁸; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 studies have linked racism to worse health outcomes⁹; and

WHEREAS, Dallas County Health and Human Services Department has acknowledged that the health impact of racism in Texas and Dallas County is a public health crisis, as defined by Dr. Sandro Galea: "The problem must affect large numbers of people, it must threaten health over the long-term, and it must require the adoption of large scale solutions"¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, racism has created physical and social hazards for Latin Americans in this country throughout the last century such as the 1918 Massacre at Porvenir (Presidio County) where Texas Rangers killed 15 men and boys for suspicion of cattle-rustling, to the tragic murder of Santos Rodriguez at the hands of a Dallas Police officer in the 1970s to the disparagement of Latin American immigrants by some national figures which

4 Flynn, A., Holmberg, S., Warren, D., and Wong, F. REWRITE the Racial Rules: Building an Inclusive American Economy. Roosevelt Institute, 2016.

⁵U.S. Census Bureau

⁶ The Sentencing Project: The Color of Justice: Racial and Ethnic Disparity in State Prisons. June 2016

⁷ Dallas County Community Health Needs Assessment 2019

8. CDC – Centers for Disease Control – Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: COVID-19 in Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups

9. Institute of Medicine. Unequal Treatment. <https://www.nap.edu/read/10260/chapter/2#7>. May 2, 2020; and American Public Health Association. Racism and Health. Available at: <https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/health-equity/racism-and-health>. Accessed May 2, 2020.

10. Galea, Sandro. Crying "Crisis". Dean's Note. Boston University School of Public Health. <https://www.bu.edu.sph/2017/04/23/crying-crisis/>.

presents a health threat to all Brown people without regard to their citizenship status; and

WHEREAS, the Dallas County Commissioners Court stands with the residents of Dallas County with the declaration of racism as a public health crisis and acknowledge that all lives will matter in America only when there is recognition and affirmation that "Black Lives Matter"; now, therefore,

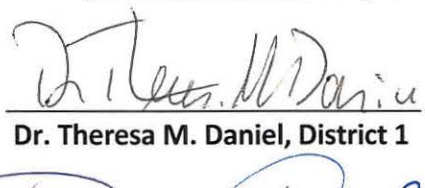
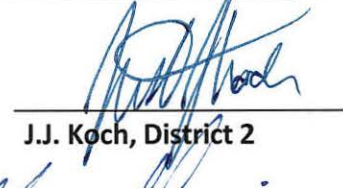
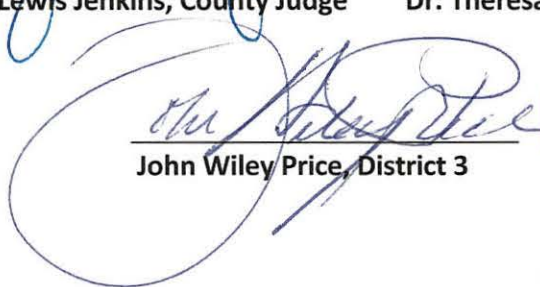
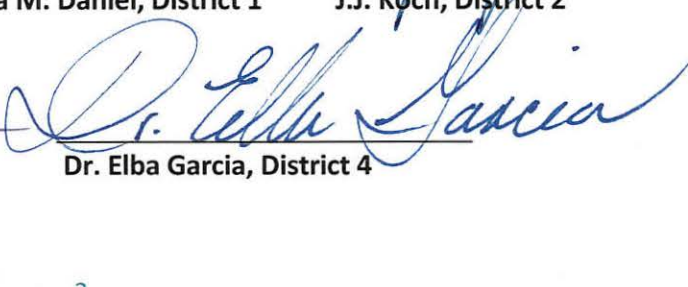
BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED THAT THE DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT OF DALLAS COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS:

1. Assert that racism is a public health crisis affecting our entire county.
2. Work to progress as an equity and justice-oriented organization, with the Commissioners Court and its staff leadership continuing to identify specific activities to further enhance diversity and to ensure antiracism principles across Commissioners Court leadership, staffing and contracting.
3. Promote equity through all policies approved by the Commissioners Court and enhance educational efforts aimed at understanding, addressing and dismantling racism and how it affects the delivery of human and social services, economic development and public safety.
4. Continue to advocate locally and through the National Association of Counties for relevant policies that improve health in Black communities, and supports local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systemic racism.
5. Further work to solidify alliances and partnerships with other organizations that are confronting racism and encourage other local, state, regional and national entities to recognize racism as a public health crisis.
6. Support community efforts to amplify issues of racism and engage actively and authentically with communities of color wherever they live.
7. To always promote and support policies that prioritize the health of all people, especially people of color by mitigating exposure to adverse childhood experiences.
8. Institute racial equity training with the goal of reaching all Commissioners Court agency leadership and staff.
9. Encourage racial equity training among all community partners, grantees, vendors and contractors.
10. Identify clear goals and objectives, including periodic reports to the Commissioners Court, to assess progress and capitalize on opportunities to further advance racial equity; and, be it

Further resolved, that the Commissioners Court supports all additional efforts in Dallas County, the State of Texas and nationwide to address racism and public health disparities due to racial inequities; and, be it

Further resolved, that the Dallas County Commissioners Court call upon the Governor, the Speaker of the Texas House, and the Texas Senate President and Attorney General to join with us to declare racism as a public health crisis and to enact equity in all policies of the State of Texas.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 16th day of June, 2020.

 Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge	 Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1	 J.J. Koch, District 2
 John Wiley Price, District 3		 Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4

Our Community, Our Voice

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere!"

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear County Commissioners,

We ask that you pass a resolution to declare racism a public health crisis. The power of naming racism a public health crisis is the first necessary step towards a holistic approach to begin the ongoing internal work to address individual and systemic racism through training and policy reform.

The following facts are astounding and downright egregious:

- According to multiple public health studies, Black Americans and people of color bear a disproportionate burden of adverse health outcomes, economic inequality, and criminal injustice due to systemic and institutional racism.
- Black Americans suffer from higher rates of diabetes, hypertension, asthma, and heart disease than White Americans.
- Communities of color have faced vast disparities in employment and educational opportunities, income and inherited family wealth. They are less likely to have affordable housing, housing security, quality schools, healthy food, and green spaces.

The pandemic of COVID-19 has further revealed the many disparities and inequities for all to see.

We cannot let this moment pass without getting into “good trouble” by joining the growing call for justice and meaningful policy change. It was the late James Baldwin who wrote, “Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced.” In the clearest terms, it is the express intent of community members, faith leaders, and health care professionals, to imagine and create a more equal and just Hillsborough County for all people by having our Board of County Commissioners start with naming **Racism as a Public Health Crisis**.

Sincerely,

Our Community, Our Voice

#	Date	Name	Comments
1	2020-08-31 21:57:55	Brandon Springfield	
2	2020-08-31 22:00:34	Anthony White	
3	2020-08-31 23:28:54	Sheila Simmons-Tribble	Let's be on the right side of Justice.
4	2020-08-31 23:29:24	Antionette Davis	
5	2020-08-31 23:44:13	James White	
6	2020-08-31 23:55:30	Valerie Ennis	
7	2020-08-31 23:58:44	Della Gaddie	#GoodTrouble
8	2020-08-31 23:59:52	Patricia Barry	
9	2020-09-01 00:04:24	Ceslynn Watkins	
10	2020-09-01 00:33:00	Yalanda Walker	
11	2020-09-01 00:36:56	Delma Fryer	
12	2020-09-01 00:40:31	Beth	
13	2020-09-01 00:52:07	Patricia Sweetwine	
14	2020-09-01 00:52:49	Laurie Jones-Oluku	
15	2020-09-01 01:15:06	Artie Fryer	Racism adversely affects an individual's mental, physical, emotional, and socio-economic well being in a myriad of ways and dimensions
16	2020-09-01 01:50:42	Samantha Sutton	
17	2020-09-01 01:52:55	Deborah A Austin	
18	2020-09-01 01:58:27	Estrellita Berry	Let's stay FOCUSED and claim Victory!
19	2020-09-01 02:02:35	Juanita W Battle	
20	2020-09-01 02:27:16	Willie G Harris	With all working together, we can resolve this unnecessary burden of racism.
21	2020-09-01 02:50:31	Verneka Rhodes	
22	2020-09-01 03:21:22	Karen Padgett Beard	
23	2020-09-01 04:04:36	Dr Samuel Wright	
24	2020-09-01 05:36:56	Julianne Stitt	
25	2020-09-01 11:15:02	Darrell Robertson	We deserve justice and an end to Racism.
26	2020-09-01 11:45:09	Lenore Robertson	
27	2020-09-01 11:49:46	Dallas Norton Griffin	
28	2020-09-01 11:53:07	Jake Earl Jr	
29	2020-09-01 12:02:49	Willa Peterson	All are equal in the eyes of God.
30	2020-09-01 12:24:06	Yvette Grace	
31	2020-09-01 12:26:17	Alicia Ward	
32	2020-09-01 12:28:37	Fred Robinson	It's time to recognize systemic racism for what it is and how it permeates the fabric of this city and our nation. Let's finally be true to freedom and justice 'for all'...
33	2020-09-01 12:31:09	Rahn Smart	End Racism Now!
34	2020-09-01 12:31:56	Katyana Louinis	
35	2020-09-01 12:44:21	Paulette Reed	Vote
36	2020-09-01 12:50:42	TaMetryce Collins	We all need to stand up and do something! If you're not fighting for the cause, then you're definitely not a part of the solution!
37	2020-09-01 12:51:30	Jacquelin Agee	If my name on this petition can help make a difference.My name stands for whats right.
38	2020-09-01 12:51:34	D A Washington	
39	2020-09-01 12:52:52	Chris Collins	This is an issue that needs to be resolved.
40	2020-09-01 12:54:05	Tommie Hankerson	
41	2020-09-01 12:54:44	Lauren Springfield	
42	2020-09-01 12:56:29	Kitrina Jenkins	Rise up for change, justice and equality.
43	2020-09-01 12:58:49	Rosalyn D Earl	
44	2020-09-01 13:16:32	Tammy Robinson	
45	2020-09-01 13:18:30	Linda McSwain	
46	2020-09-01 13:30:50	Minnie Byrd	
47	2020-09-01 13:47:30	Jacqueline king	
48	2020-09-01 13:55:25	Nicole Thompson Floyd	
49	2020-09-01 14:13:05	Tariro Zvobgo	
50	2020-09-01 14:17:29	Beverly Webber	Let's stop racism
51	2020-09-01 14:28:37	Gina leathers	
52	2020-09-01 14:34:37	Irvin Shipp	
53	2020-09-01 15:49:50	VANESSA RUSSELL	
54	2020-09-01 15:55:27	Brieanna Mitchell	
55	2020-09-01 16:11:14	Yvette henderson	
56	2020-09-01 16:45:48	Susan Burrell	
57	2020-09-01 16:55:14	William Byrd	
58	2020-09-01 17:12:33	Casey Davis	
59	2020-09-01 17:53:34	J W McNeil	
60	2020-09-01 18:08:32	Marlene Peterson	
61	2020-09-01 18:39:09	Michael Connelly	
62	2020-09-01 18:41:06	Shirley Francis	
63	2020-09-01 19:19:31	Shirley W Gunn	
64	2020-09-01 19:36:58	Stan Hart	Vote.....Vote.....Vote.....Early....Sisters & Brothers.....

65	2020-09-01 19:57:23	Tamika White	
66	2020-09-01 20:57:45	Glenda Partee	
67	2020-09-01 22:56:25	Jesus Verdejo	
68	2020-09-01 23:55:59	Alphonse Stewart	
69	2020-09-02 00:35:58	Willene Hayward	
70	2020-09-02 01:47:07	Andre Sanders	This gives my permission to use my signature supporting the cause
71	2020-09-02 02:34:05	Estelle	
72	2020-09-02 02:51:54	Karetha Times-Ray	
73	2020-09-02 04:03:16	Zenissa Rodriguez	
74	2020-09-02 09:50:40	Arenee Thornton	
75	2020-09-02 13:47:15	Reginald Garth	

Our Community, Our Voice

#	First Name	Last Name	Comments
76	Candi	Whitlock	
77	Delphine	Jones	
78	Gwen	Samuels	
79	Alva	Sargent	
80	KAYANNIE	REID	
81	Della	Gaddie	
			Going forward we need to address racism and police reform. They need to understand the connection between systemic racism and the way blacks are seen and feared. Especially, black males, and our young black male children. They need to feel good about themselves. On a different note black people in general also need to see their actions trigger bad responses. Education for all Americans especially older generation.
82	Michelle	Tabois	
83	Phyllis	Faulk	
84	Tammy	Winton	
85	Shirley	Sweetwine	Justice for all.
86	Stan	Nelson	
87	Andrew	Williams	
88	Gia	Roberts	
89	Darryl	Sweetwine	
90	Yvonne	Glasgow	Stop racial inequities!
91	Victor	Franklin	
92	Michelle	Dennard	
93	Milton	Wilson	
94	Laurie	Jones-Oluku	
95	Lori	Franklin	It's about Everyone...
96	Barbara	Smith	
97	Linda	Leavell	
98	Luke	Washington	
99	Kevin	Richardson	
100	Audrey Bella	Langston	

Things don't appear to be getting better between black/brown/red and white race. But it seems the sin of the white man's forefathers has entered the heart of their descendants. The police force seems to be expressing the deep hatred that continues to wreck havoc on this country against the black, brown and red race. God is not mocked the Bible says "whatsoever a man soweth that he shall also reap. The white man needs to repent of its racial hatred and thereby be healed by God and receive peace for his life.

101	Maurice	McCoy
102	Daryl	Johnson
103	Nellie	Clory
104	Janice	Thomas
105	Greg	Spearman
106	Ernestine	Dickinson
107	Tony	Siplin
108	Rosa	Webster
109	Steven	Blackstone II
110	Martha	Gannon
111	Neshia	Henry
112	CELINA	BANKS
113	Deborah	Thompson
114	Iretha	Reed
115	Arella	Jones
116	Kehlani	Jones
117	Solomon	Goings
118	Brenda	Waters
119	Sonya	White
120	Delores	Cole
121	Leroy	Carolina
122	Francine	Lawson
123	Lavinia	Gardner
124	Shannon	Thigpen
125	Kaila	Gardner
126	Diane	Stevens
127	Anita	Stewart
128	Eric	Williams
129	Lysaundra	Solomon

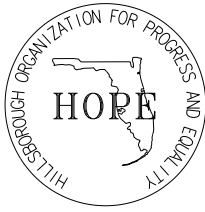
We need to stop spreading hate! Racism spreads hate against people of color! Which should be unacceptable world wide!

Always for a good cause

130	Chovonne	Williams	
131	Michael	Fields	
132	Brenda	Phillips	
133	Nigel	Thomas Sr.	
134	lucy	white	
135	Boisy	Waiters	
136	Jason	Fisher	
137	Karen	Rudder	
138	Johnny	Graham	Racism is a public health crisis.
139	Regenia	Dixon	
140	RAVEL	Kerr	
141	Gladys	Permuy	
142	Stephanie	Love	
143	Barbara	Everett	
144	Rhonda	Davis	
145	Jacqueline	Graham	It is way past due to address these issues for what they are
146	Joanell	Lawson	
147	Kim	Charles	
148	Sabrina	Shirley	
149	MAUREEN	GOINS	
150	Bernetta	Carter	
151	Jawan	Ayer-cole	
152	Kim	Mcdonald	
153	Walinda	MCKNIGHT-GREEN	Racism is the absence of love for all humankind. We are created as God's masterpiece and should treat each other as such.
154	Tekeisha	Zimmerman	
155	Ebun	Grimes	
156	Angie	Fields	
157	Rodney	Coffield	
158	Audrey Sullivan	Moore	
159	Doris	Scott	
160	Stacy	Ransom	
161	Chloe	Coney	
162	Terita	Peterson	

163	Jo Ann	Blount	
164	Erica	Williams	
165	Michele	Way	Racism spill over to the creation of poverty, lack of health care, housing etc all lead to stress and public health problems.
166	Delores	Mathews	
167	Delicia	Lucas	
168	Lester	Johnson	
169	Sunsiray	Turner	
170	Doris	Ashley	Absolutely agree!!!
171	Michele	Freeman	
172	Iowana	Whitman-Tims	
173	Janice	Jewett	
174	Patrina	McKenzie	
175	Marjorie	Griffith	
176	Gregory	Pierre	Urging you to declare racism is a public health crisis AND move forward with actions to address the issue. Thank you!
177	D	Mays	
178	Leeandrew	Watkins	
179	Neemie	C.	
180	Henry	English	
181	Janette	Spencer-Davis	Name Racism as a public health crisis🙏
182	Joann	Davis	
183	maxine	Young	
184	Valerie	Barnes	
185	Sophia	Douglas	
186	Donna	Eccleston	This is more than a crisis, it is a sin before GOD. Everyone matters and should be treated with respect and love. This must be address as a nation.
187	Tara	Jackson	
188	Derrick	Jackson	
189	Artie	Fryer	
190	Desiree	Jackson	
191	Robert	Boileau	
192	Mary	Wolgemuth	

Yes. Racism is an epidemic evil which, along with the pernicious and persistent, damage and impediments. it puts our socio-economic culture in distress, as well as poisons and delays commercial and education advancement. Racism is indeed a PUBLIC HEALTH issue. Racism adversely affects social determinants of health.



**HILLSBOROUGH ORGANIZATION FOR
PROGRESS AND EQUALITY Inc.**

5103 N. Central Avenue Tampa, FL 33603
813-221-HOPE (4673)
www.HillsboroughHOPE.org

August 19, 2020

Hillsborough County Commissioners:

The Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality, HOPE, joins with the Justice Ministry of Bible-Based Fellowship Church, Carrollwood and other community leaders in calling on you as our County Commissioners to declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis.

Currently, there is a public outcry for an overarching examination of deeply embedded racism within our community. This makes it an opportune time for the County to address the problem of systemic racism with empathy and compassion for all in our community. Since HOPE has a 32-year history of working for justice, fairness, and equity in Hillsborough County, we join this effort to declare Racism a Public Health Crisis.

Therefore, we ask the Board of County Commissioners to join others in our country who have made this declaration and committed to address the systemic structural racism that prevents us from achieving health and quality of life for all.

We submit this letter of support for a Hillsborough County Resolution declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis.

Respectfully,

Rev. Anthony C. White

Rev. Anthony White
HOPE Co-President
Pastor, Bible-Based Fellowship Church

Pastor Brad Cassell

Pastor Brad Cassell
HOPE Co-President
Pastor, Tampa First 7th-Day Adventist Church

And additional HOPE Board Members:

Fr. John Tapp, HOPE Vice President, Pastor, Nativity Catholic Church
Rev. Dr. Bernice Powell Jackson, Pastor, First United Church of Tampa
Pastor Enrique Brooks, Pastor, New Smyrna Full Gospel Cathedral Church
Rev. Gabriel Morgan, Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church
Rev. Paul Buster, Pastor, New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Alton McGriff, Pastor, Trinity CME Church
Sherre Henley, St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Arlene Aranha, St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church
Robert Boileau, Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa
Sandra Mitchell, Victory AME Church
Cynthia Jones, Allen Temple AME Church
Lois Price, First United Church of Tampa
Bommi Theodore, St. Peter Catholic Church
Ann Pointer, Hyde Park UMC Church
Antionette Davis, Bible-Based Fellowship Church
Char Lerch, Nativity Catholic Church
John O'Keeffe, The Islamic Community of Tampa
Candy Gale, Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa
Sharon Ladson, Mt. Zion AME Church – Port Tampa
Carol Harlow, St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

USF Health

August 13, 2020

Rev. Anthony C. White
Lead Pastor
Bible-Based Fellowship Church
4811 Ehrlich Road
Tampa, FL 33624

Dear Rev. White:

I am delighted to support the efforts of the Justice Ministry at Bible-Based Fellowship Church, Carrollwood, to have the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners declare systemic racism a public health crisis. Over three decades, scholarly analysis and public opinion in the United States have placed systemic racism at the focal point of ethnic and racial inequities in health and health care.

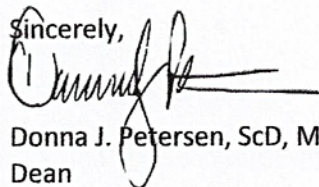
Our important work in health messaging informs us that all people understand and make sense of the world through images and stories – narratives – that connect issues and actions to values. The declaration that Bible-Based espouses—racism as a public health crisis - will help create a narrative that challenges deeply held cultural perspectives about population health and powerfully influences public policy decisions.

Public policy decisions contribute to the conditions for health; therefore, it is essential to advance narratives that support efforts for health and health equity. This declaration of systemic racism as a public health crisis will help create an environment in which all sectors of government — including education, health care, housing, transportation, budgets and taxes, economic development, social services, criminal justice, etc. can address health inequities by eliminating systemic racism policies and practices.

The USF College of Public Health continues its commitment to address systemic racism as a public health crisis in preparing its students, providing opportunities for faculty development and growth and by policies and procedures that assure that people of color are recruited, admitted, retained and promoted. The detrimental effects of systemic racism on the public's health are addressed in the curriculum and opportunities for experiential learning in addressing this issue are afforded to all faculty and students. With the increased awareness that is now prevalent, a systemic and comprehensive review of policies, procedures and scholarship opportunities is taking place.

I wish you the best in this significant endeavor. Please feel free to contact me as you move forward to have us join cities and counties from 20 states in declaring systemic racism a public health crisis.

Sincerely,



Donna J. Petersen, ScD, MHS, CPH
Dean

Dean's Office - College of Public Health

University of South Florida | 13201 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, MDC 56 | Tampa, FL 33612-3805
813-974-6603 | <https://health.usf.edu/publichealth>

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.

**Ron DeSantis**

Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD

State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

July 9, 2020

Dear Rev. White:

RE: Bible-Based Fellowship Church, Carrollwood

Thank you for engaging us around racism and public health. We agree there is data to support your position.

The Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County has an Office of Health Equity which works to reduce health inequities related to racial and ethnic disparities. Their work is broad and includes ensuring access to community dental and family planning services, working on safe sleep initiatives to reduce the black/white infant mortality gap, and actively engaging with community based organizations around issues such as food insecurity, community safety and transportation. The OHE is in the process of finalizing a health equity profile, which we look forward to sharing with you when complete (anticipated by the end of this month).

While we do not have the ability to initiate a resolution, we are available for consultation as you work on this issue.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Holt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Douglas Holt, MD

Director, Florida Department of Health - Hillsborough

Florida Department of Health – Hillsborough County

Office of the Director

P.O. Box 5135

Tampa, FL 33675-5135

PHONE: (813) 307-8000 • FAX: (813) 272-6984

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Public Health Accreditation Board