

Resolution: Racism is a Public Health Emergency

January 23, 2021

Submitted by Jana Lynn Granillo

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and economic disruption have exposed systemic racism, inequities and negatively impacted communities of color; and^{1, 2.}

WHEREAS, racism impacts the social determinants of health such as: socioeconomic status, education, neighborhood and physical environment, employment, social support networks, health outcomes, and access to health care; and

WHEREAS, Arizona COVID-19 rates are high and dangerous to all residents^{3.};

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Arizona Democratic Party hereby concur with nationwide declarations that racism constitutes a public health emergency and will condemn racist practices that impact the safety and public health of marginalized communities in Arizona; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Arizona Democratic Party will commit to eliminating race-based health disparities, improving health outcomes in communities of color, and eradicating systemic racism.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Arizona Democratic Party will support efforts to:

- 1) Remedy the impact of COVID-19 to our indigenous communities^{3.}
- 2) Include immigrants in COVID-19 financial and healthcare relief efforts^{4, 5.}
- 3) Prioritize essential workforce in legislation, policy, planning and funding^{5, 6.}
- 4) Expand Medicaid and ensure all residents have access to healthcare services^{5.}

1. Cochella, CA, City Council passes resolution declaring racism a public health crisis, 22 July 2020, [ITEM-Attachment-001-35290bf599444160b0036120d4912ef2.pdf \(usgovcloudapi.net\)](https://www.usgovcloudapi.net/ITEM-Attachment-001-35290bf599444160b0036120d4912ef2.pdf)

2. Deidre McPhillips. "COVID-19's Tragic Effect on American Indians: A State-by-State Analysis." U.S. News & World Report, 7 Oct 2020, <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/articles/2020-10-07/a-state-by-state-analysis-of-the-imp-act-of-covid-19-on-native-americans>. Accessed 21 Dec 2020.

3. David Baker, "Arizona has highest rate of COVID-19 spread in the nation, AZ Family." 11 Dec 2020, https://www.azfamily.com/news/continuing_coverage/coronavirus_coverage/arizona-has-highest-rate-of-covid-19-spread-in-the-nation/article_355ab83c-3bfd-11eb-a0cd-5f61070a2e3e.html

4. Jen Fifield and Alison Steginbach, "Federal court: Undocumented immigrant should be eligible for Phoenix's housing COVID-19 relief funds." Arizona Republic, 9 Dec 2020. <https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2020/12/09/court-noncitizens-eligible-phoenixs-housing-coronavirus-aid/3872037001/>. Accessed 21 Dec 2020

5. Georgetown University Health Policy Institute, Center for Children and Families, COVID-19 and Immigrant Health, [COVID-19 and Immigrant Health – Center For Children and Families \(georgetown.edu\)](https://www.georgetown.edu/health-policy-institute/center-for-children-and-families/covid-19-and-immigrant-health) Accessed 21 Dec 2020.

6. American Immigrant Council, Immigrants in Arizona: [immigrants in arizona.pdf \(americanimmigrationcouncil.org\)](https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/policy/immigrants-in-arizona)

Accessed 21 Dec 2020.

