



MARCH, 2021

STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WITH FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES

Every day, the grassroots leadership of communities defend and protect their neighborhoods and lands from the oppressive systems that undermine their safety from toxins, emissions, and the effects of climate change. **To those leaders and communities, we commit to stand in resistance with you!** Our solidarity is grounded in a joint commitment to justice and a shared vision for a new economy committed to protecting everybody's health and to building fair and equitable opportunities for all.

A just transition must take into account issues of environmental justice, which are critical to forming a path to cancer prevention. Cancer is intricately linked to issues of racial, environmental, and economic justice. How can we imagine reducing the country's cancer burden when social injustice systemically excludes frontline communities from the decision-making that affects their health and wellbeing, leaving them to carry the heaviest burden of environmental harm? Systems perpetuating racism, social injustice, and inequality are at the root of an American economy that increases cancer risk disproportionately for Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities.



It's increasingly clear that this moment must be a turning point. Our work to build back better must actively dismantle existing disparities while also shifting us away from an economic model that drives toxic exposures. With so much work to do, it becomes even more vital that we look to community-led solutions, such as building a regulatory framework that addresses the multiple sources of industrial pollution that impact Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities.

Simultaneously, we must invest in workforce development and the research needed to stimulate a sustainable, green chemistry-based economy.

We call on the Biden-Harris Administration to use executive power to advance these solutions so that we may overcome the multi-generational systemic barriers to opportunity. We seek to promote a new economic model that reduces toxic exposures for all. By implementing protective, science-based regulations, holding corporations accountable for their actions, and developing new economic opportunities through green and sustainable chemistry, we can reduce everyone's cancer burden. **We can, and we must, secure the health and wellbeing of present generations for future generations.**

With respect and support,

- Zero Breast Cancer (CA)
- Carmi Orenstein, Concerned Health Professionals of New York (NY)
- Danielle Ramos, California Department of Public Health (CA)
- Debra Erenberg, Cancer Free Economy (CT)
- Heather Sarantis, Advocate (CA)
- Karen Miller, Huntington Breast Cancer ACTION Coalition, Inc (NY)
- Rachel Stevens, Environmental Justice Clinic at Vermont Law School (VT)
- Saleem Chapman (PA)
- Sheryl Denker, Sheryl Denker Events + Design (CA)
- Susan Hills, RN, American Heart Association (CA)

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