

## Council on Black Health – Policy Workgroup

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Notes

- Review [Black Health Bill of Rights](#)
  - The Black Health Bill of Rights will act as guiding principles for the work of CBH. A thorough understanding of this document will provide direction on all initiatives from the Council.
  - The Council on Black Health is working to achieve the rights detailed in the seven articles of the Black Health Bill of Rights. The CBH Policy Workgroup should review and address policies that prevent us from achieving these goals.
- Declaring [Racism as a Public Health Crisis](#)
  - Georges Benjamin (or team member) will discuss the declaration of racism as a public health crisis with the CBH Board on May 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Some states have declared racism as a public health crisis, but there is a need for guidance on next steps. The Council is well situated to provide technical assistance for developing strong position statements, examining policies rooted in racism, and providing guidance on issues that affect Black individuals.
- Requests for Information / Submitting Public Comments
  - CBH can be involved in federal policy by regularly submitting public comments to regulations.gov. This activity would allow the Council to have an official stance on topic areas that are related to the Black Health Bill of Rights and the Council's vision and mission.
    - This is a potential activity for the Policy Workgroup.
  - RFIs of interest
    - [Methods and Leading Practices for Advancing Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through Government](#)
    - [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\) \(0920-1061\) Revision 2021-05117](#)
  - Note – NIH also has RFIs that may be of interest
- General Policy Workgroup Updates
  - New members of the Board may be interested in joining workgroups
  - Policy Workgroup Chair will be Kristen Cooksey Stowers, with support from Keisha Pollack Porter

### Next Steps

- Continuing to think of the role and activities of the CBH policy workgroup. Current ideas include developing model policies specifically for the Black community, and fulfilling RFI requests for public comment
- Adrienne and Melicia to look into nonprofit 501c3 lobbying rules