



## Executive Summary

The **Black Leadership Council** (BLC) is a San Francisco-based collection of leaders across varied sectors – public, civic, and private - that seeks to improve conditions for the Black/African American population in the SF Bay Area, and across California. We do this by leading strategic initiatives across sustained economic, legislative, and community engagement efforts that harness the best thinking, practices, and ideas for Black Prosperity in the region and the state.

### Goals include:

- Advancing positive change and healing through policy reforms and community-informed legislation strategies
- Identifying and supporting local, regional, and statewide solutions to help eradicate barriers to economic prosperity; improve health disparities and propel the socio-cultural advancement of Black communities in California
- Convening an array of experts across disciplines and sectors including health, academia, philanthropy, business, faith, and community-impact organizations, using research and best-practices to help elevate leadership that helps realize solutions for Black communities in our state

### Our Agenda

Beginning in 2019 and working during monumental challenges facing the Black community in 2020 such as COVID-19 and the nation's reckoning with structural racism, BLC leaders invested a myriad of resources towards local efforts aimed at addressing some of the most critical needs for health and wellbeing in San Francisco's Black communities. After the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May 2020, the Council decided to do more. The concept of a sweeping piece of legislation emerged to address the needs for a comprehensive set of systemic reforms to the state's healthcare, economic, housing, and education systems that drive so much of the racial disparity and economic depression of Black Californians. Hence, the California Black Prosperity Agenda is a collection of large scale systemic reforms to the state's complicated set of macro-economic and social structures that must drastically be reformed to improve outcomes for Black Californians. The Council seeks to have comprehensive legislation introduced in 2021.

**The Black Prosperity Agenda entails the following measures to focus on bold, cross-cutting issues and system-reforms across Wealth, Health, Education and Housing:**

#### 1. Banking and Home Ownership

- Consumer, educational and Small Business lending reforms
- Lowered home loan rates
- Expand access to down payment assistance and mortgage subsidies
- Reversal of Redlining practices and impacts
- Student loan forgiveness

**2. Streamline and Expand Public Benefits**

- Eliminate public benefits cliffs
- Establish Children’s Savings Accounts

**3. Eliminate all court-imposed debt tied to poverty/inability to pay & healthcare costs**

**4. Establish “healthcare home” for all to access critical and preventive care for physical and behavioral health**

**5. Support remediation of food deserts**

**6. Support Financial health and asset building strategies**

**7. Establish streamlined employment pathways for the Black unemployed population**

**8. Enact equitable reforms within the state’s public education system to accelerate success for Black students towards enhanced social and economic outcomes**

**Our Members:**

The BLC Leadership Council is led by 3 Co-Chairs, and has a membership of over 50 constituents and contributors across the Bay Area.

Brett Andrews – CEO, PRC

Kelly Dearman – Executive Director, San Francisco In Home Supportive Services Public Authority

Nicole Lindler – Community Leader

Tomiquia Moss – CEO, All Home

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