

May 1, 2020

Dear Chicago-Based Healthcare Provider CEO,

As you know, the majority of COVID-19 related deaths in Chicago are people of color. Though racial disparity in healthcare is a historic and ongoing problem in Chicago, the intensity and immediate life and death impact of disparity during the COVID-19 crisis calls for an urgent and forceful response from all of us.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot has established the Racial Equity Rapid Response initiative – a data-driven, community-based, and community-driven mitigation of COVID-19 illness and death in Black and LatinX communities. **We are asking for your partnership in this effort** – as providers, we are on the front lines of this pandemic and play a critical role in this response.

The Racial Equity Rapid Response team has identified a number of high impact strategies to support our Black and LatinX communities. One priority strategy is for all Chicago-based providers to proactively reach out to our Black and LatinX patients over 65 years old and conduct a wellness check.

**Your participation is critical to ensure that this outreach is comprehensive.** We have developed a set of suggested practices (attached), which are intended to help you immediately launch an outreach effort or provide additional support if you have already begun. After reviewing the suggested practices, we ask that you provide the following information to [info@westsideunited.org](mailto:info@westsideunited.org) by May 8<sup>th</sup>:

- Confirmation that your organization will participate
- Name and contact information of your organization's lead for this effort
- Initial round of data for those that have already begun this effort (we will ask for weekly updates beginning May 15<sup>th</sup>).

Best,

Co-chairs of the Racial Equity Rapid Response Team – Provider Working Group

Dr. David Ansell

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Dr. Selwyn Rogers

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