

# The People's Platform

The People's Platform is a manifesto which captures the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of our intersectional, intergenerational movement for racial equity and gender justice. We are guided by an unapologetic commitment to human rights, grassroots leadership, and the collective liberation of low-income people and communities of color.

## Our Values

We are a **powerful movement** that respects the rights of all communities to exercise their freedom.

We believe for our movements to flourish, we must be **guided by the courage of those who fought before and beside us.**

**We must put love at the center of all we do** on behalf of and in service to social justice and racial equity.

**We prioritize the leadership of people closest to the pain,** because they are also closest to the solutions. Their direct experience with the systems, institutions, and practices that limit opportunity is the expertise required to push beyond reform to transformative change.

**Our ongoing struggle will build power** and promote healing, self-determination, unity, and liberation so that everyone can live as their full authentic selves.

## Our Vision

We are grounded in our shared dreams for the world we want to live in.

**We are building a world...**

- **Rooted in unity, equity, equality, freedom, and justice**
- **Based on mutual support, strength, leadership, and love**
- **Where our whole selves are valued**
- **That is safe and fosters courage**



# Declaration of Rights

ALLIANCE FOR  
Boys and Men of Color

1

**We have the right to a safe and healthy childhood, and to age with dignity.** Every child should have the right to a healthy birth, the protection and care of a primary caregiver, a developmentally rich childhood and adolescence, and the right to grow up safely into adulthood. Parents should have the right to see their children grow into adulthood, and all humans need the right to a dignified adulthood and elderhood.

2

**We have the right to protect and celebrate our families, cultures, and ancestry on our own terms.** This includes the right to consistent connection with siblings and kin, right to multi-generational connection with elders, and right to define our own families. Our culture and ancestry are sources of strength and power and we have the right to connection to our ancestors, right to know our lineage and family history, our cultural traditions, and the right to learn and speak our languages.

3

**We have the right to be safe and free from fear and violence, and to live lives filled with love and connection.** We have the right to true community safety which includes an environment free from state violence and arbitrary arrest, incarceration, surveillance, and deportation. We have the right to counsel in all civil or criminal proceedings including immigration-related matters and the right to be free from community and family violence. We have the right to a web of strong relationships and supportive community.

4

**We have the right to an education that unlocks our full potential.** This includes our right to a pre-k, elementary, and secondary education that prepares us for life and teaches us our true history. We also have the right to high-quality vocational training and a post-secondary education that prepares us for successful careers and global citizenry.

5

**We have the right to safe, stable housing, and clean, healthy environments.** This includes our right to remain in our communities despite threats of displacements as well as a right to geographic mobility. We claim our right to clean air, safe drinking water, and a healthy and ecologically balanced environment. We have a right to connection to the land and a duty to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations.

6

**We have the right to be healthy, to heal, and we are worthy of forgiveness and redemption.** We have the right to physical, mental, spiritual, and socioemotional health, healthy food, physical activity, preventative and curative health care, and a range of healing modalities including culturally rooted forms of healing. We have the right to make mistakes, learn from our mistakes, and the right to restorative opportunities.

7

**We have the right to fully participate in a just economy that values and invests in the needs of the most vulnerable people and communities.** We believe it is our right to fully participate in economic systems, pursue employment opportunities without discrimination, acquire ownership of land and businesses and accumulate savings and wealth. We also believe that communities of color have the right to reparations and other forms of compensation, to account for our exclusion from economic systems that created intergenerational wealth.

8

**We have the right to have our full humanity represented in media and culture.** We have the right to be represented in media and public discourse in our full complexity and humanity and the right to tell our own stories.

9

**We have the right to self-determination and the power needed to pursue our hopes, dreams, and aspirations.** It is the right of Indigenous peoples to have their treaties recognized, observed, and enforced. All people have the right to be free from discrimination based on gender, race/nationality, immigration status, sexuality, class, ability, zip code, and conviction history; the right to gender expression; and the right to be free from limiting conceptions of masculinity and femininity.

10

**We have the right to protest and dissent, and to not be silenced in the face of injustice.** We claim our right to protest and dissent. We own our right to speak out, challenge and disrupt the status quo, and engage in direct action that brings attention to and ends injustice and furthers our individual and collective freedom.

[www.allianceforbmoc.org](http://www.allianceforbmoc.org)