

Racial Equity Agenda

Last Updated on October 12, 2020

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Building an inclusive economy with equal opportunity for all hinges on advancing racial equity in all aspects of society and addressing the damage caused by systemic racism. As the chamber of commerce for the Greater Louisville region, GLI will continue to advocate for public policies that will move our community closer to achieving racial equity in key focus areas such as law enforcement and criminal justice, barriers to work, education, and health care, and economic development and land development.

GLI's members lead the organization's approach to taking positions on public policy issues and setting the Chamber's legislative priorities. Hundreds of business leaders from Greater Louisville volunteer on issue advisory committees, task forces, the Public Policy Council, and the GLI Board of Directors to discuss and vet key issues and determine GLI's public policy positions and priorities.

GLI is committed to advocating for public policies to advance racial equity at the local, state, and federal levels.

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

- Rebuild trust between law enforcement and local communities, such as improved transparency and accountability measures
- Update Louisville's collective bargaining agreement between the city and LMPD and take steps to improve local department culture, accountability, and civilian oversight of local policing
- Increase and support implicit racial bias training for law enforcement
- Utilize alternative sentencing and restorative justice practices for offenders more frequently and equitably
- Reform Kentucky's cash-bail system
- Raise the felony theft threshold and explore raising the thresholds for other felony charges
- Consider legislative solutions to allow Kentuckians with felony records to regain their right to vote

Barriers to Work, Education, and Healthcare

- Provide increased educational and training programs for incarcerated individuals
- Remove barriers to higher education funding and scholarships for incarcerated individuals and individuals with felony records
- Further streamline and expand expungement laws in Kentucky and Indiana
- Reward education, training, treatment, and employment in probation and parole systems
- Promote successful re-entry practices and second chance employment
- Oppose legislation that would discourage diverse talent from relocating to our region

Barriers to Work, Education, and Healthcare Cont'd

- Invest in workforce training and re-training initiatives and ensure these programs are connected and accessible to all community members
- Invest in child care, full-day kindergarten, and early childhood success through state and federal programs
- Fully fund public education and higher education
- Dedicate resources to removing barriers to education for students and families, including support for Family Resource and Youth Services Centers
- Design student assignment strategies that balance family choice with ensuring diversity in schools
- Develop employment and training opportunities tailored to the unique needs of homeless populations
- Fund homeless shelters and access to social workers, mental health services, and substance use disorder treatment
- Prioritize state and federal funding for public transportation to ensure access to employment, food, health care, education, and housing for all
- Eliminate health disparities through policies that support positive health outcomes and access to quality care in marginalized communities
- Support the development of digital infrastructure in underserved areas of Greater Louisville
- Attract and retain diverse teaching talent in our K-12 schools
- Establish Education Opportunity Accounts in Kentucky and authorize funding for charter schools

Economic Development and Land Development

- Empower and connect minority-owned businesses and enterprises to government contracting and business opportunities
- Increase government funding and incentives to support access to capital and programming for minority entrepreneurs and small business owners
- Remove barriers to the development of affordable housing in all parts of our community and support developers pursuing these types of projects
- Establish a state-level affordable housing tax credit program, expand the federal New Markets Tax Credit, and support business development in Opportunity Zones
- Continue funding state and federal brownfield remediation programs to support land redevelopment in underserved areas



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