



# CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK, INC.

## CLINIC Statement on Racial Injustice

CLINIC wants to acknowledge, in both awareness and action, that the long fight for racial justice and equity *including* combating anti-Black racism is not over. As an organization, we commit to take action on this critically important issue.

Founded on the instruction of Catholic social teaching to care for each other, CLINIC's network of advocates for immigrant rights serves people from around the world who also suffer from racism and exclusion. They face many of the same systemic problems: over-reliance on arrest and detention in dehumanizing conditions; insurmountable government fees and lack of access to due process and legal counsel.

CLINIC will continue to carry the charge of addressing racism within our own organization and in the world of immigration. We can no longer say that we are unaware that we work side-by-side with colleagues who feel racism within our own organization and out in the world at large. We have started internally to do all we can – as individuals and as an organization – to make sure that every person of color at CLINIC has equal choice and equal voice. We are a work in progress.

We will focus on what we can do internally to better understand how racism manifests in our organization and what steps we will take towards positive change. Additionally, we will consider how we as a social justice organization will recognize our role in failing to truly challenge a system that excludes Black immigrants.

We will spotlight different immigrant experiences and take intentional steps to highlight the Black immigrants we represent. We will use all outreach platforms and opportunities at our disposal to ensure that the stories we share and images we display are representative of all cultures and races we serve, making sure to include Black immigrants where we have not in the past.

As advocates working in a social justice organization, we must speak out against racism committed against our immigrant communities. We are doing the hard work to recognize where we fall down and where we can rise up, as we work to fulfill CLINIC's mission to protect the rights and promote the dignity of all immigrants.

Let's do the right work to make sure that we clearly see the divine in each other.