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**EMAIL TO:**

**City Leader(s)**

Dear [CITY LEADER’S NAME],

I am emailing to ask you to consider introducing and supporting a resolution to declare racism a public health crisis and commit to action.

[IN 1 OR 2 SENTENCES INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND STATE WHY YOU CARE ABOUT THIS ISSUE]

Disparities in health are well-documented between whites and Blacks, Latinos, and other people of color. For example, Latinos are nearly 1.5 times more likely to die from [diabetes or liver disease](https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/hispanic-health/index.html) than whites. African Americans are twice as likely to die from [heart disease](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p0502-aa-health.html) than whites.

But the problem is not one of skin color. Blacks and Latinos are not facing higher death rates from diabetes or COVID-19 because of their race/ethnicity.

The problem is racism. Racism is a public health crisis.

Blacks, Latinos, and other people of color are dying at higher rates because systemic racial/ethnic injustices created social inequities in housing, transportation, education, healthcare, and public safety. These injustices are entrenched in the departments, policies, and practices you oversee.

**That’s why I am asking you to consider a resolution to declare racism a public health crisis and commit to specific actions to dismantle it.**

A rising number of cities across the country have already made this declaration and commitment for action, and dozens more are discussing it. You can read about some of them at: <https://salud.to/ohiores>. A customizable resolution can be found at: <https://salud.to/sampleres>.

For example, some cities are creating working groups to promote racial equity while also committing to training the workforce on implicit bias and systematically looking at policies and practices that impact the conditions in which people live, learn, work, and play.

**What will you do toward sponsoring a resolution to declare racism a public health crisis?**

I have contacted [NAMES OF PEOPLE YOU EMAILED OR SPOKE WITH IN STEP 1], and they are in agreement. We would be happy to discuss this issue with you further.

Thank you,

[NAME]