

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Black Washingtonians have a rich history of investing their time, talent, treasure, and care for Washington's communities; and

WHEREAS, historically, philanthropy by the Black church and other Black organizations such as sororities, fraternities, businesses, and neighborhoods has been imperative in the fight against the oppression and institutional racism facing Black people in America; and

WHEREAS, anti-Black racism has purposely ignored the Black communities' contributions to philanthropy, and anti-Black racism has persistently undermined opportunities for Black people to build prosperity over generations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Washington is committed to becoming an anti-racist state; and

WHEREAS, moving toward Black abundance calls for embracing Black philanthropy's values of communal accountability and collective responsibility, and requires intentional, significant investment in Black communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland and the Pan-African Women's Philanthropy Network established Black Philanthropy Month in August 2011 as an annual celebration to illuminate the ingenuity and transformative impact of Black generosity and promote increased investment in Black communities; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 10th anniversary of Black Philanthropy Month, the theme for 2021 is "TENacity: Making Equity Real."; and

WHEREAS, Black philanthropists and allies in Washington recommend our state acknowledge this inclusive opportunity to celebrate the legacy of Black giving and inspire increased investment in Black communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim August 2021, to be

Black Philanthropy Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 29th day of July, 2021

Governor Jay Inslee

