



The Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health (MOASH) stands in solidarity with protesters all over the country and world fighting police violence, racism, and demanding justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and the countless other Black people murdered by police.

MOASH cannot commit to the work of our mission without engaging in the movement against White supremacy and state violence, and we call our supporters to take action alongside us. We recognize the racist history of sexual and reproductive health work and movements, and that dismantling systems of oppression is the only way to shift conditions and achieve reproductive justice. The reproductive justice movement was created by and for Black women and women of color who were excluded from the mainstream reproductive health movement. [SisterSong](#) defines Reproductive Justice as “the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.” We cannot have safe and sustainable communities while police violence and White supremacy exist. Justice and liberation for all youth, especially Black youth, requires an end to state violence and the systems that allow it to exist.

MOASH is committing to the following actions. With each, we’re providing examples of ways you can support moving forward these broader actions. We ask you to join us by utilizing your resources, connections, skills, and privilege to determine how you can be most helpful in this movement. Listen to and center Black voices and leadership.

- **Supporting the ongoing protests.** You can help organize and attend protests going on in your area. You can support protesters’ efforts by providing supplies like food, water, and masks to keep people fed, hydrated, and safe. You can donate to organizations and businesses that are supporting protest efforts.
- **Holding leaders and institutions accountable.** We support [Movement 4 Black Lives](#)’ demand to “divest resources away from policing in local budgets and reallocate those resources to healthcare, housing and

education” and other non-violent means of ensuring public safety. Ask institutions to reassess their contracts with police. Contact your local officials and representatives and add your name to petitions that call for justice in response to police brutality and reparations and liberation for survivors of violence.

- **Donating to local, state, and national organizations and funds focusing on racial justice.** Give money to funds that focus on bail, legal, and medical expenses for survivors of police violence and protesters. Donate to Black-led organizations that are working on ending police brutality, reforming our criminal justice system, and ending racial discrimination in our schools, healthcare systems, and other institutions. You can encourage your networks to donate or organize donation matches. Here are a few options you can support today:
 - [Michigan Solidarity Bail Fund](#)
 - [Movement for Black Lives](#)
 - [Black Youth Project 100](#)
 - [Detroit Justice Center](#)
 - [We the People](#)
 - [Trans Sistas of Color Project](#)
- **Educating ourselves.** If you are a non-Black person, do not ask Black people to educate you. Read books, articles, blogposts, and critical essays and commentary from Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) authors on race, racism, anti-racist activism, and police violence. Seek out trainings and webinars on racial justice for both personal and professional development.
- **Speaking up to educate and mobilize others.** If you are a White person, you must engage in conversations with friends, family, and others about racial justice and challenge racist attitudes and behaviors [at all levels](#). You are called to demand action and social change from all systems and communities in which you participate, including your workplace, your school district, your local government, etc. Share news and information and prompt others to engage in anti-racist efforts with you, taking your cues of action and messaging from BIPOC organizers and activists. Uplift the message that [Black Lives Matter](#) through signs, hashtags, photo frames, posts, and more. Have discussions with the

young people in your life about race and racial justice, as research shows that they are [not too young to talk about race](#) and doing so promotes the development of positive attitudes toward race and diversity.

- **Checking in on others and taking care of ourselves.** If you are a White person, you can offer support to friends, coworkers, and/or the youth you work with by listening or doing acts of service (running errands, making food, taking on work tasks, etc.). If you are an employer, offer paid time off to support your staff's mental health. Engage in self-care practices like rest and ask for support for your physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.

We consider these actions as only a starting point; in the days and weeks to come, we will continue discussions and develop and share strategies, both internal and external, for how MOASH can work to dismantle systems of White supremacy. **We hold ourselves accountable to this work and we will continue to share how we are advancing racial justice as an organization as part of that accountability.**

In solidarity,
The MOASH Staff and
Board of Directors