



HARC Statement of Solidarity

The Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative (HARC) stands in solidarity with those speaking out against our country's pervasive history of racial violence, including the recent killings of George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor by police and individuals. We join the voices of many other organizations and funders, including the [National Home Visiting Resource Center](#) (NHVRC), the [Society for Prevention Research](#), the [Heising-Simons Foundation](#) and the [WT Grant Foundation](#), who have also expressed their support to fight injustice, inequity and systemic racism.

Our colleagues at the NHVRC have provided a list of resources that can help home visitors understand the impact of racism on children and families and assist in important conversations on this topic. We encourage you to view them: <https://nhvrc.org/statement-of-solidarity/>

As Deb Daro, a member of our leadership team has noted, a core value of research is that *"carefully crafted studies and their rigorous implementation contribute to more effective and efficient policies and interventions."* But at the same time *"these tools seem woefully inadequate to define our current reality, much less chart a fitting policy response."* We know that current research, no matter how well-intentioned, is rife with problems that perpetuate disparities and inequities including in the questions we ask, the measures we choose, and how we report our findings. We need to be far more intentional about identifying these disparities and we must commit to ensuring our research will address and not support ongoing inequities.

What is HARC doing to promote equity? At our last national meeting in early February, our National Advisory Council formally approved our Leadership Team's proposal to make equity a core theme of our work going forward. To that end, the concept of racism is an explicit feature of our Precision Paradigm. The Paradigm is our framework for research to broaden and strengthen home visiting's impacts by answering the question, What works best, for which families, in which contexts, why and how? Through this we can better include stakeholder voices throughout the project, select subpopulations not as a proxies but because of clear theories for differential effectiveness, and understand the drivers of inequities and outcomes.

Home visiting alone cannot eliminate social, economic, educational and health disparities. Still, as stakeholders we have an obligation to use research to assure that home visiting achieves its potential in establishing equity in the services it provides for the varied families it serves. This includes reflecting on our own professional field and recognizing that we can do much better in creating a more diverse field of home visiting researchers and promoting the work and the development of researchers of color.

In the coming year, we hope you join us in our work to advance our field's capacity for research to understand how structural and institutional racism affect home visiting services and impacts, and how we can, as a field, advance the higher goal of equity.