



BIDEN FIRST 100 DAYS PROGRESS REPORT

April 29, 2021

Shortly after their election, the National Urban League laid out a set of priorities for President Biden and Vice President Harris' first 100 days in office. We asked them to honor their campaign commitment to *build back better* and encouraged them to focus on key priorities of communities of color – and in particular the millions of African Americans and people of color who went to the polls for them.

We charged them with:

- Ensuring the new administration reflects the diversity of America;
- Fundamentally transforming the criminal justice system;
- Protecting and defending voting rights;
- Achieving economic parity for African Americans;
- Advancing equity in educational opportunities for all American children; and
- Promoting a healthier nation by prioritizing testing, treatments, and cures for covid-19 in communities of color

One hundred days in, and the report is good. President Biden and Vice President Harris, with the help of Senator Schumer and Speaker Pelosi, have had one of the most successful starts to an Administration and Congress in recent memory. With rare exception, the Administration is exceeding or meeting expectations across the National Urban League's priority areas.

Key Achievements in First 100 Days

Here are a few of the achievements during the first 100 days of the Biden Administration across our priority areas:

- *The new administration reflects the diversity of America*
 - Nominated and fought to confirm **diverse cabinet and subcabinet level officials.**
- *Fundamentally transform the criminal justice system*
 - Restored the meaningful use of federal pattern or practice investigations and lifted restrictions on the use of consent decrees to **hold police departments accountable for abuse.**
 - Took steps to **decrease mass incarceration** by declining to renew federal contracts with private prisons.

- *Protect and defend voting rights*
 - Put the entire federal government to work in **promoting and expanding access to voter registration and participation.**
- *Economic parity for African Americans*
 - Commit the whole of government to **reducing systemic barriers and affirmatively advancing equity, civil rights, racial justice, and equal opportunity** in agency decision-making, policies, and programs.
 - Combatting our nation's long history of housing and lending discrimination** against communities of color.
 - Setting a national standard by raising the minimum wage for **federal contractors to \$15 per hour.**
 - Investing in programs that **support minority small businesses** to ensure these businesses can survive the pandemic and ensuring they can rehire and retain workers by extending the employee retention credit.
 - Helping Americans remain in their homes through investments in homeowner counseling, providing rental assistance for those impacted by COVID-19, helping families pay their utility bills and **extending the eviction moratorium and mortgage forbearance programs.**
 - Provided **\$1400 in stimulus payments** to Americans earning under \$75K.
- *Equity in educational opportunities*
 - Unprecedented investments in Title I schools and higher education** to ensure children and young adults can recover from the learning loss experienced during the pandemic.
 - Set clear standards to ensure **schools are equipped to safely open their doors** to returning students.
 - Invested in free broadband and devices to ensure **students have access to digital learning in the home.**
- *A healthier nation by prioritizing access to health care, COVID-19 testing, treatments, and cures in communities of color*
 - Vaccinated over 200 million Americans**, more than doubling his goal, including in underserved communities.

- Increased access to health insurance to 800,000 Americans during a special Affordable Care Act sign up period.
- Lowered health premiums for 9 million Americans that buy health care on the Affordable Care Act exchanges.

Remaining work

We've seen aggressive progress across all areas, and the new infrastructure package promises to yield even more wins for the American people, but there is remaining work to be done. Throughout the rest of the year, the Administration must prioritize:

- Passing his robust infrastructure proposals**, which includes long overdue investments in American physical infrastructure and human infrastructure to create good, middle-class building jobs and help the nation recover from the pandemic;
- Police reform**, beginning with passing a strong George Floyd Justice in Policing Act;
- Voting reform**, beginning with passing the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act;
- A raise in the minimum wage to \$15** per hour for all workers and an elimination of the discriminatory tipped minimum wage;
- Closing the gender pay gap beginning with passing the Paycheck Fairness Act;
- Student loan debt relief** for the Americans who need it most;
- Making a sizable investment to ensure Americans have long-term access to **affordable broadband in the home**; and
- Continuing to ensure the Biden-Harris Administration reflects the **diversity of America at all levels of government** so that there is a pipeline of diverse leaders setting domestic, economic and foreign policy for the nation.