

Building Equity and Reproductive Justice into Our Program

Upstream recognizes the horrific history of eugenics in North Carolina and understands the importance of ensuring a system of care that supports patient autonomy. Our work focuses on training providers to offer patient-centered, non-coercive contraceptive care and health equity across our programming.

How we've incorporated reproductive justice and health equity into our program:

- Inducted reproductive justice advocates and scholars on our NC Advisory Committee
- Featured reproductive justice leaders and speakers in our Reproductive Life Planning Summit
- Signed the [LARC Statement of Principles](#) and use it as a guide to review and evolve our training and program curriculum in alignment with the reproductive justice framework.

We will continue to:

- Engage patients, stakeholders and reproductive justice organizations for feedback on our program and materials
- Highlight reproductive coercion and oppression in every agency training and in our implementation coaching work with staff and providers
- Actively help our agencies identify and reduce bias that could lead to coercive practices
- Support policy priorities that address racial disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes, reproductive coercion, and social determinants of health
- Engage with SisterSong for reproductive justice training for our staff
- Build partnerships that align with our mission and speak to equity and reproductive justice concerns.

To learn more:

View [Upstream's statement](#) on Reproductive Justice.

View our [Reproductive Coercion video](#), produced in house and shown at every Upstream training.

Watch [My Method, My Choice](#), created with patients from Upstream-trained healthcare providers.

Learn how we [support patient choice](#) when working with our partners.

Have additional questions about Upstream's equity approach?

Contact Jill Sergison, Strategic Policy Advisor, JSergison@upstream.org.