

Angela Baglione
Monroe - Rural Anti-Racism Action Group

The COVID-19 crisis has brought to light many instances of racial disparity across the United States, but none more stark than in healthcare and health outcomes. We have seen everywhere, but especially in Maine, the discrepancies between the proportion of Black Mainers and the proportion of Mainers with COVID who are Black. We cannot begin to address these issues without first knowing the facts, which is why collecting data is so important. By focusing on race in health data we collect, we can better address and serve the needs of all Mainers, and especially those most marginalized. We call our essential workers heroes without demonstrating the value of their lives by protecting them from COVID. It is past time for us to do better.