



## **Joint Society Statement on Diversity, Inclusion and Health Equity**

The Association of Black Cardiologists, American College of Cardiology, American Society of Echocardiography, American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, Heart Failure Society of America, Heart Rhythm Society, Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance, Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography, and The Society of Thoracic Surgeons are committed to advancing health equity regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status or geography and to expanding our efforts to support diversity, equity and inclusion in the cardiovascular profession.

In the United States, cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death, and Americans of African, Hispanic or Indigenous descent have disproportionately suffered worse outcomes with respect to life expectancy, disease burden and access to care. It is essential for our health care environment to reflect the diversity of our many communities to bridge the gap in health outcomes.

Patients and communities benefit from a diverse clinician workforce and deserve access to high-quality care regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status or geography. We will continue to work to fortify the clinician pipeline by ensuring it is representative of the unique needs of a diverse population while creating opportunities for clinicians to care for the communities they come from and for patients who share their race, ethnicity and/or life experiences. By establishing inclusive environments where different perspectives are valued, we can identify gaps in care delivery and encourage innovation, guiding us toward achieving our shared goal of optimal cardiovascular health nationwide.