



National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.

Manhattan Chapter

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The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

As the President of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women Manhattan Chapter, I appreciate the recognition of your recent misstatement regarding technology accessibility for Black children in the Bronx, and your retraction of those comments. While we recognize and value your commitment to expanding technology access, the initial remarks at the Milken Institute Global Conference highlighted ongoing perceptions that must be addressed.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time to emphasize the psychological well-being of our communities. It is critical to acknowledge that stereotypes and misstatements, especially from influential figures, can reinforce societal disparities and negatively impact the mental health of our youth. Such comments underscore the persistent challenge of ensuring equal technology access and educational opportunities for all children.

The Bronx Borough Office of Education, serving 365 schools, provides extensive educational services and has been making significant strides in integrating technology in classrooms. However, disparities in technology access remain a substantial barrier to educational equity. We urge your administration to prioritize and expand initiatives ensuring that every student has reliable access to necessary digital tools and internet connectivity.

To foster a better understanding of these challenges and efforts, we invite you to visit some of the Bronx schools. This will provide an opportunity to witness firsthand the advancements and ongoing needs in these educational environments. Furthermore, we propose an enhancement in state support for technological resources in schools, ensuring that all students, regardless of their background, can thrive in an increasingly digital world.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women Manhattan Chapter is committed to advocating for educational equity and stands ready to support and collaborate on initiatives that aim to improve access to technology for students in underserved communities.

We trust that your office will take this opportunity to strengthen efforts in bridging the digital divide, reaffirming a commitment to the future of all New York's children.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Manhattan Chapter, part of the broader non-profit organization dedicated to the empowerment of Black women and girls, advocates for critical issues impacting the African American community in areas such as health, education, and economic empowerment. Our chapter actively engages in local initiatives and partnerships to enhance opportunities and conditions for Black women and their families, promoting policies that ensure equity, justice, and inclusion.

With commitment to our community,

Nancy Victor Greene

Nancy Victor Greene, MHS, MPA
President, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.
Manhattan Chapter

Cc. All elected officials in New York State