

# I BE BLACK GIRL



## Mission

I Be Black Girl serves as a collective for Black women, femmes and girls to actualize their full potential to authentically be, through autonomy, abundance and liberation.

## Vision

We know that we are the energy and essence, and we envision a world where Black women, femmes and girls live wholly.

## Values

**Black Centric:** Black ALL. THE. TIME. We always work on behalf of, for and with Black women, femmes and girls - recognizing that there are gradients in our experiences and stories.

**Bold:** We are thought leaders that amplify the power and choice we hold as Black women, femmes and girls. We operate from truth, transparency and authenticity.

**Radical Imagination:** We influence spaces that were thought to be untouchable and build spaces that are for us - by us, lead the conversation, shape narratives and serve where, when and how we decide.

## HerStory

I Be Black Girl (IBBG) is a reproductive justice organization that leads with boldness, innovation and inspiration, actively creating a radical change-making culture that centers Black women, femmes and girls. Inspired by the work of bell hooks, Audre Lorde and other Black feminists and womanists, our organization provides transformational change at the intersections of gender and race.

# FOCUS AREAS

## Advocacy and Power Building

I Be Black Girl believes policy is a driver for change within our approach to reproductive justice. Policy has historically been weaponized against Black communities. As a result, we are committed to building Black political power to address the harm and chart a new experience of legislation that centers Black women, femmes and girls.

## Black Led Investments

Black women and femmes are at the helm of every social movement in our history, yet receive the least amount of resources and funding needed to do this integral work.

We know that traditional philanthropy was not created with or in the image of Black women; however, Black women have always been philanthropic.

The practice of Black women not being allowed to bring their whole selves into spaces of philanthropy while funding in the name of liberation has had lasting impacts. Throughout history, Black generosity and philanthropy have created their own tables of progress, especially to support Black futures, and I Be Black Girl is no different (Feminist Strategy).

## Birth Justice

Using a Collective Action Framework, I Be Black Girl is catalyzing a movement to disrupt the systems that perpetuate incidences of maternal morbidity, mortality and traumatic care experiences using strategies that center the voices, experiences and leadership of Black women and Black birthing people. We deserve to not just live through our birthing experiences but thrive in them.

## Economic Freedom

This country has spent countless decades depriving Black people of economic security, abundance and dignity, leading to a scarcity mindset rooted in injustice. Indicators like income gaps and lack of career development opportunities, among others, perpetuate a broken cycle limiting the likelihood of financial freedom. IBBG understands that while we live in a capitalist society, our priority is to abolish pay equity gaps and work to give Black women, femmes and girls the ability to live whole, abundant lives.

# IN THE NEWS AND REPORTS

## In The News

- [Op-Ed in Essence](#)
- [BusinessWeek](#)
- [Forbes](#)
- [Good Apple Awards](#)
- [KETV](#)
- [WOWT](#)
- [NOISE](#)
- [Omaha World Herald](#)

## Essence of Us Report

We are abstract, multifaceted beings with depth and range. The “essence” of Black women, femmes and girls is centered on how we show up authentically by our own definitions, on our own terms.

We are integral to the fabric of thriving, vibrant communities and families, and yet still experience acts of racism, sexism, adultification and transphobia that minimize our ability to live authentically and access our full potential.

The Essence of Us research will inform and influence service providers, funders and policymakers while uplifting and affirming the voices of Black women and girls on what we need to access our full potential in Nebraska.

### **Part 1**

### **Part 2**

## Ain't I A Woman Report

Through intentional dialogue and listening sessions led by UBUNTU Research and Evaluation, we explore Black women’s reproductive care journeys, stories and experiences with special attention to their birthing and labor histories.

The findings were compiled and analyzed with the purpose of engaging the larger Nebraska community, healthcare systems, policy partners and community-based birth workers to unveil the reproductive healthcare needs of Black women.

### **Report**