FrameWorks Institute Statement in Support of the March for Science

We believe…

• That science powers society.
• That science is a public good that can and should benefit all people.
• That science can help solve our most pressing problems and that it must be available to all citizens so that they can realistically evaluate and participate in solutions.
• That a thriving democracy depends upon a well-informed citizenry, and that we can and must use communications science to distill information and share it with the public.

We are a group of social scientists whose work is designed to make science publicly accessible and understandable. We…

• Use communications science to help people understand and access evidence-based information about how our world works. We believe that doing so will help members of the public—and their representatives in positions of power—decide why problems matter, which are most urgent, and how we can best address them.

We observe…

• That translating scientific information for the public drives social change.
• That science cannot and should not be walled off from political discourse and action.
• That access to science is not equitably distributed and that public institutions that exclude scientific information deepen information inequity.
• That overlooking or undermining scientific evidence in debates about public policy weakens discourse and increases the potential for harm to the common good.

**We oppose…**

• Systemic cuts to the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and other organizations that fund scientific research.
• Excluding science and scientific knowledge from political and public discourse, and devaluing the legitimacy of scientific knowledge and scientific consensus.
• Censorship of all kinds, whether it be the removal of scientific information or withdrawing support from agencies that share scientific findings.
• Unequal access to scientific education and information, and educational and information inequities in our society.

**We support…**

• Open and free public discourse and equal access to scientific knowledge.
• Curiosity—and the support, freedom, and opportunity for all to pursue it.
• Increasing access to science and to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education for all children, starting early and continuing through publicly supported careers.
• Valuing, respecting, and incorporating the role of scientific knowledge in public discourse.
• Funding for scientific research, including the ability of scientists to share their information with the public through science translation efforts.

**We commit ourselves to…**

• Welcoming the role of science in public life.
• Improving public understanding of social and scientific issues.
• Creating an inclusive political system and expanding our public discourse to include multiple points of view.
• Continuing to conduct and share scientific research in the public interest, while maintaining high standards for methodological rigor, transparency, and ethics.