



NC Families United Community

From: The NC Families United Board of Directors

Subject: Racism is a public health crisis

Date: June 4, 2020

This is difficult for me to write to you today, I know it is necessary because of my position with NCFU as board chair and representative of the board of directors and the organization. It is difficult because I am a mother of a young black man, because I am an auntie to a lot of nephews and nieces, great nephews and great nieces, because I am a leader in my church and community, because I have a child that has special needs, and more than anything, because it is what I believe in, and was brought up to do and stand for equity for all.

First, I want to say, I don't believe in the looting, the shooting, the unpeaceful protest of any sort. But I do understand that people are tired, and frustrated, angry, scared and just completely beside themselves.

It is so unfortunate because there is so much that we can accomplish in the world and in life period if we were just allowed to let our guards down and love and live freely and fairly.



North Carolina Families United

Racism is a Public Health Crisis

Therefore, I present this official statement from the NC Families United Board of Directors to be released today, June 4, 2020.

NC Families United Board of Directors recognize that for all children in our state to have a trauma free, mentally healthy life, they must feel safe in their homes and in their neighborhoods. For this to happen we need to create the environment that supports and openly recognizes that a dialog about race and culture change must happen in our state immediately. NC Families United stands in solidarity with the Black community against systemic racism and oppression experience every day in our state and in our nation. We owe it to our Black staff, and the black children, youth, and families we serve and the community we live in to demand change and accountability. To be silent is to be complicit. We ask all our NC Families United members and staff to support the culture change that needs to happen and to ensure that everyone's voice is heard. That all are treated equally, fairly and respectfully.