

★ We stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter

"Carolyn Campbell" [admin@sonorandesert.org]

Sent: Fri, 9:59 pm

To: "Pamela Grow"



We Stand in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter and with all People of Color

The Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection stands in solidarity with Black Lives Matter. There is no way to do the work of healing and nurturing the natural world in a silo. As residents of the Earth and citizens of the World, the mounting cases of violence against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color reveal how connected we all are and compel us to speak out in support for Black Lives Matter. We condemn the brutal killing of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and so many others. We condemn all violence against Black people. We support the protests that are happening all across the country - and around the world - demanding immediate reform of police department policies and judicial systems.

The same political/economic system that is destroying our natural world is also systematically victimizing people of color, indigenous people, and poor people in general. In this historic time, it is so clear that environmental justice and racial justice are not two separate causes but part of the same mandate. We need to work together to transform that system into one that eliminates police brutality, environmental degradation, and inequality under the law. We need to redefine the American Dream to reflect a new vision of peace and justice that encompasses social and environmental justice.

Kelly Burke from [Wild Arizona](#) says it well:

We believe that the future of conservation is intrinsically tied to the building of a new America, because our deeper cultural history is inescapable; indeed this past is our present. How do we want to identify as a culture moving forward? We cannot protect our amazingly diverse landscapes and their diverse inhabitants until we are a compassionate, inclusive, equitable, and tolerant nation, embracing our cultural diversity. What nature offers now, as it has during the pandemic, is healing, and the inspiration and motivation to fight for an America free of oppression, exploitation, and systemic racism.

We at the Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection will continue to look for all intersections between our basic mission and the making of this “new America.”

“You are growing into consciousness, and my wish for you is that you feel no need to constrict yourself to make other people comfortable.” – Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between the World and Me*

Resources for further learning and taking action

[158 Resources to Understand Racism in America](#) (Smithsonian Magazine)

[Dear White People, This is What We Want You to Do](#) (Kandise Le Blanc)

[Tucson Black-Owned Businesses](#) (spreadsheet compiled by [Roux Events](#))

[Black Lives Matter Tucson](#)

[Black Voters Matter](#)

[Arizona Coalition for Change](#)

[Tucson Second Chance Community Bail Fund](#)

[The Dunbar Pavilion: An African-American Arts and Culture Center](#)
(located in Tucson)

[NAACP Tucson Branch](#)

[Outdoor Afro Phoenix](#)

[Green Latinos](#)

(Thank you to Coalition member group [Sky Island Alliance](#) for sharing many of these websites.)

“Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle.” – Martin Luther King Jr.

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Unsplash.*

Nick Tedesco ncfp@ncfp.org via [bf08x.hubspotemail.net](#)
to me ▾

Tue, Jun 2

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June 2020

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NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY PHILANTHROPY

Inspiring Generations of Giving

June 2, 2020

Dear Community Members:

This is a sobering time. The murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless other Black people as a result of unconscionable acts of violence and aggression is once again challenging our nation to acknowledge the long-held suffering of communities of color across the United States. We are witnessing a response to centuries of racism and oppression that continue to be willfully ignored, and in many circumstances, perpetuated. This is a historic moment—one when we must ask ourselves what is needed to promote justice.

We must also ask ourselves how we—as a community of grantmakers—will earnestly prepare to advance a solution. Are we ready to acknowledge implicit bias? Are we ready to examine how we contribute to inequality? Are we ready to act with a conscious commitment to anti-racism?

Now is not the time to retreat from difficult questions or actions that feel in opposition to our beliefs. Now is the time to embrace the uncertainty and discomfort. This shift requires commitment and intentionality; it requires learning and exploration. While questions on impact loom large, particularly as it relates to social justice, criticism and intimidation is not an excuse to withdraw or delay; it's an invitation to seek knowledge.

There is tremendous possibility in the power of philanthropy, especially when it's harnessed properly. Success is borne out of a commitment to listen to the communities you seek to serve, structure support to fund movements, and, as Will Cordery notes in his recent [Nonprofit Quarterly article](#), “fund spaces that foster a radical imagination and the creation of new ways of being that could potentially replace centuries of systemic and structural racist practices in our society.”

There are no shortage of articles and resources that attempt to diagnose the problem and proffer solutions; yet many of us are wrestling with the fundamental questions themselves: what is equity; how does it transform communities; what is the role of philanthropy; is it effective; and what can a family do to repair broken systems? We are here to assist you explore these questions.

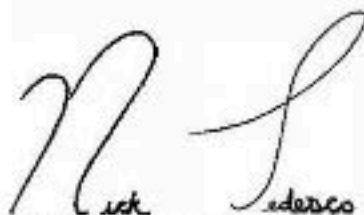
In the coming weeks, we will convene the family philanthropy community to facilitate an open and honest dialogue on the role of philanthropy to promote anti-racist outcomes. In the meantime, we encourage you to visit our website for a list of [resources](#) to further your learning. We are also launching a *Learning and Action Network* for families interested to incorporate an expressed commitment to racial equity into their philanthropic governance. We hope you will join us!

Lastly, we are eager to hear from **you**. What are your learnings; what are your challenges? We are committed to stand alongside each of you on this historic journey.

In Partnership,



Kimberly Myers Hewlett
Chair of the Board of Directors



Nicholas A. Tedesco
President & CEO




National Center for Family Philanthropy

1667 K Street, NW Suite 550

Washington DC 20006



The injustice must end.  Inbox x

Suzi Pearson via bloomerang-mail.com
to me ▾



Dear Pamela,

AWAIC stands in solidarity with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) against racism. We believe EVERYONE should be treated with compassion, dignity, and respect. It is a sad truth that many are not only denied these basic values, but also experience violence, based solely on the color of their skin. **This must end.**

As we reflect on recent events, we know we can do better. We pledge to learn more about how to educate ourselves, our agency, and our community. Change will not happen until we acknowledge our internal biases and the systemic structures that perpetuate oppression, privilege, and racism. We need to work together as a community, challenge each other, and have the difficult conversations. Only then will we be able to make the changes we so desperately need to dismantle racism, oppression, and to end violence.

AWAIC has worked for over 40 years towards achieving the vision of safe families and a safe community guided by our core values of advocacy, compassion, dignity, and collaboration. While our community has come a long way in those 40 years, we know we have a long road ahead to eradicate violence rooted in power and control. It will take each one of us doing our part to create the change we want to see. **Together, let's create a world where compassion, dignity and respect are basic rights, and everyone can live without the oppressing fear of violence.**

Will you take the first step with me? [Here's a list of articles, books, movies, podcasts, and more to start us on our journey... together.](#)

In solidarity,



Suzi Pearson
Executive Director

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Every Voice Should Count



Inbox x



Aaron Hamlin aaron@electionscience.org [via](#) salsalabs.org

to me ▾

Pamela,

How are you doing? No, really—how are you holding up? Our country is going through so much right now, and we wanted to reach out to see how you're doing. Reply to this email, and we can talk.

If you're not feeling okay, you're in good company. Much of our team feels the same way. The state of our democracy has us experiencing sleepless nights. We're worried because our country is in crisis.

It's a crisis caused by too many voices going unheard.

It's a crisis caused by the needs of the most vulnerable members of our society being neglected.

It's a crisis caused by hundreds of years of systemic policy failures that have come to a breaking point for the Black community.

We aren't writing to you today to say that we have the answer to this crisis. We are not a racial justice organization.

But we *are* an organization committed to democracy. And we firmly believe that we cannot have a thriving democracy if Black voices continue to go unheard.

All voters deserve a say in the decisions being made in our country. They deserve for their vote to create change and to hold leaders accountable.

That means citizens' voices should be heard when it comes to decisions related to economic policy, housing policy, education policy, and—yes—police training and conduct policy.

Leaders might actually take on these difficult and painful issues if they had an obvious and powerful mandate to govern.

There is absolutely no question—what happened to George Floyd was an egregious miscarriage of justice. And it was a preventable tragedy.

If policymakers had listened to the voices of millions of Americans crying out for reform for decades, then maybe George Floyd would still be with us.

If policymakers had listened when riots broke out in LA in 1992, Ferguson in 2014, or Baltimore in 2015, then maybe they could have implemented policies that would keep both our citizens and our police officers safe. Policies that would ensure that the humanity and life of every citizen is respected, regardless of their skin color.

Make no mistake—this crisis is a failure of our democracy. It is a failure of our public officials to respond to the needs of their citizens.

Our system fails to treat every voice equally, instead encouraging our leaders to form the smallest coalition possible to win an election. And too often, they choose to cater to those who already have power and influence—leaving the needs of the least among us unmet.

So, what can be done?

We promise that we will always stand up for the right of every single citizen—regardless of race, ethnicity, or creed—to have their voice heard and counted, particularly when it comes to the ballot box.

We will stand up for a nation where the people are able to fully exercise their right to freedom of speech and expression.

We remain committed to empowering voters with approval voting—a free, simple reform that will give us all fairer and more representative elections. And as a result, we'll elect representatives who will implement policies that actually benefit Americans.

And we will always unequivocally condemn white supremacy, racism, and bigotry. Those ideologies have no value in a flourishing democracy that recognizes the humanity of all its citizens.

We know that this is a very scary time for our country, Pamela. There is a lot of hurt, uncertainty, and despair. But by standing together and demanding real change, we can make sure that we don't continue to see this cycle repeated.

Together, we can create a democracy where every voice is equal and every voice counts.

In Justice,

Aaron Hamlin + Felix Sargent
Executive Director + Board Chair

P.S. Our virtual “door” is always open at contact@electionscience.org if you have feedback for us—positive or negative. We won't always get it right, but we are committed to growth.

We Are An Alliance of Allies

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay stands in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement during this turbulent and important time of national discourse on historic pain and trauma due to a legacy of systemic racism in our country.

The Alliance believes that clean water and equal access to nature are civil rights that impact human health and quality of life. As an organization, our mission is to bring together communities, companies, and conservationists to improve the lands and waters of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This is a mission inclusive of **all** communities that make up our Chesapeake Bay region.

The Alliance strives to collaborate with partners in the Chesapeake Bay community who demonstrate integrity and amplify diverse voices for equitable and inclusive impact.

The Alliance is committed to creating a more diverse, inclusive, equitable, and just environmental movement.

Black Lives Matter.

In solidarity,

Kate Fritz

Executive Director

Dennis Chestnut

Chair of the Board's Diversity,
Equity, Inclusion Committee

Ginny Sneed

Board Chair



Alternatives For Girls

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A Letter from CEO Amanda (Amy) L. Good:

We at AFG are saddened and outraged by the recent incidents of violence against black people, following a long-standing pattern of racial hatred in the United States, including the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. We recognize and share the pain of the girls and women we serve, our staff and volunteers, and our entire community, that is inflicted by these devastating expressions of racism, that destroy the lives of precious men, women, and children. The end to institutionalized racism is long, long overdue. Our mission compels us to support those we serve and our staff. Further, we add our voices to call for an end to systemic racism and, in particular, to physical and economic violence against black members of our Detroit community and beyond. We stand in favor of racial equity and respect for black lives. Historical and current systemic racism disproportionately impact the girls and women we serve. They deserve full access to opportunities to grow and thrive in a safe and free society. We continue to support participants' voices and are starting new conversations, listening to current conversations to intentionally guide our participants and staff to follow our anti-racist practices, offering support to participants, staff, etc. We recommit ourselves and our resources to identify and work to end racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression and pledge to work to empower the voices and leadership of those we serve, as they stand up against racist violence and oppression.

Amanda (Amy) L. Good
CEO, Alternatives For Girls