



**A Message to our Employees, Patients, and Stakeholders
from the Board of Directors of Cornerstone Treatment Facilities Network**

At Cornerstone our mission is to ***“make available to the communities we serve quality care for the treatment of chemical dependency in a progressive, dignified, culturally diversified, confidential and safe environment”*** Our slogan is ***“A strong foundation for a lasting recovery”***. This cannot happen when a segment of our population is threatened, oppressed, or marginalized. Cornerstone has historically avoided conversations around political issues. We understand that this movement is not a political one, it is a moral one. Saying nothing is no longer an option.

There is a virus out there and it is called prejudice. The time is now for all of us to change the world. The murders of black and other people of color is not impossible to change.

As the protests and demonstrations across the world continue many of us want to know just what we can do to help. None of us have all the answers and there is no quick fix. Our continued silence is complicity. We all need to work together to overcome racism in any form. We need to learn, listen, talk, educate ourselves and above all take action.

In honor of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and the uncountable lives lost, we wish to state publicly that Black Lives Matter and we unequivocally stand against racism. For this cause Cornerstone is making a donation to Black Lives Matter an organization that fights to end systemic racism.

It is natural to wish for life ***“to just get back to normal”*** as a pandemic and economic crisis upend everything around us. But we have to remember that for millions of Americans, being treated differently on account of race is tragically, painfully, maddeningly ***“normal”*** – whether it’s while dealing with the health care system, or interacting with the criminal justice system, or jogging down the street, or just watching birds in a park.

This should not be ***“normal”*** in 2020 America. It cannot be ***“normal.”*** If we want our children to grow up ***in a nation that lives up to its highest ideals, we can and must do better.***

Racism is not welcome at Cornerstone!

Attending a peaceful protest in person is not always an option for everyone. See attached resources available to show support.

Cornerstone Board of Directors,

Thomas Puzo
Chairman

Jeffrey Onifather
Vice Chairman

David Bochner
Secretary

Sharlene John
Member

Roslyn Sokolow
Member

John Miscione
Independent Member

Suggested Sources of Information:

NAACP Legal Defense Fund - <https://www.naacpldf.org/>

Black Lives Matter - <https://blacklivesmatter.com/>

NYC Anti Violence Project - <https://avp.org>

Movement for Black Lives - <https://m4bl.org/>

Obama Foundation - <https://www.obama.org>

My Brother's Keeper Alliance - <https://www.obama.org/mbka/>

Justice for George Floyd https://www.change.org/p/mayor-jacob-frey-justice-for-george-floyd?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=media&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link

Color of Change: # JusticeforBre [https://act.colorofchange.org/sign/justiceforbre-breonna-taylor-](https://act.colorofchange.org/sign/justiceforbre-breonna-taylor-officers-)

[officers-fired_copy?source=coc_main_website&utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link](https://act.colorofchange.org/sign/justiceforbre-breonna-taylor-officers-fired_copy?source=coc_main_website&utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link)

Get Involved With a Racial Justice Organization

You can join or donate to other racial justice organizations working to dismantle racism. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

- 28 Organizations That Empower Black Communities<https://www.huffpost.com/entry/28-organizations-that-are-empowering-black-communities_n_58a730fde4b045cd34c13d9a?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link>

- Showing Up for Racial Justice<https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link>

- Know Your Rights Camps<https://www.knowyourrightscamp.com/?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link>

Contact Your Representatives

Your government representatives at all levels — federal, state and local — control the policy and money around policing in the U.S. You can write, call or email your representatives or the prosecutors in charge of a case and demand action. Keep in mind that state and local governments often control the police departments in your area. Here's how to find your reps:

- How to Contact Your Elected Officials<https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link>

- My Reps Tool<https://myreps.datamade.us/?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=in-text-link>

Additional resources could be made available upon request.