

Dear Members,

In the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the tragic events of the past week have once again underscored the severity and violence of racism that many continue to experience every day. We are an organization of strong, diverse women committed to building a better Dallas, and we both recognize these issues and take them seriously. While we denounce racism and abhor the violence that has erupted in North Texas, these events underscore the fact that our work— and the work of organizations like ours— toward advancing diversity and inclusion is not done.

For a number of years, the Junior League of Dallas has made advancing diversity and inclusion a priority within our organization. Equality is foundational to everything we do and is woven into the mission, strategies and practices of the JLD.

To that end, the League cannot and will not stay silent and sit on the sidelines watching as our community feels the heaviness of grief and anger. The League stands with those working to improve our North Texas community through the affirmation of human dignity, kindness in our interactions with others and respect for every individual, in every encounter, every single day. It is incumbent upon each of us — in all that we do — to sustain a diverse and fully inclusive culture.

We stand with our members, staff and community partners. Rest assured that we do not stand with you in words alone. We seek to ensure that each member of our community develops the cultural awareness and competency required to support one another and

to advance the mission of the Junior League of Dallas. The 2020 – 2021 Board of Directors will continue to focus on these issues as we begin our 99th year.

The JLD believes that our commitment to equality and inclusion is as vital as ever. We ask for your support and insight as we work to ensure a safe, supportive community for all North Texans.

"My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together." - Desmond Tutu

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