



To Our DHA Family, Residents, and Partners:

We are all in this together. That has been our message in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis this year. And now that message is as important and relevant as we respond to the social justice crisis that has gripped our nation over the past weeks, ignited by the unlawful, unjust killing of Mr. George Floyd. This and other acts of racial violence over recent months and years are horrific, especially for those among us that have experienced similar acts in their lives and in their communities. The injustices and inequities that affect people of color are part of the history of the United States and they continue to this day. During these challenging times, we must be supportive, empathetic, loving, and unified. Not a moment goes by that we are not thinking of the distress that many of our team and residents are experiencing. We are all in this together.

Our vision and our work at DHA continues to be creating healthy, vibrant, and affordable communities of opportunity and empowerment. This work is guided by our core values of respect, honesty, and integrity and it is centered on the goals of social justice and equity. We strive to do the right thing, even when it is the difficult thing to do. We stand with and in support of the individuals and organizations in our community that call for equity, justice, and inclusiveness.

We recognize that institutional and systemic racism and the privilege of power are among the root causes of systemic disinvestment and oppression felt by so many. The unjustified killings of black men and women, along with an increase in Anti-Asian American assaults and harassment in the wake of coronavirus, and an increase in anti-immigrant speech and sentiment make it clear that we cannot be silent. As Dr. Martin Luther King said, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

The call to action is urgent and ongoing. The march toward justice, equity, and respect demands that we all do our part. We cannot tolerate the injustice, racism, oppression, and disparities that affect low-income communities and people of color everywhere. We must speak out, act and demand more and better of ourselves, partners and our leaders. This is our commitment at DHA. We ask you to join us in truly listening to communities of color that we serve; imagining lasting solutions; and taking action to implement those solutions today.

Respectfully,

Ismael Guerrero
Executive Director
The Denver Housing Authority