

June 1, 2020

**Statement from the Restorative Partners Leadership Team and Staff,
in response to the recent instances of violence against communities of color**

At Restorative Partners, we believe that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. We support equity and justice for Black lives. We recognize the intersectionality of our mission – transforming lives impacted by crime through healing services and relationships – and the mission of the Black Lives Matter movement – to “work vigorously for freedom and justice for Black people and, by extension, all people.” We acknowledge the generational trauma that mass incarceration has disproportionately inflicted on communities of color. We will continue to center the voices of the most vulnerable and most marginalized members of our community. And we will continue to stand up and speak out against systems of oppression.

Angela Davis said, “In a racist society it is not enough to be non-racist, we must be anti-racist.” We are calling on our white staff, volunteers, and supporters to stand with us and support communities of color. We ask you to evaluate your privilege and use it to uplift Black voices and condemn acts of violence against Black lives. The restorative justice movement is increasingly connected with the racial justice movement, with people of color and anti-racist white allies working tirelessly to end mass incarceration. As supporters of Restorative Partners and our mission, we encourage you to visit these resources and learn about ways to engage in these conversations. This list is by no means exhaustive, but it is a start:

[Race Matters SLO County](#)

[An Antiracist Reading List by Ibram X. Kendi](#)

[The White Ally Toolkit](#)

[GoogleDrive Collection of Resources](#)

Yours in solidarity,

The Restorative Partners Leadership Team and Staff