

BLACK LIVES MATTER

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

AGE+ and our companion organization, the Jessie F. Richardson Foundation, stand with our Black/African American community members and share their outrage and heartache over the historic and recent racist tragic events in our nation. We see the long term impacts of systemic racism and inequality, particularly in the daily lives of Black/African American older adults and those in communities of color.

We acknowledge that even while seeking to help, our organization is part of a dominant culture system that has caused injury and harm. We understand the need to continually examine and address our biases, prejudices, and dominant culture assumptions, and improve as an organization by embedding and operationalizing diversity, equity and inclusion.

We understand that actions must also accompany these declarations. Our Board and staff are committed to embedding and operationalizing equity and inclusion in everything we do. We will continue to implement the values and principles of our organizational Equity Policy and Action Plan, approved in 2019. We will hold ourselves accountable to our progress and welcome others to do so as well.

We will remain vigilant and committed far beyond the current events.

Now more than ever, we must listen and elevate Black/African American voices. Please take a moment to read and reflect on these pieces by [Oregon Senator Margaret Carter](#) and [Marcus Mundy](#), Executive Director of the Coalition of Communities of Color, just to name a few.

Learn more about the [Reimagine Oregon Project](#) that aims to dismantle Oregon's systemic racism.

We also offer the following resources for wherever you are in your racial justice journey:

- Podcasts: [1619](#) by New York Times and [Code Switch](#) by NPR
- Book: [Uprooting Racism](#) by Paul Kivel



Communities + Generations + Innovations