



If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor
Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Date: June 5, 2020

To our community and our partners,

Spectrum Development Solutions stands with our partners in opposition to all violence, racism, and discrimination. The murders of George Floyd in Minnesota, Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia, Breonna Taylor in Kentucky, and countless others have brought our country to its knees. We grieve with their families, the Black community, and all those who have been victims of intolerable systemic and institutionalized racism. This time in our lives must mark a long overdue turning point for the advancement of racial and social equity.

We need to open our eyes and listen to our hearts. To be silent is to be complicit. For not only are we witnessing the tragic outcomes of systemic racism, we are doing so at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affects communities of color due to many of these same systemic inequities.

Our work at Spectrum provides families and individuals of all socioeconomic backgrounds access to stable housing, education, basic food needs, and essential health & childcare services. Never has it been more important for us to take action through our work. However, we also acknowledge that this in itself is insufficient. We must address our own shortcomings, hold ourselves accountable, and continue to use the lens of race and social equity to inform our decisions and better reflect the communities in which we work. This is our commitment and our duty.

We must come together to support our communities as we work every day to pursue justice and an equitable future. We stand in solidarity with our partners, communities of color, and all the individuals who are on the front-line every day demanding social justice and equity.

In the words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor." **We must do more.**

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