

Black Lives Matter

The Denver Latino Commission stands with the Black Lives Matter movement. Black Lives Matter because they are us, we are them. They are our neighbors, our coworkers, our brothers, our sisters, our friends, our family. We see ourselves as part of one family.

We join the Black Lives Matter movement and condemn white supremacy and racism in all its forms, including systemic racism, and denounce social injustices, ongoing police brutality, the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbury, Breonna Taylor and the countless number of Black lives taken either by violence or a broken judicial system.

We believe actively fighting racism is our local and federal government's fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves and acknowledge that silence and inaction contribute to the maintenance of ongoing institutional racism and other structural inequities.

While we recognize the anti-black racism struggle as our struggle, we also recognize our own implicit bias and the existence of anti-black racism amongst the Latino community. Although anti-black sentiment may have been ingrained in our culture, we realize that our oppression is bound and intertwined with the oppression of the black community.

It is our intention to nurture our communities by creating bonds through shared struggles, by building bridges not walls, by taking a knee and kneeling together, and by standing side by side in protest together. We, The Denver Latino Commission, will not be complicit and are committed to dismantling systemic racism and social injustices.

Black lives matter, and our collective practices, discourses, policies, and laws must reflect this.

- We are committed to holding politicians and elected officials accountable, making bold structural change, and demanding and promoting inclusive anti-racist policy.

Black lives matter, regardless of actual or perceived sexual identity, gender identity, gender expression, economic status, ability, disability, religious beliefs or disbeliefs, immigration status, or location.

- We are committed to making sure everyone has a seat at the table. Whether you are African American, Black, Afro Latino, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, we see you. We hear you. We are committed to standing with and fighting for you.

Black lives matter, in the Latino community, by embracing our shared struggles, and acknowledging our own prejudices.

- We are committed to confronting and breaking cycles of internalized biases and anti-black racism in the Latino community by disrupting anti-blackness within our own organization.

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- We are committed to deep listening and unlearning. We are committed to getting uncomfortable and sitting in the discomfort. We are committed to the safety, dignity and humanity of all Black lives and people of color.

Tu lucha es mi lucha. Your struggle is my struggle. Estamos juntos. We are together. Somos familia. We are family.