



Dear all,

In recent months our country has experienced tragic losses and has witnessed extreme acts of racially-charged violence. Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and now George Floyd, are only the most recent of countless black community members who have been victims of implicit bias and systemic racism across this country. Many of us are suffering as a result of these losses and may be experiencing anger, fear, grief, or numbing over this injustice and the events that continue to unfold.

We have also been inspired by the countless acts of kindness and support demonstrated by Healthy Families New York programs throughout the state during these difficult times. This provides us with a sense of hope and optimism in the midst of so much tragedy.

During these challenging circumstances, it is even more important than ever that we support one another and stand together as a HFNY family. As a part of Healthy Families, you know that our goal is to be trauma-informed, to understand that adverse childhood experiences impact children, families, and communities in profound ways, and that the historical trauma of racism has devastatingly impacted generations of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color. As members of the HFNY Central Administration – OCFS, PCANY, and CHSR – we want you to know that we are holding space and reverence for you and the families you serve, and we are here to facilitate ways that we can be supportive to one another. We stand with you and will be reaching out to your individual programs. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to us at any time, even if it is just to talk. We can lend a listening ear. We also offer the list below of personal and professional resources for you and your program families to help sustain you both, and hopefully, to facilitate positive change.

Sincerely,

All of us at CA.