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Dear Partners and Friends,

I hope this correspondence finds you and yours safe and healthy. The Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts (ULEM) Board of Directors and administrative leadership continue to plan towards our re-opening, basing our decision first and foremost, on the wellbeing of students, staff and the community.

We have been working hard through the pandemic of COVID-19 and the rise in civil injustice, to continue serving our community by:

- 1. Supplying food, personal items, and emergency financial support for housing, to the most vulnerable in our community.
- 2. Giving guidance to individuals reaching out to us for job and unemployment support.
- 3. Updating parents on the Boston Public School System (BPS) announcements to assist navigation of educational resources and tools.
- 4. Utilizing our digital platforms to share information regarding critical issues such as the census, voting involvement and local emergency services.
- 5. Finding summer employment for 6 students at MIT.
- 6. Sponsoring 6 students to attend Architectural Camp at Boston Architectural College.
- 7. Beginning September classes in conjunction with Roxbury Community College, for CultivatED, which provides training in the emerging cannabis industry.
- 8. Providing virtual pro bono domestic & sexual violence legal services, through our partnership with Northeastern University Law School.

- 9. Appearances by the ULEM leadership team as guest speakers for presentations across the commonwealth, educating many about ULEM programs and community initiatives.
- 10. Establishing the *1619 Project*: A coalition of Black and Latinx organizations that are committed to protecting the right to vote.

Stay tuned for the next broadcast of our webinar series "*Leaders Over Lunch*" where I discuss current issues that dramatically impact our community with thoughtful leaders.

Our first guest in May was **Secretary Rosalin Acosta**, who helped us understand the new unemployment procedures to address COVID-19. In August, **National Urban League President Marc Morial** and I discussed the State of Black America, which can be downloaded and viewed at: <a href="https://youtu.be/xYHF87bGddg">https://youtu.be/xYHF87bGddg</a>

During these challenging times let us also be mindful of the following:

Census Deadline: Extended to October 30th EARLY VOTING – Early Voting by mail will begin when ballots are available

In person voting for the state elections will be October 17-30<sup>th</sup>. Early voting by city will be posted at www.MassEarlyVote.com

Finally, please know that your generosity is most appreciated at this time. To give go to: <a href="https://theulem.square.site">https://theulem.square.site</a>

Warm Regards,

J. Keith Motley, PhD Consultant & President/CEO

Download and View our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Equal Opportunity and Diversity Breakfast at:

https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/LqQvI7LOk1