



**A Letter from Joey D. Resnick, the CEO of Premier Community HealthCare Group, Inc.
Issued June 5, 2020**

Systemic racism and other discriminatory actions toward Black, Indigenous and all people of color have no place in our society. Racism itself is a social determinant of health and affects the physical and mental health of Black people disproportionately. The senseless deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery and so many others require us to work together and change the way our society treats people of color. No human being deserves to be treated the way George Floyd was treated. It is plain and simple: no human being should be treated that way.

As a Community Health Center birthed out of the civil rights and social justice movement of the 1960s, Premier Community HealthCare has served our community for over forty years and continues to advocate for health equity by providing quality care for all. Not for some people, for ALL. Our mission statement, To provide accessible healthcare services to all is a beacon of hope for anyone that may have been denied health services or treated differently based on their ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, income or insurance status. We are proud to represent the diversity in our communities of Pasco and Hernando Counties and even prouder to serve our diverse community with compassion and dignity.

Like many of you, it saddens me that a life was lost. Many lives have been lost on the premise of racism and discrimination and for hundreds of years our society has turned a deaf ear or a blind eye to these injustices. However, the time is now. We as a community, as a nation, and most importantly as individuals – we have to do more to create real and lasting change for the better. I have watched the video circulating and it is extremely difficult to understand how one human being can treat another human being in that manner. However, the opportunity to come together as a community and have courageous conversations is now.

As the CEO of a community health center dedicated to breaking down barriers and ensuring everyone has access to healthcare, we are ready to be a catalyst in our community and work toward real change. It starts with us listening with intent and learning the stories of our employees, our patients, and of our community members. We welcome the opportunity to actively embrace diversity and inclusion to create a better community health center and a better community.

The time is now for courageous conversations and for change to happen. We are proud to be part of the communities we serve and are committed to embracing positive changes in our community, especially as it relates to equity for all people. We will continue to serve all those that walk through our doors. When you walk through our doors, we see you as a human being that needs healthcare and you will receive compassionate and quality care from our employees. Working on the frontlines against health inequities, our commitment is to demonstrate equity and excellence while being an example to our community. We also will be an example by advocating and supporting policies at the local, state and national level that can bring about the real changes needed to protect and improve the lives of ALL people. Only together, will we be able to bring about equality and social justice for all.

In Good Health,

Joey D. Resnick, MHA, FACHE

