Dear Friends,

I am deeply saddened by these unprecedented times. The recent headlines of heartache about the killings of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia, Breonna Taylor in Kentucky, and George Floyd in Minnesota have led to a national outpouring of grief. We must recognize and confront the ongoing injustices of racism.

As a staff, we have heavy hearts as we care for our kids and fulfill our mission. We continue to reach out to our members and their families to help them navigate their feelings about what is happening in our country.

We will continue to advocate for youth to have access and opportunity. And we will continue to encourage young people to harness and use their voices. As the Boys & Girls Club, we take a stand for the future of America’s children. We stand against racism and discrimination. We stand for safety, health, dignity, and equitable opportunity.

In the coming weeks, we will need to recover and start to reimagine our organization’s possibilities for the future. Our Club members, especially young people of color, will need to be heard. Those of us who are white need to listen and understand what it is to live with the constant threat of racism and a specter of violence. We are committed to being better than yesterday.

In the words of Maya Angelou,

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

These words demonstrate our commitment to our kids and our community.

Thank you for your support and for believing in our mission and our kids.

With all my gratitude,

Diane Fitzpatrick
Chief Executive Officer