



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NVRDC Press Contact

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Black Lives Matter: Network for Victim Recovery of DC's Commitment to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

WASHINGTON, DC (June 1, 2020)—Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC)'s leadership and staff are feeling deeply broken. Our hearts are shattered not only because of more recent events that have traumatized Black and Brown folks in our country, but the long-standing examples illustrating why Black Americans, in particular, live in fear every second of their lives that they, their families, their children, and their loved ones will be the next Black citizen to be murdered by those who have sworn to protect us all.

NVRDC apologizes for its delayed response and wants the public to know that as part of our commitments below we are working to improve our internal capacity to condemn acts of racism timely with our staff and stakeholders while not losing the thoughtfulness we value in our communications.

NVRDC's commitment to racial justice and being an anti-racist organization includes:

1. Speaking out publicly against racial injustices and extrajudicial murders in a timelier way;
2. [Responding to white supremacy](#) propaganda that shifts the current conversation's focus away from unlawful killings of Black people to inflammatory language regarding current protests;
3. Naming the connections between racism's and oppression's intersection with violence and sexual assault;
4. Seeking opportunities to disrupt structures of white supremacy, oppression, and state violence as we leverage our privilege in order to show up for our staff and communities with love and support;
5. Investing in anti-racism education;
6. Using the privilege within our spheres of influence where Black and Brown people often have lack of access due to long-standing historical racism and oppression; and
7. Actively taking feedback from our community to know where we can do better as an organization to show up for the communities we serve and our staff.

NVRDC expects white members of its leadership and staff to show up in allyship as champions for our Black and Brown colleagues, clients, and neighbors. NVRDC is committed to learning and helping white leadership and staff to learn how to do this frequently and more effectively.

For our staff and stakeholders who are BIPOC, we see you, we are here for you, and we will not tolerate others not making space for you.

The tragic murders, at the hands of police, of George Floyd and of [Breonna Taylor in Louisville](#) are only the most recent reminders of what we should recognize as a centuries-long problem that requires us to stand united in opposition to racism, whether blatant or covert; and to hold all who seek to divide us accountable, as we embrace a vision of our world made brighter by equity and shared opportunity.

In Solidarity,

Network for Victim Recovery of DC

About NVRDC: Network for Victim Recovery of DC empowers victims of crime to achieve survivor-defined justice through advocacy, case management, and legal services. For more information, please visit our website (www.nvrdc.org) or call (202) 742-1727. For media inquiries, please e-mail press@nvrdc.org.