

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We are outraged and heartbroken by yet another senseless murder of a person of color at the hands of the police. Institutional racism is embedded in the systems and operations of our country, and it is fueled by the racial bias that we teach, intentionally or not, to our children. It is always the right time to talk to children about race, and we call on all parents, especially those of white children, to start that conversation today.

From the Children's Community School, the below graphic illustrates the importance of these conversations. As a community that exists to create and serve an equitable Portland for all families, we must speak up and have these difficult conversations - with our children, our neighbors, our parents, and our community.



Below is a list of resources we have found helpful during this troubling time:

- [Anti-Racism Resources for White People](#)
- [Your Kids Aren't Too Young to Talk About Race: Resource Roundup](#)
- [Barack Obama On George Floyd's Death And The 'Maddening' Normalcy Of Racism](#)
- [Talking to Kids about Race](#)
- [An Open Letter to Community — Portland, Oregon, from Marcus C. Mundy, Executive Director, Coalition of Communities of Color](#)
- [Statement from Kali Ladd, KairosPDX Executive Director](#)

Additionally - because we believe words are not enough and now is a time for action - below are some local, Black-owned businesses and BIPOC-led organizations where you can donate, shop, or volunteer:

- [The Black United Fund of Oregon](#)
- [The Black Parent Initiative](#)
- [The Coalition of Communities of Color](#)
- [Brown Hope](#)
- [Directory of Black-owned businesses](#)
- [Directory of Black-owned restaurants](#)

During the coming year, racial justice will continue to be an ongoing conversation in our community and a priority as we set goals during our reopening. St. Johns Swapnplay stands in solidarity with BIPOC families in our community. Black Lives Matter.

In solidarity,

The board and staff of St. Johns Swapnplay