



**Greater Cleveland
Food Bank**

Greater Cleveland Food Bank Responds to the Death of George Floyd

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank condemns the senseless murder of George Floyd and the past and continuing acts of violence against our family members, friends, colleagues, and neighbors who are black Americans and people of color. Racial hatred has no place in our world, in our community, or in our hearts.

As leaders in the social service sector, we must lend our voices to those of the many community partners and organizations calling for justice for members of our community who have faced violence because of the color of their skin.

At the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, our mission is to ensure that everyone in our community has the nutritious food they need every day. We cannot ignore the sobering reality that food insecurity exists at a rate twice as high for black Americans. We cannot ignore the fact that poverty exists at a rate that is twice as high for black Americans than white Americans. Systemic racism lies at the heart of many issues that contribute to hunger across America.

Diversity, equity and inclusion have been priorities for the Food Bank and will continue to be as we move forward. These goals are in our current strategic plan and we work hard to integrate them in our daily work and operations. We will be more proactive and louder in that commitment – we will continue to be both advocates and allies.

Standing in solidarity with our neighbors, family members, partners and colleagues is an important step in taking action against the systemic and overt racism that exist in our community and nation.

All of us share a responsibility to bring an end to this evil and to do so in a way that achieves justice and an end to the status quo. As the leaders of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, we promise our community that we will commit to continuing to work to end systemic racism in our city and community and to work to end the inequality we see.

Kristin Warzocha, President and CEO and the Staff Leadership Team at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank

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