Dearest OAHPERD Professionals,

These past many weeks have been challenging and difficult. Amidst the ongoing concerns of COVID-19 and the disproportionate impact it is having on Black, Brown and Indigenous communities, we are experiencing continued horrific anti-black violence. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Sean Reed, Tony McDade and George Floyd, as well as the disturbing behavior and actions of Amy Cooper directed at Christian Cooper, have resulted in feelings of anger, despair, fear, hurt and frustration.

Throughout these appalling atrocities, there have also been extraordinary examples of humanity that encourage us to hope and look to love and transformation. OAHPERD is committed to strengthen voices and provide support in gaining knowledge, awareness and skills needed to make real systemic change in our shared world.

Given our role in society as educators and leaders, we have both an opportunity and a responsibility to help dismantle systems of oppression. Knowing there is no single action that can provide answers, nor can we erase anything that has occurred, there is always opportunity for empathy, to listen, to better understand, and to work for a more just society. Each of us have a responsibility to do what we can in this moment to listen, learn, take action and stand up to racism.

By equipping ourselves with context and methods necessary to be more racially conscious, we can become, agents of change. Take this opportunity to grow, to be reflective, learn, and take action for change within ourselves and in our world. Below are some helpful resources to explore for yourselves and to share with others:

Resources:
- **Talking About Race** and **Being Antiracist** – National Museum of African American History and Culture
- **Learn about Tulsa Race Massacre** – Tulsa Greenwood Center
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- **Learn about policy solutions to change the way police serve our communities** – Campaign Zero
- **Support the fight against racial injustice without leaving your home** – List of resources
- **TED Talk on ways to educate, activate, and donate**
- **Black Lives Matter Learning and Teaching Resources** – Black Lives Matter
- **75 Things White People Can Do For Racial Justice** – Equality Includes You
- **OKC Black Lives Matter Facebook page for peaceful protest information**
- **Tulsa Black Lives Matter Facebook page for peaceful protest information**
- **White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard For White People To Talk About Racism** – Book by Robin DeAngelo, Ph.D. This is a great book to gain insight and understanding.
• **Getting Smarter About Race - A Non-Exhaustive Resource List** - Created by Josh Parker (MD, 2012)
  o Whiteness
  o Racism
  o Racism in education
  o Pedagogy that helps all students
• **This List Of Books, Films And Podcasts About Racism Is A Start, Not A Panacea** - NPR
• **The Antiracist Resources Fortune Staffers are Reading and Sharing** - Fortune
• **Looking for books about racism? Experts suggest these must-read titles for adults and kids** – USA Today

OAHPERD looks forward to growing and working toward an antiracist future with you. We are not perfect, but are listening and committed to doing this important work. Thank you for your continued membership and the amazing work you are doing to strengthen our future together.

Sincerely,

The OAHPERD Leadership