



Dear Community Members,

Peer support was founded as a social justice movement for individuals with lived experience in mental health. We are horrified at the senseless murder of George Floyd of Minneapolis, Minnesota and countless others. This is certainly a time of sorrow and rage. The murder of another black man at the hands of a white police officer is truly devastating for our friends and members of the black, indigenous, and people of color community. MPS has always supported the social justice movement to fight systemic racism and brutality against people of color. We oppose all forms of racism, discrimination, and bigotry that have been preserved and enforced through centuries of institutionalized racism and structural inequities at the core of this country.

Especially to our members who are black, indigenous and/or people of color, we join you in protesting the brutality, racism, cruelty, and discrimination that you endure daily. We stand with you and others in condemning the cruelty and violence that you experience in the law enforcement and the criminal justice system. We know that racism has a personal impact on your mental health. We are here to support, listen, and work with you to make changes.

As predominantly white advocates of mental health and policy reform, we will continue to educate ourselves and our comprehension of the compounding consequences that racism, inequality, discrimination, and violence have on the well-being and mental health of our communities. We will promote personal responsibility, intentionality, active listening, and an end to violence by law enforcement and criminal justice systems. We commit to planting racial and social justice in our work, advocacy, and our organization's culture. It is imperative to our mission of promoting mental health and well-being through advocacy. We stand with you.

We will no longer ignore injustice or inequality in any form. Please contact us with any concerns and challenges, as well as processing any emotions [www.monadnockpsa.org](http://www.monadnockpsa.org).

Black lives matter. Your voice matters. Your life matters.

Peter Starkey  
Executive Director, Monadnock Peer Support