

Dear Colleagues,

As the news from the White House about DACA disseminates causing many of us fear, uncertainty, and deep dread of what could be next for some of our dearest friends, family, and colleagues, I question where we stand. This year as President Trump has continued to make decisions that have heavily impacted the communities I actively work with, I continue to challenge our community towards ways to serve. So I continue to quote myself on where we stand....

This community has had several opinions on politics but this email is not meant to restart the debate or re-challenge what side of the invisible line you may stand on. Instead, I write this email as a current doctoral student and person of color to refocus on the mental health implications hate and fear have. The time for social justice is now. The time to embrace a movement of equality is now. **Social justice** is based on the concepts of human rights and equality, and can be defined as "the way in which human rights are manifested in the everyday lives of people at every level of society" (wiki). The call to action and to taking action looks very different for each of us. I hope that you will define what actions look like for you and seek resources within your communities that allow you to support others. I will not define those actions for you. For me, I will continue to speak for those who cannot, I will use my privilege in every situation to give opportunity to those who have none, I will continue to hold my elected officials accountable (from the courthouse to the Whitehouse) and, I will continue to hold everyone around me in my village (friends, family, colleagues) accountable as well.

I honor the importance of self-care and encourage you all to take moments away to replenish your heart space. I also urge you to stay engaged, to seek many different sources of information, and to challenge your own views during these times of dramatic change.

Please continue to share resources with our community as we support each other and support our client populations.

- Want to do something constructive and easy about DACA? Text 'RESIST' to 50409 and an automated prompt will help you text a message that will automatically get faxed to your senators.
- Resource Sheet for Immigrants:
<http://www.nlpa.ws/assets/docs/resource%20sheet%20for%20immigrants%20.pdf>

Warm Regards,

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*Pronouns: She, her, hers

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