

Subject: Letter on Proposed Resolution

June 15, 2020

Dear Elected Officials:

As individuals authorized to sign on behalf of our organizations, and who are concerned with the health and well-being of all Mansfield/Richland County residents, we endorse the resolution before the Mansfield City Council, recognizing racism as a public health crisis/emergency and requesting that the Richland Public Health Board make a similar declaration.

We call upon all leadership in Mansfield/Richland County to acknowledge that racism exists and has harmful effects on its residents. We additionally call upon each resident to become engaged in dismantling the systemic racism that exists across our community.

As organizations, we also support the creation of a community task force or organizing committee to investigate the impacts of racism in employment, education, housing, criminal justice, healthcare, mental health, and business. The task force will address each of these areas through the formation of committees to engage in fact finding, data analysis, developing appropriate interventions, evaluating progress, and planning for sustainability. We are willing to commit time and resources to support this timely work. Additionally, we will commit to developing a plan within our own organization that addresses the needs of our diverse workforce.

As a community, we must address the injustices of racism and ensure equal opportunity for all who live in Mansfield and Richland County. We stand together as brothers and sisters to address racism as a community crisis. We will continue to add names to this letter, as well as request letters be sent directly to City Council.

Sincerely,

Doug Castle Legacy Project  
Dr. Donna L. Hight & Dr. Elizabeth A. Castle

Mansfield Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance  
Rev. Dr. Laurence Rawls, C.Ed.D., President  
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
Mt. Sinai Baptist Church  
Grace Episcopal Church  
Maddox Memorial COGIC  
Faith Temple COGIC  
LatterRain COGIC  
Shiloh Baptist Church  
Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church  
New Jerusalem COGIC  
New Life Baptist Church  
Turner Chapel AME  
Greater Mitchell Chapel AME  
New Beginning Full Gospel  
Oasis of Love COGIC  
Providence Baptist Church  
First Baptist Church Crestline, Ohio  
New Community Temple COGIC  
Bread of Life COGIC  
All Believers in Christ  
Pastor Paul Lintern's church  
Chaplain Dave Matos, Hospice

Voices of Change Activism and Leadership (VOCAL)  
Dr. Donna L. Hight, Dr. Elizabeth A. Castle, Crystal Weese, Deanna West-Torrence, Lodema M'Poko, Esq., Renda Cline, Tiffany Mitchell, Christina O'Millian,

Love On a Mission  
Deena Pfahler, Executive Director  
Emily Talbott, Secretary

We ACT

Angel Singleton, Timothy Titus Holt, Sr., Brigitte Coles

Richland County Democratic Women's Caucus Executive Committee

Susan Duncan Gentile, Billie Brandon, Tiffany Mitchell

Mid-Ohio Indivisible

Amy Burns, Sean Burns, Christina O'Millian, Joshua Koehler, Tracy Kinley, Sarah Steward

Mansfield Peace Coalition

Maggie Allred, Brie Blevins, Bailey Compton, Alaina Compton, KeeleyWeese, Ember Ernsberger, Tiana Carter

Graziani Multimedia

Tracy Graziani

Providers for Healthy Living

Emily Talbott, Dave Krenrick

Latino Mansfield

Aurelio Diaz

Richland County Democratic Party

Larry Weirich

New Directions

Dr. Blake Wagner

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Donna L. Hight, Ph.D.