

Message from the President



A message in response to racial inequality in America

Distributed to: Good Samaritan Society employees

Dear colleagues,

The Good Samaritan Society was established in 1923 when Rev. August "Dad" Hoeger recognized a need in his community and went above and beyond to meet the need. This choice to respond has made a positive difference in the lives of millions of people throughout our history. Right now, we are hearing cries for justice and racial equality in communities across the country. Just as we've done for nearly 100 years, we have a responsibility to respond and meet the needs of our communities.

The Society is an organization of 18,000 employees, serving 30,000 residents and clients who represent many races, cultures, languages and geographic areas. Our locations represent home to thousands of older adults, and our teams represent family to employees all across the country. Home and family are places of inclusion and love. There is no place for racism at the Good Samaritan Society, and we are committed to fighting it in word and deed. Our collective voice is strong and diverse, and we can make a difference in the journey toward justice and racial reconciliation.

In the communities where we serve, many know us by our motto, *"In Christ's Love, Everyone is Someone."* What does this statement mean as our nation fights for racial equality?

In Christ's love, our black co-workers are someone.

In Christ's love, our indigenous clients are someone.

In Christ's love, our residents of color are someone.

We, the Good Samaritan Society, condemn racism in all its forms. The killing of George Floyd, and those who went before him, not only causes us to mourn the loss of life, it also exposes a system of injustice that is hundreds of years old in our country. This is unacceptable.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Bury". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randy Bury
President
The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society

"Dedicated to sharing God's love through the work of health, healing and comfort"