

Statement on Racism 6.11.20

Dear Parents,

Recent events involving black Americans have served as a substantial reminder of the deep-seated racism, discrimination, and violence that plagues the United States. Furthermore, we recognize the COVID-19 pandemic has had an unequal burden on communities of color; creating increased isolation and additional pain.

The leadership team at Youth Care acknowledges the challenging time in which we find ourselves. We as a program and people strive to have a diverse and inclusive environment safe for people of all backgrounds. We continue to be united in support of all students and families. We remain committed to diversity, inclusion and social justice.

The trauma of these events has an impact on the social and emotional well-being of students and staff. Anti-racist and trauma-informed care not only raises our awareness of racism and trauma experienced by BIPOC and all marginalized peoples, but it also recognizes that we must be purposeful in addressing racism and trauma. We owe this not only to our students, families, and staff, but also to the society we wish to inhabit both now and in the future.

One either allows racial inequities to persevere, as a racist, or confronts racial inequities, as an antiracist. There is no in-between safe space of “not racist.” The claim of “not racist” neutrality is a mask for racism. - Ibram X. Kendi

Bryan Stevenson stated, “You can’t change the world with just ideas in your mind. You must have conviction in your heart.” As a treatment community member and program provider, we must remain convicted to not tolerating acts of racism, hate, bias, or violence. We are angry, heartbroken, and inspired to be better.

In an effort to always improve, we pledge that we will continue to require all staff to attend annual trainings on:

- cultural diversity,
- trauma informed care,
- providing culturally competent care,
- student right/responsibilities,
- harassment training, and
- other trainings that allow for and encourage open discussions and opportunities to examine unconscious bias and increase self-awareness.

Moreover, we remain committed to continuing to offer clinician facilitated groups specifically addressing therapeutic issues for historically underrepresented (e.g., LGBTQ+, BIPOC) students. Additionally, a multidisciplinary (admissions, clinical, residential, and academics) team has formed an advisory board that will guide and advise our practices. We are blessed to have diverse, experienced, passionate and intelligent people across our various departments that are willing to guide our programs and practices. This advisory board has been meeting and has scheduled townhall meetings for our students to further advocate, educate, and improve engagement. Members of this advisory board will also lead trainings for our staff to increase diversity, inclusion, and understanding.

Thank you

Youth Care Leadership Team

Earthquake Update 3.18.20

Parents,

We did experience an earthquake here in Utah around 7:10 AM MST. Latest news updates indicate it was a 5.7 earthquake with an epicenter northwest of where we are located in Draper.

We would like to inform you that all students and staff are safe. There has been no structural damage to any of our buildings and we are proceeding with our normal schedules.

Please continue to check this website for updates concerning your student and campus,

Youth Care Administration