

Dear Friends,

Legal Services for Children stands in solidarity with everyone who has taken to the streets to protest the racist murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade and countless others. We stand together with our partner organizations and with the youth of the Bay Area who have taken to the streets in youth-led protests. We stand together, to demand the end of the killing of Black people in the United States. We stand together, to demand accountability and change. We stand together, to demand the dismantling of systems designed, throughout our history, to perpetuate white supremacy. We stand together, to fight for a country in which we don't have to constantly warn young people of color about the perceived threat of their melanated skin, or the immediate danger to their lives from those who are sworn to protect us.

This week we have warned our clients to be careful about the newly imposed curfew. We know that our clients, youth of color, and in particular Black youth, are the ones most likely to be targeted in any enforcement. Yet again we have to tell our clients, as we have so many times before, that, even though it is completely unfair and unjust, they have to be extra careful; that, for them, even the most normal teenage behavior puts them at risk of arrest, or worse. In reality, our clients already know this because it is made clear day in and day out by the murders of Black Americans. Communities of color have experienced this violence for generations. Despite this, we do not stop fighting for a better life and a better world, and neither will LSC.

We face a daunting road ahead. Providing tools and information, or knowledge of the law and one's rights isn't enough to undo or prevent the violent realities of our unjust society. Together, we have to fight at every moment to dismantle this injustice. We know that, even within our own organization, we have much work to do. But we are not deterred. We must hold ourselves accountable and ensure that we are living up to the social justice ideals we hold sacred. We must always ask the question: "How do we show up?" Legal Services for Children has a responsibility to protect the youth leaders we serve, to work hard to see them thrive, as they guide us toward a more just and equitable world.

In solidarity,

Legal Services for Children

Please join us in supporting the movement: [Black Lives Matter- Ways You Can Help](#)