

In Partnership with InterAction

AIYD Co-Chairs - 2020

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International Youth Foundation

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Making Cents International

RTI International

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As an alliance rooted in advocacy for young people around the world, we join with peer organizations and individuals in breaking the silence on the injustice suffered by Black people in the United States. Profiling, harassment, and violence is especially directed against youth of color: Breonna Taylor, Tamir Rice, Ahmaud Arbery, and Trayvon Martin were all under 30 years old when they were murdered by the police or vigilantes.

In the past week, the very fabric of the country has burst into flames. At the forefront of the movement calling for justice are young people, the generation that we believe has the vision and grit to force those in power to confront the implicit and explicit racism that denies so many people liberty and justice.

For all who are demanding to be treated with dignity, we want you to know that AIYD stands in solidarity with you. Now, more than ever, we commit to foster young people's passion for making the world a better place. We commit to equipping youth with the tools necessary to reform institutions globally. We commit to ensuring the voices of young people are heard.

To our Black and Brown colleagues and friends: we bear witness to your suffering and regret that we did not speak out sooner. To those who are not members of communities of color, we urge you to amplify the voices of our Black peers, mobilize resources of support, and learn to step in to prevent harm when we hear or see our fellow citizens being victimized for the color of their skin.

There are abundant resources to counter racism available on the internet. Seek them out and join us in examining our own lives. Together we can build a society that recognizes the value of all people.

The Alliance of International Youth Development is, at its core, an association working to support youth worldwide regardless of race, age, color, creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin. We pledge to continue that work long after the news cycle is over.