A Special Message to our Community
from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As an agency, we are called to connect with others in the service of healing and transformation. That call beckons us to the aid not only of our clients but also, not less loudly or less urgently, of society itself. Our families, our schools, our communities—these are the places we intersect and interact, and it is in them that we take the ultimate measure of our service. As a society, we stand at a crossroads in history. Our interconnectedness has never been more evident, our debt of care for one another never more crucial. It’s for that debt that we mask ourselves and stand apart; it’s for that debt that we show ourselves and stand together.

These difficult times lay bare the fragility and mortality that we share, but also the inequality and oppression that we do not. These times demand that we take responsibility for change. Responsibility, that we recognize the injustices that surround us. Responsibility, that we hear the voices of color that implore us. And responsibility, that we acknowledge our place in both the problem and its solution. Step Four in the 12-Step tradition reads “Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves”. Surely we all condemn the murder of George Floyd. Do we also condemn the systemic racism that allowed him to suffer state violence? The privilege that allows us not to? When we conduct a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves, what do we find? Are we satisfied to exculpate ourselves from violence while we’ve been complicit in our silence? Are we satisfied with our commitment to a society in which this does not happen again?

At McCall, we aspire to be searching and fearless in our work. Now, we must redouble our efforts to be searching and fearless in an inventory of ourselves. We must examine our policies and procedures, our services, and how they are delivered. We also must examine who makes up our staff, the management that leads us, and the Board that governs us. How do they lead and govern? How can we better engage our community? How can we make ourselves more accessible? What are the questions we must ask, and how can we better listen? How can we foster connection, what role do we play in the healing, and how can we support the transformation of the places we live and work to assure that everyone has an opportunity to thrive in safety and health?

This moment demands that we declare together that black lives do matter, and that we will demonstrate that in the work that we do and the way that we do our work.

In solidarity and peace,

Maria

Excerpted from 'No Man is an Island' by John Donne

No man is an island entire of itself; every man
is a piece of the continent, a part of the main;
if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe
is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as
well as any manor of thy friends or of thine
own were: any man's death diminishes me,
because I am involved in mankind.
And therefore never send to know for whom
the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.