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## Dear NCC Community:

Since March, Nassau Community College and the entire world has been navigating through unchartered territories with the COVID-19 pandemic. The crisis caused by this virus has resulted in special events being canceled such as graduation celebrations, vacations, and even weddings. Exacerbating this time of uncertainty were the most horrific events which included the tragic deaths of Ahmaud Arbery (2/23/20), Breonna Taylor (3/13/20), and George Floyd (5/25/20). The circumstances surrounding the deaths of these African American men, and woman reveal the overwhelming sad truth that there is still much more work we need to do as a society to eradicate racism, injustice and violence.

As we were reminded in Dr. Williams's communication on Monday, we are a broadly diversified community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, family, and friends who personally share in the grief and outrage that weighs heavily on the members of our NCC Community. We believe that one should not be judged because of their skin color, gender, identity, ethnicity, national origin, ethnicity, religion, ability, sexuality, or political ideology. We are committed to inclusion, we require respect for the dignity and worth of each individual, and we endeavor to provide an environment where diversity and the free exchange of ideas can flourish. It is recorded throughout world history in government and business when communities work on their own instead of as a team, they are each doomed to fail, thus the saying; "United we stand, divided we fall". We realize that there are diverse opinions about the recent tragic events, the events that followed, and what should be done next. However, it is our hope that we can all agree with the