

Friends House Retirement Community Inc.



Friends House
community through caring

June 5, 2020

Dear Friends House Family,

What a week this has been! As if we didn't have enough on our minds dealing with the novel coronavirus, we found ourselves trying to comprehend the incomprehensible in the horrific murder of George Floyd. And that was exacerbated by the killing of Retired Captain Dorn live on Facebook, and many other shootings in many other cities. So many lives torn apart this week, whether physical or livelihood or emotional.

With all the violence, there were times when it was hard to see the good that was happening, but it was. Although potentially scary from a coronavirus perspective, the pictures of people of all colors walking and talking peacefully together – including police and protestors hugging each other – shed a big light of hope. There are so many of us who want this world to be a better place for all mankind. That became abundantly evident as we saw more and more pictures of people coming together toward a common cause. It was people caring about other people regardless of skin color or other differences that make us each unique and special individuals.

As a Quaker organization, we are strongly against violence. Much like Dr. Martin Luther King proved, change can and does occur through peaceful means. So we encourage everyone to use this time for dialogue that leads to real and positive improvements/change. And I, for one, believe that change is driven from our hearts one person at a time.

In leadership meetings, we talk about getting beyond the problem to the solution. In other words, this was a very dark week for many. But by focusing and working together toward a better tomorrow, we can let the bright light shine. As a white grandfather who has a black grandson and hispanic granddaughter, I most certainly want this world to be a better place for them as they grow up. So I encourage each of us to start with ourselves, taking a deep look inside for what we can improve, then truly listening and participating to see how we can make a positive difference in this world.

May each of you and your families be safe,

Ron Jennette

Ron Jennette
Interim CEO