



UNITED COMMUNITIES OF SAN ANTONIO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY HEALTH AND EQUITY COMMITTEE

DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND TO ESTABLISH STRONGER EFFORTS TO PROMOTE RACIAL EQUITY IN SAN ANTONIO

The United Communities of San Antonio, Inc. (UCSA), has reviewed the August 7, 2020 Community Health and Equity committee session. Upon request to the Office of the City Manager, UCSA was provided a draft of the resolution. The draft referenced the City of San Antonio Metro Health Department's establishment of the Office of Health Equity in 2017, and a 2019 Racial Equity Indicator Report, which provided metrics specific to Bexar County and the City of San Antonio.

UCSA appreciates the City of San Antonio's complete compilation of supporting evidence which provides documentation specific to the reality, effects, and impacts of racism and inequity within our community.

UCSA was very pleased to learn of the unanimous passage of a resolution out of the Community Health and Equity committee on declaring racism a public health crisis, and to establish stronger efforts to promote racial equity in San Antonio.

Our sincerest and genuine thanks to the members of the Community Health and Equity Committee for being outspoken, providing appropriate leadership, and heartfelt humanity.

UCSA has built a distinguished record of 65 plus years of service to the San Antonio Region through our portfolio of services. Those services include, however are not limited to the following: Advocacy Work, Community Outreach, Dialogue Initiatives, Diversity Training, Educational Outreach, Emergency Resource Availability, Interfaith Awareness, Lawmaking/Legislative Policy Analysis, Social Justice Initiatives, and Programs.

UCSA will continue advocating for racial justice, furthering promotion of racial equity, and working to dismantle and eliminate racism in all its forms. Respectfully, UCSA has requested to be included in the ongoing and forthcoming efforts by the City of San Antonio through the UCSA portfolio of services.

For those who are marginalized; inequality must be acknowledged and both historical and current racial and discriminatory actions must be admitted. The goal must be for all minorities to truly be respected by all, treated as equals, included as their lives matter too, and recognized as worthy and valuable individuals of the human race!

UCSA remains committed to ensuring equality is no longer dismissed as a luxury, but instead recognized as a commodity, in hopes for it to be realized! Together, as a united community; we can be collaborative champions to create just, safe, and inclusive communities for all people.

In Unity,

Herbert Nance, President/CEO, Executive Committee, and the General Board of Directors

MISSION

United Communities of San Antonio is a human relations organization dedicated to creating safe and inclusive communities, while advocating for social justice, by promoting understanding and respect among all people through awareness, education, and dialogue.