



4 June 2020

Dear Members, Colleagues, Donors, and Clients,

We started with a dream. That dream was and is to see a world wherein men and women who, because of how they look, do not have to make additional preparations in order to live their daily lives without fear. They wouldn't have to prepare their children for literal life and death *battle* whenever they go outside just because their skin is dark and their hair grows in tight coils. Here we are today, I wish I could say something dramatic like, "these are unprecedented times," or "these are new and challenging times," but a conversation with any octogenarian would tell us that, sadly, we've been here before. That makes me angry. It makes me angry because when I think of the technological, scientific, and humanitarian advancements we've made even since the 1900's- as a country and in our communities we're still *here*, in this most dismal state of mind and state of being. Why can't we get it right? What makes it so easy to be on the verge of creating artificial intelligences, yet our own intelligence sometimes isn't sufficient enough to help us identify the simple truth that black people are human too?

I've had enough. We've had enough. Breaking this cycle is why Alloi even exists. Our elders were right, this is not the first time, *but we can choose to make it the last*. Here is our commitment to the black communities we serve:

Comprehensive Assistance

We will expand our mission beyond just education to include active assistance. We still believe in a foundation of financial literacy, but we will do more to help guide you along your path.

Economic Recovery Assistance

We are repurposing our career assistance program to be more in touch with the future of work and the surrounding factors of the workplace. Whether you are reconfiguring your business from the destruction of the pandemic, or riots, or starting a new business after job loss- we promise to be here for you.

Business and Work Advocacy

We will work with our communities to become a beacon of accountability, upstanding behavior, and equitable treatment of all individuals, especially those affected by systemic forms of suppression and oppression, like the black community.

We are small and our goals large, but nothing worthy is done because it is easy. We hope you will help us in our endeavors by volunteering or donating at Alloi.org because this organization cannot do this alone, but we will not stand idly by, we will do our part.

Sincerely,

Kelyn D. Lanier

Director

Alloi Progress Incubator, Inc