Nakani Native Program Stands in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter (BLM)

Black, Brown, and Native community’s histories are linked by the devastating impacts of colonialism while our shared history of being oppressed has been and continues to be erased and grossly misrepresented.

The brutal police killing of George Floyd and many others exemplifies the deep injustice and historical institutional racism that has afflicted Black lives for over 400 years.

Many Indigenous People also have Black heritage, and many Black people have Indigenous heritage. We honor and celebrate the beauty and strength that we create together. Our cultures share histories of genocide, forced relocation, targeted violence by police and others, systematic economic oppression, and policies that intentionally prevent us from home ownership, equal access to education, health care, and fresh healthy food.

History shows colonizers seek to pit those that they intend to colonize against each other. We commit to prevent this happening.

We support Black Lives Matter’s struggle to live free from fear and persecution, to be treated with honor and respect, and to have equal opportunities of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

We will continue to take meaningful, concrete actions for racial equity while holding our friends, partners, allies, adversaries, and government accountable to do the same.

To that end we commit to take these actions:
1. Update our written Racial Equity Plan
2. Pay racial equity consultants to critique our Racial Equity Plan
3. Hold workshops about racial equity from an indigenous perspective
4. Ask for written copies of our partners’, funders’, and local and county governments’ racial equity plan and offer to critique their plans
5. If they do not have a written racial equity plan offer to help them write one

The Nakani Native Program is a Seattle-based nonprofit committed to working with Black, Brown, and Native communities to end institutional racism, sexism, and classism.

In solidarity,

Nakani Native Program Board and Staff