



## In Solidarity with Those Calling for Justice and Equality

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Like millions of others, the GFLEC team is feeling the anguish of recent events in the United States. George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor are the latest to be added to an ever-growing list of African Americans brutally killed. The recent incident in New York's Central Park illustrates the daily injustices committed against African Americans. Adding to our sorrow and frustration is the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 and the economic crisis in the Black communities and other minority groups. All of these things are connected. They are born out of a long history of racism and discrimination that cannot be ignored. Changes in mindsets, actions, and policies cannot be delayed.

I take comfort in one of the ideas shared by Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., in his "I Have a Dream" speech. He said, "Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope." Amidst my feelings of despair, I also feel hope. I feel hope because today's voice for change is strong, and together we can make substantial strides toward equality.

At GFLEC, we believe that every individual and institution has a role to play in the fight against racism and inequality. Our work to promote financial literacy and financial well-being is part of a larger struggle for justice and equal opportunity. We know that there are gaps in financial literacy based on race. We also know that being financially literate is a critical component of achieving financial well-being. Financial education must be rigorously taught in schools and the workplace to eliminate the gaps and promote equal opportunity. We will continue to promote these changes through our work.

We strongly and unequivocally reaffirm our commitment to human dignity, unity, equality, and impartiality, and we will continue to do everything we can to create a just world that has equal respect for all people.

Be safe and well,

Annamaria Lusardi  
Founder and Academic Director, GFLEC

***"Remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."***

***— Harriet Tubman***



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