



To our NextCorps Community:

In the 11 years I've had the opportunity to serve as president of NextCorps, we have intentionally never made social, ethical, or political statements on behalf of the organization. But the events that have unfolded recently point to the need to deviate from our standard operating procedure.

Quite simply, there are no sides to this issue, no debate, there is only a clear right and wrong.

We have all recently witnessed — yet again — that racism still exists in our country. While many of us find it hard to believe that there are people who would judge another human based on the color of their skin, it sadly is still a reality. And not adding NextCorps' voice to the chorus of all the other organizations and individuals who are publicly making statements about the need to finally eliminate racism once and for all, would be a big mistake on our part. Silence isn't going to change the status quo. We all need to figure out how to do better.

We don't have all the answers. But we do share the vision for a world free from injustice — one where equality and compassion are central to our behaviors and actions. As a center for entrepreneurial innovation and growth, serving companies who come from all parts of the globe, we've been fortunate to witness how different perspectives, collaboration, and a commitment to inclusivity can shape change and lead to both business and personal growth. But, like many tech-based organizations across the country, we recognize that the percentage of minority-led companies in our programs, and in our community, is still too low.

We will continue to work on this issue with our community partners, to ensure we are reaching everyone who has that entrepreneurial spark. And if any of you have ideas on how we can build a more supportive and inclusive environment, [we'd love to hear your input](#).

Regards,  
Jim



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