



This week, the youth in our LGBTQ group home peacefully voiced their outrage at the systemic racism that plagues our country, holding signs and marching in solidarity during the beginning of Pride Month. They marched for people of color, they marched for themselves, they marched for their communities. And as they marched, others joined them. Strangers became allies, standing side by side, finding power and comfort in the commonality of heart and voice.

Once again, the children in our care inspire us to be better and remind us that our work is not complete if we are not standing up for others. Children of color, particularly black children, are overrepresented in the child welfare system. Children of color, particularly black children, are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system. The pervasive impact of Structural and Systemic Racism that drives our systems in this way must be dismantled. We envision a future where all children grow up with equal access to high quality education, to safe communities that are free from violence, to adequate food and shelter, and with connection to loving homes.

We envision a future where children of color who are described as adorable and cute when they are little can grow up in a world as young men and women truly seen for who they are, free to walk where they choose without fear of being in their own skin. We envision a future that honors equality.

We all can do better. We must do better. Our children deserve better.

At The Home for Little Wanderers:

- We commit to a world where Black Lives Matter.
- We commit to end police brutality and the structures that support it.
- We commit to juvenile justice reform.
- We commit to supporting difficult conversations.
- We commit to using our voice to advocate with our public officials to dismantle racism.
- We will not be silent.

Hate Has No Home Here.

Lesli Suggs, President and CEO