



Minnesota Psychiatric Society

A District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association

June 2, 2020

Friends and colleagues,

First of all, we are writing to acknowledge the historic and unsettling events of the past week. We have all been witness to the events that led up to the tragic and horrifying death of Mr. George Floyd. While these events have left many of us numb and too shocked for words, it is important that we come together in solidarity and act to prevent such reprehensible incidents from recurring in future. MPS strongly condemns any acts of racism and police brutality against persons from minority communities.

Secondly, we would like to reinforce our commitment to the support and emotional well-being of our community. To this end, we encourage you to reach out to fellow MPS members for connection and support.

Please remember that MPS continues to partner to offer telephone support through the COVID Cares Support Service. While it originally began to help healthcare workers, first responders, and essential personnel navigate COVID front line stress, it is there for you now as well. Please call the line anytime from 9am to 9pm for help. It is a free, anonymous service, and we are here to help.

Finally, we would like to remind you that even in the midst of troubling times, there are stories, bright spots, to share. When circumstances force extreme responses, our community comes together to protect patients and colleagues, and it is definitely uplifting. Please share your stories of connection and cooperation with us. We will share them widely. Hope is contagious, let's build on it.

Stay safe,

MPS President Allison Holt, MD, FAPA

MPS President Elect Chinmoy Gulrajani, MD, DFAPA

MPS Past President Sheila Specker, MD, DFAPA