



We stand in solidarity with our partners to say loud and clear – racism is indefensible. The societal structures and institutions that support it must be confronted, dismantled, and reformed. Black and brown families and individuals should no longer be subject to brutality, unequal justice, and education and economic systems that work against them.

We Raise NJ was formed to address inequities in public education. We have attempted to improve education for children from low income communities and children of color by empowering parents, students, and educators to create change using data and a better understanding of how public education works. But that is not – and has not been – enough.

The protests across America are amplifying important voices who have gone unheard for far too long. We Raise NJ is connecting with diverse stakeholders – with a focus on people of color – to truly hear them and authentically join with them in important decision-making. Educational partners, parents, students, educators, and business leaders are participating in research and discussion, informing us about the concerns and needs of New Jerseyans, so that we can all collaborate to address them in a new, equitable vision of public education. Through this, we remain firmly committed to the goal that all children must be ready to live, learn, and earn when they graduate high school.

We understand that this is just the beginning of our work toward true justice. We will continue to listen and learn, connect with new partners to grow our work, and pledge to use our platform to advocate for practices that defeat racism and discrimination while building a more equitable future.