

August 16, 2017

In 2003, a politically, geographically and racially diverse – some would say divided – group of people were appointed to the founding Board of Directors of the REACH Healthcare Foundation. The following year, the foundation adopted a set of [Guiding Principles and Core Values](#) as a compass for our work as a group and to be reflected in our community investments.

One of those core values – ***Demonstrates in its work inclusiveness, respect and appreciation for the backgrounds, differences and points of view of others*** – demands that we speak out unequivocally against individuals and groups that perpetuate hate, and who advocate and incite violence against other human beings based upon their skin color, country of origin, legal status, faith background, sexual orientation or any other difference.



Likewise, REACH calls upon our fellow nonprofit, business, community and policy leaders to join us in denouncing recent events in Charlottesville, Va., and elsewhere that are instigated by those who demonstrate through their words and actions that they are intent on violating the civil, legal and human rights of others. A healthy society, a truly American society, is one that honors and embraces diversity and celebrates both our differences and similarities.

REACH is proud to stand with our many partners who share these values, and we explicitly condemn those who seek to undermine our American democracy and the health and safety of its people.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda R. Sharpe".

Brenda R. Sharpe
President & CEO
REACH Healthcare Foundation