



July 1, 2020

The governance and staff of Belle Reve New Orleans stand in solidarity with the people and movements in our city, state and across our country and the world, demanding justice for the murder of George Floyd. The systematic devaluation of Black lives that led to the killing of so many Black people at the hands of police and white supremacists, including Mr. Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Charleena Lyles and countless others, is both heartbreaking and outrageous.

We acknowledge that racism and white supremacy are rampant in our country and thus have enabled the creation of policies that have allowed these killings to occur. We likewise understand that these same structures create the racist policies that cause Black people to experience homelessness, evictions, and housing instability at disproportionate rates. For the past three decades, Belle Reve New Orleans has strived to advance the rights and well-being of historically marginalized communities, including those living with HIV. As we move forward as a community-based organization, achieving our mission to provide affordable housing to seniors that is consistent with the principles of diversity, respect and dignity requires us to fight for equity and racial justice in the housing system and do everything we can to dismantle racism more broadly.

We recommit to this work and pledge to be better allies in the broader movement for racial justice. To start, we join Black Lives Matter in calling for a redistribution of resources, specifically toward investments in the health and prosperity of our communities. We encourage our community of supporters to join us in committing to becoming actively anti-racist in both words and action.

David Mesler, Board President

William Bedwell, Executive Director

Shelter Resources, Inc. dba Belle Reve New Orleans