

## **Achieve Brown County Reflection and Statement on Anti-Racism**

Achieve Brown County exists to convene, facilitate and support the collaborative efforts of businesses, non-profits, schools, government agencies and individual community members in pursuit of a single, shared community vision: a future in which all young people in Brown County get exactly what they need to succeed in school, work and life regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, zip code or circumstance.

As we further reflect on our ongoing collective impact following the harassment of Christian Cooper and murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, we recognize this vision cannot be realized until the forces of racism inherent in our society are truly reckoned with. Today and every day, we stand together with our public and private partners in saying:

We hear, see and feel the pain and anger.

We unequivocally reject racism in any form.

We can and will do better, individually and collectively.

In order for our county's young people to have a chance at the truly equitable future we envision for them, we will continue working together in the most inclusive way possible, holding ourselves accountable to seeking out, listening to and amplifying the voices of our black community and every person of color. We will also continue to pursue collaborative action that not only dismantles the systems and structures that suppress equitable achievement, but effectively confronts the role race plays in perpetuating injustice.

Lastly, we reaffirm our commitment to place these efforts at the very forefront of our work.

Denis Hogan
Community Leadership Council Chair

Spencer Bonnie Executive Director