

Statement on the One Year Anniversary of George Floyd's Death at the Hands of Law Enforcement

On May 25th 2020, the late George Floyd was murdered on a Minneapolis street under the knee of an on-duty Police Officer. That event turned out to be the spark for what became an even stronger worldwide movement to highlight and prevent racial traumas and disparities. Londoners from all communities and walks of life have come together in a sign of solidarity.

The **London ACEs Hub** embraces this allyship and alliance across communities and joins the call for racial justice, compassionate and resilient anti-racist policing and society and the elimination of all adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), especially, in this instance, the **ACE of racism**.

A disproportionate number of people of African, African Caribbean, Asian, Mixed ethnic backgrounds and from other minority ethnicities have experienced traumas associated with unfair and unjust policing. Some of their names are known; some of their stories have never been told. George Floyd's life represents the life of an ordinary "black man". Yet, through his cruel public death, he transcended the barriers that stand between us. We, as a society, are having meaningful conversations that touch hearts and minds and bring us together to help one another heal.

May 25th 2020 sparked a movement for a radical review about how we think about adversity and trauma generated by interpersonal and systemic racial prejudice. It also prompted further reflection upon the accountability of those in power who are responsible for providing safety, including our police and criminal justice systems.

The **London ACEs Hub** recognises that progress can be hard to measure, particularly on such a complex matter, but we know that significant societal and systemic changes often arise from harrowing places. Adversity, pain and trauma can trigger action and hope and be vehicles for change.

Much healing needs to happen, especially in how we view one another. Let us use the pain and suffering that this anniversary represents to recharge our efforts and spur our desire to achieve a more just society in our great City.

The **London ACEs Hub** reiterates its **Racial Justice 26th September Statement** calling on all Londoners to come together to eliminate the pernicious impacts of racism on children, families and communities.

Rest in peace George Floyd and all the others, young and old, who lost their lives in similar circumstances in London, in the UK and around the world.