

A Statement from Centro's Executive Director, Karen Menendez Coller

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Black Lives Matter.

We stand with a verdict that has finally created a moment of respite for Black men, women and families. We stand with George Floyd's family and hope this verdict grants some healing for them in the midst of navigating the despair of their loved one's murder.

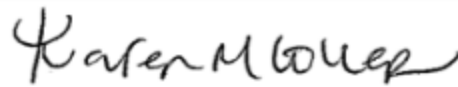


The trauma of witnessing the killing of yet another unarmed Black man will stay with us for generations to come. Our communities of color have faced so many relentless attacks. But this week, for the first time, we have finally witnessed accountability.

We hope that this moment is the beginning of change in this country and the world. Real change focused on dismantling systemic racism and that honors the memory of George Floyd, Daunte Wright, Adam Toledo, Ma'Khia Bryant, Tony Robinson and so many others. Change that reimagines possibilities, and above all else, change that is based on community need, voice and understanding.

It is time for dignity and respect for our families, time to humanize our communities and value us for the citizens we are. The future *can* be better, be what it needs to be, for *all* our children. We will stand together in solidarity and continue to work hard for what is just and for what our communities deserve.

Karen Menendez Coller
Executive Director
Centro Hispano of Dane
County





*CREDIT: This mural was reproduced digitally for George Floyd's memorial service in Minneapolis, MN. It was one of the first public artworks by community artists **Cadex Herrera**, **Greta McLain**, and **Xena Goldman**.*