It has been an especially hard week as we all struggle to process the recent events, and the systemic social injustice that continues to be exposed. This weekly email blast was meant to bring positivity and light in these trying times, and we will continue to do that as long as it feels useful. However, this week’s list will look a little different. Our ILEA NCC President, Rachel, reached out this week, challenging us to look into our community to offer assistance. We want to help you get started. In lieu of our regular content, we’ve put together a list of resources on how we can take action through education and support. I am by no means an expert in this topic, but like many of you, I’ve leaned into the conversation and am doing my research to better understand this crisis. Here is the beginning of that.

- My immediate goal is to educate myself and listen. Here is an [anti-racist reading list](#) I’ll be using to get started on that.

- The Color of Change [Petition](#) to end violent policing is a very quick way to take a stand. The website includes a list of demands they are calling for so we encourage you to read through the initiatives before adding your name to their cause.

- We invite you to join in lifting up and supporting [Black-owned businesses](#) through dining during these difficult times. This directory of restaurants and pop-ups in the Bay Area is being crowd-sourced and updated to create a comprehensive list of small businesses to support.

- We are in a time of heightened awareness however the issue of racism is widespread and on-going. To keep these causes in your news feed, check out this list of [anti-racist accounts to follow on social media](#).

- This article from The Cut offers a list of [actionable ways](#) to safely support the protests, including a broad list of organizations to donate to in support of this cause.
And finally, through all of the important messages that have been shared this week, I continue to return to Trevor Noah’s insightful commentary on the recent events and how they have been compounded by the global pandemic.

We believe in this incredible community. We are here to support a successful recovery during these trying times, which means something a little different for each of you. Please reach out to us at togetherweekly@ileancc.org if you have a resource to share – we are committed to doing more and being better. And the best way to do that is to leverage our ILEA NCC community in that shared goal!

Growing Together While Apart,
Kelsey Linden, Board of Directors