



For immediate release – MHI statement of solidarity against anti-Black racism

OTTAWA | THURS., JUNE 4, 2020 – Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI) stands in solidarity with communities participating in anti-racism movements in Ottawa – as well as throughout Canada, the U.S. and around the globe. We believe the world faces a moment in time where we have the opportunity to create a better, safer future for people of colour.

“Our communities are made up of tenants that come from a variety of ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds,” said MHI Executive Director Suzanne Le. “For too many of the people who call MHI home, the threat of discrimination is a daily reality. We find this unacceptable, and we want change.”

Furthermore, Le noted that housing issues and racial justice are inextricably linked. According to [Homelessness Hub](#), 1 in 5 racialized families in Canada live in poverty, compared to only 1 in 20 non-racialized families. In addition, young people who endure homelessness are more likely to belong to a marginalized/discriminated against group in terms of ethnicity, race, gender and sexuality.

“Like all providers of affordable housing, MHI exists at the intersection of a broader spectrum of social issues, including housing policy,” said Le.

MHI staff are encouraged to participate in the No Peace Until Justice Ottawa march on Fri., June 5. The peaceful protest will honour the life of U.S. citizen George Floyd, whose death on May 25 while in the custody of Minneapolis police [sparked protests around the world](#). The march starts at 3 pm outside the U.S. Embassy (490 Sussex Dr.). Organizers are asking the public to comply with social distancing regulations and be dressed appropriately for the weather. For more information and updates, visit [No Peace Until Justice’s Facebook page](#).

ABOUT MHI

Multifaith Housing Initiative is an affordable housing charity based in Ottawa, Canada. Founded in 2002, MHI is dedicated to providing safe, affordable, and well-maintained housing in inclusive communities. MHI voting membership consists of faith groups from the Ottawa region, including Baha’i, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, and Muslim congregations. MHI currently



operates housing facilities on four sites, including the Haven, a 98-unit facility in Barrhaven. MHI's fifth project – Veterans' House in Rockcliffe – is currently under construction and is scheduled to open in early 2021. For more information, visit www.multifaithhousing.ca.