

## Statement from the Albany County Land Bank Regarding Racial Justice

At the Albany County Land Bank, we join with the many other entities working to ensure that injustice will not be tolerated and that as an organization, we do our part in helping address some of the disparities that are evident in our nation as it pertains to systemic racism.

We recognize the injustices of institutional discriminatory housing and lending practices that have systemically harmed communities of color and plagued our country and region for far too long.

We recognize our role in creating meaningful opportunities for people of all races, colors, national origins, religion, sexual-orientation, familial status and disability to prosper.

We stand together with African Americans and other members of underserved communities to confront the disparities created by racial and economic injustices and we reaffirm our commitment to building equitable and inclusive neighborhoods.

We are committed to listening and learning and being part of the broader discourse. We are also committed to action.

We recently formed an initiative to ensure that we are applying our resources effectively to address systemic disparities, support underserved populations and strengthen underserved communities.

Because of the recent national and local events, we are accelerating this initiative and will call upon financial institutions, foundations, nonprofits, for-profits and all levels of government to partner with us so that we can continue to eliminate blight while creating more fair and just opportunities for homeownership in our county.

We are committed to do what we can to assist with improving quality of life, providing affordable housing, and helping our underserved communities recover from the disproportionate economic damage resulting from the current public health crisis and racial tension.

The Albany County Land Bank can do more. We will do more.