



Women's March San Diego Demands Racial Justice Now

Across the nation and globally, protests calling for racial justice continue. Like you, we are heartsick from the latest murders of Black Americans Ahmaud Abernathy, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and the many others, named and unnamed. We see and center the pain of the Black community, for whom this violence is not new. The pain we feel is evidence that white supremacy harms us all and must fuel our Anti-Racist work and our affirmative, unequivocal rejection of racism. The civil unrest that has unfolded this week is the result of the long and complicated history of our country; one of oppression and dehumanization, of systemic racism and racial injustice. This is the America we created. We must do better.

The Women's March movement was born of collective protest - a reaction to the outcome of the 2016 Presidential election. This week, San Diegans joined in protests throughout the County and we saw the impact of these protests in the announcement of a long awaited ban on the use of carotid restraints by the San Diego Police Department, followed by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, along with several more cities. This first and important step is a precursor to the November initiative on an independent commission for more effective police oversight.

Unity principles bind our movement, and include value statements on Civil Rights and Ending Violence. We stand firm in our rejection of language or action from any person or group that targets, disparages, denigrates, threatens, or harms another person or group. Every person deserves to live a full and healthy life, free of all forms of violence. We believe in accountability and justice in cases of police brutality and ending racial profiling and targeting of communities of color. Our work must be undertaken in our hearts and in our families, in our schools and workplaces, in our houses of worship and government. We know it is our moral imperative to dismantle the gender and racial inequities within the criminal justice system and these are critical steps within our community. To find out how to get involved, we suggest following the incredible work of San Diegans for Justice at @SDForJustice or <https://www.sandiegansforjustice.com/>.



WOMEN'S
MARCH
SAN DIEGO

ACTION STATEMENT

As we pursue racial justice, our purpose is to build vibrant collaboration and honor the legacy of the movements before us. From the abolitionists and suffragists, to Civil and LGBTQIA Rights, we understand that our liberation is bound up in one another. This is why Women's March San Diego is aligning with our community partners at March for Black Womxn San Diego @M4BWSD and Black Lives Matter San Diego @BLMSD. We urge our supporters to follow their lead in the days ahead, listening with open ears, minds, and hearts.

WMSD seeks opportunities to foster growth and understanding, to create space for conversation and connection, and to expand a sense of belonging. We invite you to visit our web and social media sites where we will continue to share resources such as links to our community partners, action items, book lists, channels for moral and financial support, mutual and government aid, and community response. Finally, our focus continues to be the meaningful inclusion of diverse women on our team, and invite community support as we continue to work toward this goal. While diverse, we acknowledge there are essential voices missing from our table, please consider joining us.

In closing, we send our love to the Black community. Our hearts are with the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor. Bless their memories. We hope you will join us in our effort to learn, reimagine, reconcile, and rebuild.

Black lives matter to us.

###