Dear Students,

The staff of the UMass Dartmouth Counseling Center is appalled by the senseless deaths and acts of violence against persons of color, most recently George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery, as well as the inflammatory accusations against Christian Cooper, who did nothing except to ask someone to leash their dog. We realize that when incidents like these occur, students’ sense of safety is threatened. We also realize that many more incidents of oppression and discrimination occur every day than are documented or reported on the news, both in communities of color as well as in other minority communities. Amidst the suffering that COVID-19 has already wrought on our students and the people they love, we find it intolerable that prejudice, discrimination and violence continue to add to that suffering.

We at the Counseling Center want you to know that we stand in solidarity with you and against prejudice, discrimination, and violence. We recognize your losses and fears and grieve with you during this difficult time. We reassert that all staff members at the Counseling Center are committed to the principles of social justice, equality and inclusion. Although we are not physically on campus at this time due to COVID-19, the Counseling Center remains open. To access services, please call 508-999-8648 and leave a message. Your call will be returned promptly by one of our staff members. Be well and stay safe.

Cate Perry
David Perry
Jaclyn Gray
James Graham
Lisa Ayotte
Nancy Harper
Nik Olendzki
Rachel Friendly
Rhonda Mcloughlin