



## *REFLECTIONS ON THE VERDICT IN THE CHAUVIN TRIAL*

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ENDING DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE  
IN OUR COMMUNITY

Now that Derek Chauvin has been found guilty on all three counts of murder, we can release our collective breath. Our hearts are with the family of George Floyd and the many others who have died at the hands of law enforcement, most recently Daunte Wright and Adam Toledo. While this verdict cannot bring back the life of George Floyd, we hope that the verdict will be the beginning of long overdue accountability against police violence.

Still we know that accountability is not guaranteed unless we continue our work to end racial inequity and ensure justice for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, ability, religion, immigration status. We must take a stand. We must speak out in support of our black and brown neighbors, friends, and community members. We must speak out against anti-Asian hate and transgender repression. I ask you to reach out to your Senators and urge them to support the George Floyd Justice in Police Act.

At New Hope we frequently speak of the role of bystander intervention. The bystanders who chose to stop, to record, to challenge Derek Chauvin as he murdered George Floyd demonstrated the power of the role of bystanders. Their willingness to get involved shows that one person, with the courage to stop and to act can make a huge difference.

If there is any takeaway from this trial, I challenge each of you to follow the example of these bystanders and get involved in the fight for racial justice. To quote Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., *“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”*

In solidarity,

Marcia Szymanski  
President/CEO