



International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses

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Dear Colleagues,

The International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses (ISPN) was officially inaugurated in 1999 at the First Annual ISPN Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. ISPN's mission is "to support advanced-practice psychiatric-mental health nurses in promoting mental health care, literacy, and policy worldwide". Through the dedicated work of Diversity and Equity Committee members, we deliberately address population needs for a mental health workforce that is diverse and intentional about addressing all forms of racism, discrimination, bias, and injustice. As an organization, we sorrowfully acknowledge the civil unrest that has surfaced across the world in response to a) the disproportionately high death rates of Black, Latino, American Indian/Native American, and impoverished citizens during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and b) the injustice of racism made recently most apparent by the killing of George Floyd by officers of the Minneapolis, Minnesota, Police Department. We condemn this act of inhumanity and continue to be committed to our work to create a society that embraces the health and well-being of all people. We know that now more than ever, our world is in need of compassionate mental health providers to serve as a balm to pervasive trauma, a tool to prevent avoidable health inequities, and an approach to addressing the psychosocial factors that create conditions for oppression and injustice. ISPN envisions a future in which racism is eliminated and diversity, equity, and inclusion exists and are celebrated. We remain dedicated to joining with others to promote equitable, quality mental health care for individuals, families, and communities.

Deborah Johnson, DNP, NP, PMHNP-BC, ISPN President
ISPN Board of Directors
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