

PLEDGE TO END RACISM

JOIN us in reading this pledge aloud with your family and friends!

Mindful of the continuing affliction of racism, including racial, ethnic, religious, gender and other forms of bias, prejudice and bigotry in my own life, my family, my circle of friends, my co-workers and the society in which I live, with conviction and hope:

<u>I take this pledge</u>, fully aware that the struggle to eliminate racism will not end with a mere pledge but calls for an ongoing transformation within myself and the institutions and structures of our society.

I take this pledge to look deeply and continuously in my heart and in my mind to identify all signs and vestiges of racism; to rebuke the use of racist language and behavior towards others; to root out such racism in my daily life and in my encounters with persons I know and with strangers I do not know; and to expand my consciousness to be more aware and sensitive to my use of overt and subtle expressions of racism and racial stereotypes;

<u>I take this pledge</u> to educate myself on racial justice issues and share what I learn in my own communities even if it means challenging my family, my friends, those I work with and those I encounter on a daily basis

<u>I take this pledge</u>, within my means, to actively work to support public policy solutions that prominently, openly and enthusiastically promote racial equity in all aspects of human affairs; and to actively support and devote my time to YWCA, as well as other organizations working to eradicate racism from our society.

YWCA York is on a mission to eliminate racism and empower women. I join the YWCA in taking a stand against racism today and every day.