

It is critical to acknowledge how systematic racism has resulted in the killing of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade and many more members of Black communities. The acts of targeted violence against Black communities are deeply rooted in problematic, systematic practices. The range of emotions felt in response to these injustices is incredibly valid.

As the largest student organization on campus, we in UI Dance Marathon have a responsibility to use our platform to speak out against discriminatory, racist, and violent practices. As a predominantly white student organization at a predominantly white institution, we recognize our privileges and ability to advocate for those who are often unheard.

In our 27th year, efforts and conversations have begun with campus partners and organizations to better provide educational resources through our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Though this committee does not eliminate any exclusive practices from the past or excuse us from working towards change, it is a tool to advocate for ongoing efforts towards equity to benefit our families.

UI Dance Marathon stands in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and will continue to serve as an advocate. Today, we must acknowledge the acts of oppression and racism in hopes of working toward a better future for all. As students and community members, it is up to us to seek educational resources, acknowledge privileges, and provide relief where it is needed.

**Below are campus and community resources that can be utilized.**

**ACLU Hawkeye Chapter:** <https://www.aclu-ia.org/en/about/hawkeyechapter>

**City of Iowa City Human Rights Ordinance:**

<https://www.icgov.org/city-government/departments-and-divisions/equity-and-human-rights>

**Equal Opportunity and Diversity:** 319-335-0705

**Office of the Ombudsperson:** 319-335-3608

**Women's Resource and Action Center (WRAC):** 319-335-1486

**Rape Victim Advocacy Program (RVAP):** 319-335-6000

**University Counseling Service:** 319-335-7294

**Office of the Dean of Students:** 319-335-1162

**Campus Inclusion Team:** 319-335-1162

**Center for Diversity and Enrichment:** 319-335-3555

