



Saturday, June 6 2020

The Afghan Youth Engagement and Development Initiative (AYEDI) would like to acknowledge the ongoing and collective grief, anger, and outcry concerning state-sanctioned police brutality and systematic anti-black racism against Black people in Canada and the United States.

#BlackOutTuesday is not only about being silent. We need to speak up and amplify important voices and information. As Afghan-Canadians, it is our responsibility to stand against anti-Black racism, and recognize and confront our own biases and complicity within ourselves. Anti-Black racism is present in the Afghan community and this plays a part in perpetuating systemic racism. We need to do more to challenge these views whether it is expressed by our neighbours, families, friends, and community.

We mourn and honour the lives of George Floyd, Andrew Loku, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Regina Korchinski-Paquet, D'andre Campbell and countless other lives that were unjustly taken away by the ongoing state-sanctioned police violence and systematic anti-Black racism.

We've listed a few links below and we encourage the community to support our brothers and sisters across the border in their struggle if you are financially able to do so:

1. <https://minnesotafreedomfund.org>
2. <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/freeblackmamas202>
3. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/georgefloyd>
4. <https://blacklivesmatters.carrd.co/>
5. If you are posting your pledges to allyship right now and can afford it, please donate to Healing Collective Toronto. They are supporting Black therapists in providing low to no cost therapy to Black communities.  
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-fund-for-blackled-mental-health-supports>

No Justice. No Peace.

Black Lives Matter.

With love and solidarity,

AYEDI