



February 1, 2017

To Our Community,

Over the past week, we have seen many changes being introduced by the federal administration. Recently, a federal executive order was issued on certain aspects of immigration which might directly impact some residents of our community. This executive order has sparked confusion, anger and fear for some. Uncertainty is making many others feel anxious and stressed.

We are a nation that welcomes individuals seeking freedom, fleeing persecution and pursuing a better life. That is no more evident than right here in the city of Lowell, a community that has served as a home for generations of immigrants who arrived here without much more than a promise for the future. Our community has endeavored to deliver on that promise by welcoming our new neighbors and supporting them in the start of a new life. In turn, each generation of immigrants has lent a hand to the next. We know that our strength as a community relies on being good neighbors, colleagues, classmates and friends to all who make Lowell their home.

Collectively our organizations have helped thousands of people by supporting their healing throughout their re-settlement in this country. Despite the fact that many have come from war-torn countries, we have witnessed the amazing resiliency and strength of our immigrant and refugee communities and understand that we all benefit from their successes and great contributions. We are committed to continuing to support everyone with the same level of caring, love and compassion we have demonstrated over the years.

Joining together, each of our nonprofit organizations is strengthened by our shared resolve and commitment to our community. Collectively, we provide shelter, food security, employment opportunities, social services, health care and much more in order to create the foundation for a better life. We are here to support all immigrants who choose to make Lowell their home on their path to safety, security and happiness.

We choose to stand for human dignity, respect and equal opportunity. We choose to support our refugee and immigrant neighbors who make up a vital part of the fabric of Greater Lowell.

Sincerely,

Yun-Ju Choi, Executive Director
Coalition for a Better Acre

Karen N. Frederick, Chief Executive Officer
Community Teamwork

Gordon Halm, Director
African Community Center

Susan West Levine, Chief Executive Officer
Lowell Community Health Center

Sovanna Pouy, Executive Director
Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell, Inc.