June 8, 2020

SNP Alliance Statement on Social Justice

The mission of the SNP Alliance is to be a national force to improve the health and wellbeing of vulnerable populations and those with complex care needs. We recognize that, in addition to the social determinates of safe housing, access to food, transportation, and service supports that impact heath, wellbeing also requires social justice. We support the rights of equality and protection for Black lives, and believe that ALL individuals in the U.S. deserve equal treatment under the law, not just a select and privileged few.

Right now, our country is deeply injured. We will not heal until there is social justice and equal protections for all.

Racial disparities are documented in health care. They are documented in long term care. We know the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has also disproportionately affected people of color.

The SNP Alliance is committed to serving those individuals with physical and behavioral disabilities, those requiring supports and services for long-term care, and those with serious chronic conditions. We know we cannot separate race, income, and other social factors from that equation – in fact, people of color in low income communities who have support needs, are those at the greatest risk.

It is in this spirit that the SNP Alliance condemns racism – and recognizes the impact overt and implicit racism has on health, on housing, on access to services, and to wellbeing. We are clear that social justice is, and must be, part of our nation’s attention to social determinants of health.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Phillips, M.D.
President and CEO, SNP Alliance
Washington, D.C.