



"I have been trying to find the right words to express my thoughts and feelings regarding the recent acts of injustice in our country. I cannot find the "right" words so I will only express how I feel in my heart. The emotional toll of watching what happened to George Floyd, and many others, has brought a sense of disgust and frustration. I can emphatically express how much we love and care for our students, their families and our HSC team members of color. Despite this, I cannot begin to feel the depth of what you are feeling right now.

"There is no denying that significant change needs to occur to correct where we have historically fallen short. We can, and should be angry and frustrated with the structural failures that exist while at the same time be willing to commit to work together on the much needed solutions. We need to welcome difficult conversations while showing kindness, compassion and respect toward those with whom we may differ or disagree.

"Now more than ever these events have reaffirmed why what we do here, at HSC, is so crucially important. We are committed to addressing health disparities, providing care to all our communities and using our research strengths to solve some of the most complex problems affecting vulnerable populations. Our mission to "Create Solutions", our purpose to "Transform Lives" and our vision to "Build One University" all mean more now than ever.

"At HSC, our values of Serve Others First, Integrity, Respect, Collaboration and Be Visionary should be what guide us now. Please know that we highly value each of you and will walk through this together."

Dr. Michael R. Williams

President