

Positive Images

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May 2nd, 2024

Re: Letter of Support for The Office of Equity

Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County,

We are writing to voice our support for the continuance of the work, station, and independence of the Office of Equity. With Alegría De La Cruz's recent resignation, it is important that we advocate for the preservation and empowerment of this critical institution.

Established in the wake of uprisings that called for greater racial equity, the office was given the task of addressing the deep disparities within Sonoma County. Our community, like many others, have a glaring division between privilege marginalization. The existence of these disparities show that we desperately need an institutionalized initiative that promotes equity and justice. Alegría's leadership in our county has laid the groundwork for systemic change, and played a pivotal role in mobilizing the governmental structure in a direction our community needs. Her departure, however, raises concerns that the progress achieved so far may be rolled back or compromised.

As an LGBTQIA2S+ organization, we see first hand how the work of the Office of Equity has improved the lives of marginalized individuals in Sonoma County. This office has been a source of hope for our community, and a source of accountability for structures that have been inherently harmful.

We at Positive Images ask that you take action to ensure that the Office of Equity stay empowered as it's own independent and executive-led department with the autonomy to work with different agencies. Let's not lose this opportunity to uphold our shared values of fairness, equity, and diversity.

In Community,



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