



**GROWING A  
HEALTHIER  
KINGSTON**



## OUR ANTIRACIST STATEMENT

After reading the book *Stamped* by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi, the youth crew learned the meaning of anti-racism and racism in America. We are more aware of injustices and we question the status quo. Many of us have found ourselves reviewing past experiences such as micro aggressions, institutional racism, etc. Our curiosity continues to grow as we discover there is more to every story. Most of all, we've learned that our voices are important. We realized there are challenges that come with having knowledge and sharing our knowledge with people who might not agree. It is a struggle, especially, when we see it is our own community reacting negatively. Some of us also struggle with being a person of color and relating with an American identity when we think about the brutality our ancestors faced at the hands of our "founders"; knowing that those actions are at the root of present day America. Given everything, it's not enough to think you are not a racist.

### **You must actively be an anti-racist.**

Everyone can have a role in anti-racist work. Some places we have located ourselves in anti-racist work include: being a listener, building relationships and trust, being a student and teacher, being leaders, protesting, amplifying voices, and accepting opportunity that put us in a position to make change.

### **Where do you see yourself in anti-racist work?**

## 2020 Summer Youth Crew



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