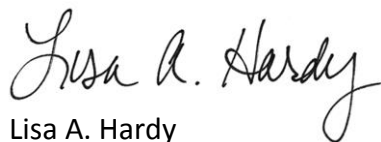


June 22, 2020

Black Lives Matter.

World renowned South African Bishop, Desmond Tutu is quoted as saying “If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.” In the midst of continuing actions of injustice in our greater society, we at Emerald Communities want to be clear that we are not neutral. Our fundamental values are based upon Christian principles and we seek each day to honor those values. Those values require us to treat one another with respect, care and compassion. We seek to be a community where all are welcomed, valued, affirmed and afforded equal treatment without regard to race, ethnic heritage, religious affiliation, sexual orientation or gender. As individuals, and as an organization united in our values, we recognize a responsibility to support and advocate for systemic changes that will lead to universal and equal human rights. Acts of racism and injustice should have no place in our community or society and we grieve with each and every individual who faces those inequities. We are not neutral.



Lisa A. Hardy
President & CEO



Danna VanHorn
Chairman of the Board