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In response to the recent murders of Rayshard Brooks, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd, and reflecting on the 2016 murder of Keith Scott here in Charlotte, it is painfully obvious that systemic change is needed. We are black male executive directors and leaders of local, national, and international nonprofits and community initiatives here in Charlotte. We have formed a collaboration to guide, inform, activate, and highlight our work toward making these needed systemic changes that will strengthen black communities. This is the time to focus on what is broken and work to find solutions to repair the fracture.

Our group has already begun to strategize and lay the groundwork for a significant and positive collective impact. Our desire is to work hand-in-hand with companies and individuals willing to invest in these neighborhoods and social justice efforts. We must work together to identify and address the areas that require attention and alteration. Many of us work in areas that are vital to upward mobility and social justice for black people; areas such as housing, jobs, health, education, economic development and more, and have been honing the tools to overcome these issues.

We are unitedly concerned by the police brutality, racism, and the social and economic inequalities that pervade our communities and our country. Now is the time to begin to erase the injustice that has historically invaded and inflamed the lives of black people.

We are leaders committed to justice for all and we recognize and share the collective frustrations and anguish of those fighting for equity.

This collective consists of:

- Aaron Randolph, Carolina Youth Coalition
- Allen Davis, Freedom School Partners
- · Armah Shiancoe, Give N Go
- Gerard Littlejohn, Steve and Angie Smith, Steve Smith Family Foundation
- · Henry C. Rock, City Startup Labs
- Jason Terrell, Profound Gentlemen
- Jeff Hood, CEO National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues,
- John Martin, YBLA Young Black Leadership Alliance
- Jonathan Stewart, Community Leader
- Joseph Butler, Community Leader
- · Manny Ohonme, Samaritan's Feet International
- Manuel Campbell, ASPIRE Community Capital
- · Paul Day, Innovate Tech Charlotte

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- Thomas Murphy, In the Spirit of Ujima, Inc.
- Wm. Mack McDonald, CEO, Renaissance West Community Initiative

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