

## Dear NAA Members,

The events of the past week have been alarming to everyone. Our country is grappling with racial unrest, which is especially distressing during this trying time. Our residents are struggling, as are many of you.

The professionalism of our industry is interlocked with the principles of the Fair Housing Act, which is based on the concept that all people should be treated equally. It was best expressed by Maya Angelou in an article commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil Rights Act: "We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color"

Equity in the treatment and service to all of our residents has been and continues to be the cornerstone of NAA's mission and that of our affiliates and members. We acknowledge that much more work needs to be done, and we will continue to listen and learn. We encourage each of you to do so as well. You can find information on our Diversity Leadership Program, our Innovation in Diversity and Inclusion Grant, Diversity Best Practices and other resources on the **Diversity and Inclusion page of our website**.

## Robert Pinnegar, CAE

President and CEO

