Message from the President & CEO David McCready

Southcoast Health

Exclusively for the employees of Southcoast Health

Dear Southcoast Colleagues,

Today, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, I ask you to reflect on the significance of Dr. King's legacy as an extraordinarily prominent and impactful leader in the American civil rights movement.

Dr. King dedicated his life to the nonviolent struggle for racial equality in the United States. His tireless advocacy and landmark speeches — most notably the "<u>I Have a Dream</u>" address during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28, 1963 — emphasized the importance of inclusion, unity and equity. Dr. King cautioned that, "justice for black people cannot be achieved without radical changes in the structure of our society."

These values reflect our own commitment to inclusivity and equity in how we at Southcoast Health care for our patients, our communities and one another. By actively addressing healthcare disparities, expanding access, and promoting cultural competence, all of you work every day toward achieving the highest standards of an equitable healthcare system. This is an honorable journey, and I am grateful for your participation with me in this work.

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, I encourage you consider how you contribute to your community. Is there more that you or we as Southcoast Health can do? Serving others through acts of kindness and community service aligns with Dr. King's vision of a compassionate society and, indeed, with our own Southcoast mission as a community healthcare system.

Wishing you a reflective and meaningful day in honor of Dr. King.

Most sincerely,

David O. McCready President & CEO

Southcoast Health