

UPDATE for the Community



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am deeply saddened by the racism and violence that has left our nation reeling again, just when it seems we were finding a new sense of stability coping in a world gripped by a pandemic. The shocking and widely viewed video showing the death of Mr. George Floyd, an unarmed, handcuffed Black man, illustrates yet again that there is still so much to do to end discrimination, injustice, and inequity in our country and in our world.

That inequity is clear when we examine the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no question that people of color are disproportionately affected. Deaths related to COVID-19 are much higher for Black and Hispanic people than those that are white or Asian, according a CDC [study](#). Those outcome differences are attributed to social and economic conditions and it's precisely those factors that also hinder the ability of people to get the resources they need during this public health crisis.

[\(Read the full letter HERE\)](#)

ALLIANCE UPDATES

- [The Alliance Welcomes New Member TRA Medical Imaging](#)
- [Joining the Alliance](#)

The Alliance Welcomes New Member TRA Medical Imaging



“Patients Come First” at TRA Medical Imaging

The history of TRA Medical Imaging is a long one, beginning with its founding after World War I in Tacoma by Dr. Raymond Mac Rae in 1918. Over the years, it has brought cutting edge diagnostic services to the community, including ultrasound

Join Us

Are you interested in learning more about membership in the Alliance? [Learn more about the value of Alliance membership.](#)

Choosing Wisely

Choosing Wisely is a campaign designed to provide easy-to-understand guides for getting better, safer, more effective care. It is a partnership between the Alliance, The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), the Washington State Medical Association and others. [Learn more.](#)

Visit the Community Checkup website

The Community Checkup website helps consumers make informed choices by giving them access to a robust and accessible supply of data and resources. [Learn more.](#)

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and CT nearly 50 years ago and more recently, MRI, PET neurointerventional radiology, and 3D mammography. Since its beginning, it has expanded its service area to include more than a dozen CHI Franciscan Health and MultiCare Health System hospitals in Pierce and south King Counties, as well as St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton, Oregon.

The Washington Health Alliance brings together those who give, get and pay for health care to create a high-quality, affordable system for the people of Washington state.

TRA Medical Imaging has continued providing services during the COVID-19 pandemic and in March designated its Lakewood location to be a site for urgent X-ray and CT exams for COVID-pending symptomatic patients and implementing a “SAFE” approach in all of its locations to ensure staff and public safety:

- S – Social distancing requirements with flexible waiting options
- A – Applied universal masking protocol and temperature screening
- F – Facility safety enhancements including physical and engineered barriers
- E – Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting

TRA Medical Imaging’s community commitment is evident in its regular clothing and food drives and the lower fees, payment plans, and financial assistance it provides to patients in need. A recent effort made possible by the TRA Medical Imaging Foundation distributed PPE gift bags to area clinics that were running low on supplies to help keep them open.

“Fighting,” a poem by Shelby Williams, a Registration Specialist at TRA Medical Imaging for 18 years, captures its patient-centered philosophy.

We meet people every day,
There are some we only see once,
Some we see, just to say “Hi” as they wave through the doorway,
Then there are some we see every three months.
We get to know these people,
And what goes on in their lives,
We feel their need for freedom in circumstances less than ideal,
Hoping beyond hope that the next scan ends in high fives.
We cannot begin to guess how the next person might impact us,
We maintain our smile and compassion and the comfort it provides,
All the while trying to make them comfortable in the process we discuss,
As we witness the fear trembling in their eyes.
There are some we see,
Out of the confines of a medical office,
Some approach us and tell us how well they are doing with glee,
Then there are others, who we recognize, but are cautious.
There are some patients who have lost their hair,
But are still fighting really hard,
Then there are some who are just starting to lose it, and feel bare,
Or try to hide the fresh scars.
We know, all too often how this journey can become personal,
We want something that will work, something that is proven,
We keep it together to stay professional,
However, how can it not affect us as humans?
I would like to think, we leave our fingerprints on each and every one of them,
But I believe, THEY leave their fingerprints on each and every one

of us.

[Learn more about TRA Medical Imaging here.](#)

Joining the Alliance

Our members can be the best ambassadors for our work. If you know someone who would like to learn more about membership in the Alliance, we have an online tool to help you talk about the value of Alliance membership. [Learn more at our Join Us website.](#)

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