



Dear Southcoast Colleagues,

June 19 marks Juneteenth, a significant holiday in our country’s ongoing pursuit of equality and justice. On this day in 1865, Major General Gordon Granger landed in Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of all enslaved people. Juneteenth honors the emancipation of the last Confederate community of enslaved Americans, reminding us to honor the past, acknowledge the present and work toward a more just and equitable society.

In partnership with the [10 Million Names Project](#), ABC News aired rare audio of enslaved people, obtained from interviews conducted in the decades following emancipation. The project is an effort to preserve their stories, their voices and their incredible resilience. On behalf of the More Voices of Color ERG, I encourage you to take some time to [listen to these profound historical moments](#) from our not-so-distant past.

At Southcoast Health, we strive for a culture that respects and celebrates the rich diversity of one another and the communities we serve. Embracing diversity strengthens our organization, enhances our patient care, and helps us build a stronger and more inclusive community.

Please visit the [More Voices of Color ERG](#) and [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Southcoast Health](#) to learn more about our recognition of Juneteenth, as well as the work of our DEI Council.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and commitment to our mission. Together, we make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Renee Clark".

Renee Clark, Executive VP & Chief Operations Officer
Southcoast Health System
Executive Sponsor, More Voices of Color ERG

