

Message from Dr. Rich Lloyd, President of Bryan College of Health Sciences

April 30 Update

Hello Healers,

Good luck with FINALS next week!

New:

From Ash Wimes, co-chair of Bryan College of Diversity Committee.

A year ago, Bryan College of Health Sciences changed one of our core values from *Equality* to *Equity*. In our spaces of social distancing from one another, we have started to think deeper regarding the significant impact COVID-19 has placed on our communities of color.

While the coronavirus is affecting our world and our nation, and each of us, it is not impacting everyone the same way. As our country unfolds further knowledge regarding COVID-19, we are seeing a trend that the coronavirus is affecting our Black and Brown communities at higher levels. The Center for Disease Control highlights this data and suggests, "a disproportionate burden of illness and death [have] occurred among racial and ethnic minority groups" (<https://tinyurl.com/ybwms8j7>). As we unpack this issue, we can gain a better understanding of the complexities and disparities that have always existed with our underrepresented communities (minority groups).

If you would like to know more, we encourage you to take a break from your daily routine and read an [article](#) that discusses the impact of these communities. Also, the multiple reasons why some racial groups are more vulnerable and why the current epidemic matters to all of us. As you digest the information, we ask you to consider the following questions.

- As a Bryan student entering healthcare, what is my responsibility to know about the healthcare disparities plaguing our communities of color?
- We know our communities of color have higher rates of underlying health issues (such as diabetes or asthma), how do we start to address these issues in the healthcare field?
- How do I continue to keep myself informed of healthcare disparities affecting marginalized communities, and what can I do to start making a difference?

As a Bryan leader, it is our ethical responsibility to stay abreast of serving the needs of all of our community members. When we are together, we save lives.

Healing Acts:

A Pie for a Pie. Thanks Mellow Mushroom for supporting Bryan's frontline professionals:

<https://www.facebook.com/MellowMushroomLincoln/photos/gm.158851322237111/2903737453043571/?type=3&theater>

Forward. Together.



Rich Lloyd, President