



**UNLIMITED YOU**   
ANAHEIM UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 25, 2021

Subject: Spencer Foundation – Letter of Support

Dear Dr. Villavicencio,

On behalf of The Anaheim Union High School District, I want to express our support for the proposed partnership with University of California, Irvine (UCI) detailed within the project: Disrupting Racism in Schools: A Mixed Methods Study of a Yearlong Racial Justice Program.

Our school district is located in Orange County, CA, and currently serves just under 30,000 students across 20 schools. The Anaheim Union High School District is proud to serve a diverse student body, with about 68.9% being Latino/Hispanic, 13.2% Asian and 8.9% White.

Given the growing attention to the ways young people of color are affected by systemic racism in and outside of school, our district has been searching for opportunities to develop the capacity of school leaders and teachers to address racism and racial bias through a more intensive set of professional development activities, such as those offered through the Racial Justice in Organizations (RJIO) program. Educators in our schools have also expressed interest in participating in anti-racist professional development. We believe that participating in RJIO will not only benefit our educators by immersing them in authentic, context-specific racial justice work, but will ultimately benefit our students by ensuring that our classrooms and schools aren't places of harm, but of healing, affirmation, and opportunity.

We are excited to take advantage of this opportunity to engage in racial justice work through our partnership with UCI as we explore how to assess and develop schoolwide policies and practices through a racial justice lens. This will be made possible through the Disrupting Racism in Schools project. We offer our support for this work.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jaron Fried  
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services