United Jewish Federation of Utah

Together, we're building community!

Together, We Must Be Stronger Than Hate

The Utah Jewish Community is outraged by the violence of the Minneapolis police officers that led to the death of George Floyd. We share in the heartbreak, pain and sorrow provoked by his loss and the loss of many others through sordid acts of hate and bigotry. May their memory be for a blessing.

We pledge to our brothers and sisters in the black community – and all communities of color – to work together to reverse the systemic racism embedded within our country's institutions and society in general. The Jewish tradition teaches that every human being is created b'Tzelem Elohim (in the image of G-d) and as such, should be afforded basic human dignity and respect. Further, our history as a people inspires justice in the face of oppression and persecution and teaches us to work with our neighbors to repair and create a more just world.

In the strongest terms, we also condemn those who are taking advantage of the anguish over George Floyd's death by hijacking what would be peaceful rallies in our community and so many across the country for their own violent and destructive agenda. These acts threaten all Utahans as well as our democracy as a whole. We commit to partnering with community leaders to ensure the safety of all who are at risk.

"We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented," Elie Wiesel. Together, we can, and we must be stronger than hate. We will stand and we will fight for a world free of racism and bigotry in all its forms.

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IJ & Jeanné Wagner
Jewish Community Center

Jim Brewer, Head of School
The McGillis School

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CARING IN THE AGE OF CORONAVIRUS

If you're in need of mental health services during this time please reach out to the following organizations for assistance.

University of Utah Mental Health Crisis Hotline - 801-587-3000

Jewish Family Service - 801-746-4334

For community members who are at high-risk, in self-quarantine or just not feeling well, we are here to offer a little extra TLC. Whether you need a delivery of food or supplies, would like to set up a weekly (or daily) check-in call or might enjoy a "virtual friendly visit", we have community volunteers who are able and ready to help.

If you don't need help but are able and willing to volunteer to help someone else, we need you too!

I NEED A HELPING HAND **I CAN GIVE A HELPING HAND**

shalomutah.org