

On this 57th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, institutions representing over half of American Jews publish the following letter.

412 Black Jewish Collaborative • A Wider Bridge • Adas Israel Congregation • Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation • Adath Jeshurun Congregation • Agudas Achim Congregation • Agudas Israel Congregation • Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School • ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal • Alumni Association of the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College • Am HaYam Cape Cod Havurah • Am Kolel Jewish Renewal Community • Am Yisrael Congregation • Ameinu • American Conference of Cantors • American Jewish World Service (AJWS) • Americans for Peace Now • Anshe Chesed • Anti-Defamation League • Anti-Zionist Shabbat • Aquarian Minyan • Arizona Jews 4 Justice • Atlanta Jewish Music Festival • Augusta Jewish Federation • Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center • Avodah • Aytzim: Ecological Judaism • B'nai B'rith Colorado • B'nai Israel Congregation • B'nai Jeshurun • B'nai Shalom Day School • B'nai Shalom Reform Congregation • B'nai Adath Kol Beth Yisrael • B'nai Portland Congregation • Baltimore Hebrew Congregation • Be'chol Lashon • Beacon Hebrew Alliance • Beis Community • Beit Ahavah Reform Synagogue of Greater Northampton • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Atlanta • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Austin • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Bay Area • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Champaign Urbana • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Cincinnati • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Cleveland • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Denver • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Greater Ann Arbor • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Houston • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Jacksonville • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Long Island • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Louisville • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Memphis • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Milwaukee • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action New Mexico • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action New Orleans • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Pittsburgh • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Portland • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Prince George's County • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Riverdale • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action San Diego • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action San Luis Obispo • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Seattle • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action South Bay • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action South Florida • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Southeastern PA • Bend the Arc: Jewish Action Southern California • Bet Chaverim (Columbia, MD) • Bet Shalom Congregation • Beth Am Synagogue (Baltimore, MD) • Beth Chaim Congregation • Beth El (Bethesda, MD) • Beth El Congregation (Baltimore, MD) • Beth Emet the Free Synagogue • Beth Israel Congregation (Ann Arbor, MI) • Beth Meyer Synagogue • Betheda Jewish Congregation • Bolton Street Synagogue • Boston Workers Circle Center for Jewish Culture and Social Justice • Building Jewish Bridges • Burbank Temple Emanuel El • California Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism • Cambridge Minyan • Camp Tawonga • Cantors Assembly • Carolina Jews for Justice • CDEEP • Center for Jewish Nonviolence • Center Square Minyan • Central Conference of American Rabbis • Central Reform Congregation • ChaiVillageLA • Challah for Hunger • Charleston Jewish Family Services • Chicago Jewish Labor Committee • Congregation Agudath Achim • Congregation Agudath Israel • Congregation Anshe Tikvah • Congregation B'nai Israel (Basking Ridge, NJ) • Congregation B'nai Torah • Congregation B'nai Yisrael • Congregation Beit Simchat Torah • Congregation Bet Haverim (Atlanta, GA) • Congregation Bet Haverim (Davis, CA) • Congregation Beth Am • Congregation Beth David • Congregation Beth El (Norwalk, CT) • Congregation Beth El of South Orange, NJ • Congregation Beth El of the Sudbury River Valley • Congregation Beth HaTephila (Asheville, NC) • Congregation Beth Hatikvah (Summit, NJ) • Congregation Beth Israel (Fayetteville, NC) • Congregation Beth Israel (Skokie, IL) • Congregation Beth Israel (Worcester, MA) • Congregation Beth Israel Judea (San Francisco, CA) • Congregation Beth Shalom (Bloomington, IN) • Congregation Beth Shalom (DeKalb, IL) • Congregation Beth Shalom (Providence, RI) • Congregation Beth Shalom (Bethelheim, PA) • Congregation Dor Hadash (San Diego, CA) • Congregation Dorshei Tzedek • Congregation Eitz Chayim (Cambridge, MA) • Congregation Emanu-El B'nai Jeshurun • Congregation Emanu-El of San Francisco • Congregation Har Shalom (Potomac, MD) • Congregation Keren Shalom (Concord, MA) • Congregation Kol Ami (Elkins Park, PA) • Congregation Kol Ami (Elmira, NY) • Congregation Kol Ami (Kansas City) • Congregation Kol Ami (Spark) • Congregation Kol Shofar • Congregation M'kor Hayim • Congregation Mishkan Israel • Congregation Nahalat Shalom • Congregation Ner Shalom • Congregation Netivot Shalom • Congregation Neve Shalom • Congregation Nevi'ei Kodesh • Congregation Or Atid of Wayland, MA • Congregation P'hai Or of West Hartford • Congregation Rodef Shalom (Denver, CO) • Congregation Rodef Shalom • Congregation Shaar Zahav • Congregation Shaare Emeth (St. Louis, MO) • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Congregation Shaarey Zedeck • Congregation Shaarieh • Congregation Shir Tikvah (Portland) • Congregation Shomrei Torah • Congregation Tifereth Israel • Conservative Synagogue of the Hamptons • Cuba America Jewish Mission • Cultural Leadership • Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action • Democratic Jewish Outreach PA • Detroit Jews for Justice • Dorot Fellowship in Israel • East Bank Havurah • East Side Jews Activist Collective • Edot Midwest Regional Jewish Diversity Collaborative • Ekar Farm • Elon University Hillel • Etgar 36 • Fabrangen Havurah • Fabrangen West • Fig Tree • Flatbus Jewish Center • Footsteps • Fort Tryon Jewish Center • FreelanceJudaism • GatherDC • Germantown Jewish Centre • Goucher College Hillel • Greater Cincinnati Board of Rabbis • Greenwich Reform Synagogue • GrowTorah • Habonim Dror Camp Gilboa • Habonim Dror Camp Moshava • Habonim Dror Camp Tavor • Habonim Dror North America • Hadar Institute • Hadassah Foundation • Hamakom • Hashomer Hatzair North America • Hashomer Hatzair USA • Havurat Shalom (Andover, MA) • Hazon • Hebrew College • Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor • Hebrew Seminary • HIAS • Highland Park Minyan (Highland Park, NJ) • Hill Havurah • Hinenu: The Baltimore Justice Shtiebl • Howard County Board of Rabbis • IfNotNow • IKAR • Illinois Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-IL) • Independent Jewish Voices (Canada) • Institute for Jewish Spirituality • Interfaith Action for Human Rights • Interfaith Families Project of Greater Washington • Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue • Isaac M. Wise Temple (Cincinnati, OH) • J Street • JAM: Jewish Action Maine • JCC Harlem • JCFS Chicago • JCRC of Southern New Jersey • JCRC/AJC of Detroit • Jewfolk, Inc. • Jewish Action NorCal • Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action • Jewish Asylum Seekers Initiative (JASI) • Jewish Bridge Project of New Mexico • Jewish Bundst Diaspora Movement • Jewish Center of Indian Country • Jewish Chaplain, Federal Prisons of Southern Ontario • Jewish Climate Action Network-MA • Jewish Coalition for Immigrant Justice NW • Jewish Collaborative of San Diego • Jewish Community Leadership Program, University of Michigan • Jewish Community Action • Jewish Community Alliance of Northeastern Pennsylvania • Jewish Community Board of Akron • Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor • Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund (San Francisco, CA) • Jewish Community Federation of the Mohawk Valley • Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix • Jewish Community of Greater Stowe • Jewish Community of Louisville, Inc. • Jewish Community Relations Bureau/AJC • Jewish Community Relations Council (San Francisco) • Jewish Community Relations Council Howard County MD • Jewish Community Relations Council of Cincinnati • Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston • Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Charleston • Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Phoenix • Jewish Community Relations Council of Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley • Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis • Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Asheville Area • Jewish Community School, Elmira, NY • Jewish Council for Public Affairs • Jewish Council on Urban Affairs • Jewish Democratic Women's Salon, Atlanta (JDWS) • Jewish Educational Alliance • Jewish Family & Career Services of Louisville • Jewish Family & Community Services of East Bay • Jewish Family Service of Metro-West MA • Jewish Family Service of Seattle • Jewish Family Service of Western MA • Jewish Family Services of Greater Kansas City • Jewish Family Services of St. Louis • Jewish Farmer Network • Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor • Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven • Jewish Federation of Oxford, Mississippi • Jewish Film Institute • Jewish Gateways • Jewish Initiative for Animals • Jewish Institute for Lifelong Learning & Innovation • Jewish Labor Committee • Jewish Law Student Association (JLSA), CUNY School of Law • Jewish LearningWorks • Jewish Liberation Theology Institute • Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation (Evanston, IL) • Jewish Sacred Aging® • Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) • Jewish Studio Project • Jewish Study Center • Jewish Veg • Jewish Voice for Peace • Jewish Voice for Peace - Albany, NY • Jewish Voice for Peace - Atlanta • Jewish Voice for Peace - Bay Area • Jewish Voice for Peace - BICOCSM Network • Jewish Voice for Peace - Boston • Jewish Voice for Peace - DC Metro • Jewish Voice for Peace - Denver/Boulder • Jewish Voice for Peace - Hudson Valley • Jewish Voice for Peace - Las Vegas • Jewish Voice for Peace - Los Angeles • Jewish Voice for Peace - Milwaukee • Jewish Voice for Peace - New Haven • Let My People Sing • Lighthouse Kosher • Lilith Magazine • Linke Fligl • Lo Taamod: Orthodox Jews Against White Supremacy • Ma'yan Tikvah • Macalester Jewish Organization • Main Line Reform Temple (Wynnewood, PA) • Makom Sole Lakeside • MAKOMnj • Malkut: Progressive Jewish Spirituality in Queens • MAOR/Montana Association Of Rabbis • Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan • Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center • Massachusetts Board of Rabbis • Matanot Lev | Gifts of the Heart • MaTovu • Mayim Rabim Congregation • MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger • Mending Minyan New Haven • Mendocino Coast Jewish Community Justice Group • Metro Chicago Hillel • Michigan Democratic Jewish Caucus • Minyan Oneg Shabbat, Washington DC • Minyan Segulah • Minyan Shaleym • Mishkan Chicago • Mishkan Shalom • Mitsui Collective • Mitzvah Matzos • Mixed Operations • Mizpah Congregation • Mount Zion Temple (St. Paul, Minnesota) • Moving Traditions • MyFamilyRabbi.com • Nahalat Shalom • Nashville Jewish Social Justice Roundtable • Nashville Jews for Justice • Nashville Jews for Social Justice Facebook Group • National Association of Jewish Legislators • National Council of Jewish Women • National Council of Jewish Women - Arizona • National Council of Jewish Women - Bergen County • National Council of Jewish Women - CA • National Council of Jewish Women - Chicago North Shore • National Council of Jewish Women - Cleveland • National Council of Jewish Women - Colorado • National Council of Jewish Women - Columbus • National Council of Jewish Women - Contra Costa • National Council of Jewish Women - Essex • National Council of Jewish Women - Florida • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater Dallas • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater Houston • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater Long Beach & West Orange County • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater Miami • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater New Orleans • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater Philadelphia • National Council of Jewish Women - Greater Rochester • National Council of Jewish Women - Indianopolis • National Council of Jewish Women - Jersey Hills • National Council of Jewish Women - Kendall • National Council of Jewish Women - Los Angeles • National Council of Jewish Women - Louisville • National Council of Jewish Women - Maine • National Council of Jewish Women - Michigan • National Council of Jewish Women - Milwaukee • National Council of Jewish Women - Minnesota • National Council of Jewish Women - Nashville • National Council of Jewish Women - New Bedford • National Council of Jewish Women - New York • National Council of Jewish Women - Palm Beach • National Council of Jewish Women - Pittsburgh • National Council of Jewish Women - Sacramento • National Council of Jewish Women - Saddleback • National Council of Jewish Women - San Antonio • National Council of Jewish Women - San Francisco • National Council of Jewish Women - Sarasota-Manatee • National Council of Jewish Women - SE Atlantic • National Council of Jewish Women - South Cook • National Council of Jewish Women - South Shore • National Council of Jewish Women - St. Louis • National Council of Jewish Women - Texas • National Council of Jewish Women - Utah • National Havurah Committee • NCSY (New York) • Nefesh • Nehar Shalom Community Synagogue • Neohasid.org • Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies, Inc. • Neve Shalom • Never Again Action • Never Again Action - Los Angeles • New England Jewish Labor Committee • New Israel Fund • New Synagogue Project • Nice Jewish Boys SF • Nishmat Shoom • NotFreeToDesist.org • Oahu Jewish 'Ohana • Oak Park Temple B'nai Abraham Zion • OHALAH • Ohavat Zion Synagogue • Ohel Shalom Congregation (South Orange, NJ) • Open Dor Foundation, Inc. • Open Hillel/Judaism On Our Own Terms • Open Temple • Or Emet, Minnesota Congregation for Humanistic Judaism • Or Hamidbar • Or Shalom Jewish Community • Or Tzafra • Oseh Shalom • P'niai Or of Portland • Pacific Northwest Jewish Network for Collective Liberation • Park Slope Jewish Center • Pearlstone Center • Pomegranate Initiative • Portland's UnShul • Project Kesher • Project Shema • Rabbi Without Walls • Pittsburgh • Rabbinical Assembly • RAPHA, The Center for Healing and Spirituality • Realize Paradise • Reconstructing Judaism • Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association • Religion Outside The Box • Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism • Repair the World • Rimonim Liturgy Project • Rise Up • Riverdale Temple • Rockwern Academy • Rodef Shalom Congregation • Rodfei Tzedek, social justice team of Congregation Rodef Shalom • Romemu • Ruach HaYam • Sacred Monsters Havurah • SAJ-Judaism that Stands for All • Savannah Jewish Federation • Secular Synagogue • Seeds of Wonder Journey School (Roswell, GA) • Shaare Tefila Congregation • Shaare Torah Congregation (Gaithersburg, MD) • Shalom Bayit • Shamyim: Jewish Animal Advocacy • Shir Hadash Reconstructionist Community • Shir Tikvah, Minneapolis • Shirat Shalom Global Congregation • Shtibl Minyan • Silverlake Independent Jewish Community Center • Silverstein Base Hillel • Sinai Temple (Springfield, MA) • Sixth & I • Society for Humanistic Judaism • Sutton Place Synagogue • SVARA: A Traditionally Radical Yeshiva • Synagogue Village Network • T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights • Taproot • Temple Adath Israel • Temple B'nai Brith (Somerville, MA) • Temple Bat Yam of East Fort Lauderdale • Temple Beth Abraham • Temple Beth Am (Pinecrest, FL) • Temple Beth Am (Seattle, WA) • Temple Beth Ami • Temple Beth David (Cheshire, CT) • Temple Beth David of the South Shore • Temple Beth El (Aptos, CA) • Temple Beth El (Fall River, MA) • Temple Beth El of Boca Raton • Temple Beth Emet • Temple Beth Emunah • Temple Beth Hillel • Temple Beth Israel (Eugene, OR) • Temple Beth Israel (Skokie, IL) • Temple Beth Israel (Waltham, MA) • Temple Beth Israel of Highland Park and Eagle Rock • Temple Beth Jacob • Temple Beth Or (Everett, WA) • Temple Beth Shalom (Needham, MA) • Temple Beth Tefiloh • Temple Beth Zion (CTBZ), (Brookline, MA) • Temple Beth-El (Jersey City) • Temple Covenant of Peace • Temple Emanu-El (Birmingham, AL) • Temple Emanu-El (Edison, NJ) • Temple Emanuel (Kensington, MD) • Temple Emanuel (Newton, MA) • Temple Emanuel of Tempe • Temple Emanuel Sinai (Worcester, MA) • Temple Emek Shalom • Temple Emeth (Teaneck, NJ) • Temple Etz Chaim (Franklin, MA) • Temple Hillel B'nai Torah • Temple Isaiah (Lexington, MA) • Temple Israel (Albany, NY) • Temple Israel (Columbus, OH) • Temple Israel (Greenfield, MA) • Temple Israel (Minneapolis, MN) • Temple Israel (Sharon, MA) • Temple Israel of Boston • Temple Israel of Catskill • Temple Israel of Hollywood (Los Angeles, CA) • Temple Judea • Temple Kehillat Chaim • Temple Kol Tikvah of Lake Norman • Temple Menorah Keneseth Chai • Temple Micah (Washington, DC) • Temple Ohavi Shalom • Temple Ohav Shalom • Temple Reiyim • Temple Rodef Shalom • Temple Shalom (Chevy Chase, MD) • Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel • Temple Shir Tikva (Portland, OR) • Temple Shir Tikvah (Wayland, MA) • Temple Shir Tikvah (Winchester, MA) • Temple Shalom (Broomall, PA) • Temple Shalom (Cincinnati, OH) • Temple Shalom of Chicago • Temple Sinai (Atlanta, GA) • Temple Sinai (Brookline, MA) • Temple Sinai (Saratoga Springs, NY) • Temple Sinai (Stamford, CT) • Temple Sinai (Washington, DC) • Temple Solel (Scottsdale, AZ) • The Alberta Shul • The Aquarian Minyan • The Awakened Heart Project • The Board of Rabbis of Greater Rhode Island • The Center for Jewish Studies at UNC Asheville • The Contemporary Jewish Museum • The Den Collective • The Jewish Center and Federation of the Twin Tiers • The Jewish Education Project • The Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks • The Kirva Institute - Inside Out Wisdom and Action • The Kitchen • The Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center • The Shefa School • The Shul of New York • The Soul Center • The Tasman Center for Jewish Creativity • The Temple • The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah • The Tribe (Miami) • The Wilton (CT) Jewish Center • The Wisdom School & Temple of SOPHIA • The Workers Circle • The Workers Circle of No. CA (Branch 1054) • Tiferet, a Jewish Spirituality Project • Tikkun Chant Circle • Tikkun Leil Shabbat • Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation • Tikkun4Change • Tikvat Israel • TischPDX • Tivnu: Building Justice • Torah of Awakening • Torah Trumps Hate • Tree of Life Congregation • Tucson Jews for Justice • Tzedakah Songs • Tzedek Chicago • Tzedek DC • Union for Reform Judaism • United Jewish People's Order - Canada • United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism • Unorthodox Celebrations • Urban Adamah • Uri Tzedek • Westchester Jewish Council • Wilderness Torah • Women's Rabbinic Network • Wominyan • Woodstock Jewish Congregation • YAFFED • Yashrut • Yavneh: A Jewish Renewal Community • Yesod Farm+Kitchen • Young Democrats of America Jewish Caucus • Zioness Movement

We are Jewish organizations and synagogues from across the racial and political spectrum; from different streams of Judaism; whose members trace their lineages from countries around the world.

WE SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE WHEN WE SAY, UNEQUIVOCALLY:

BLACK LIVES MATTER

We support the Black-led movement in this country that is calling for accountability and transparency from the government and law enforcement. **We know that freedom and safety for any of us depends on the freedom and safety of all of us.**

There are politicians and political movements in this country who build power by deliberately manufacturing fear to divide us against each other. All too often, antisemitism is at the center of these manufactured divisions.

There is a long history to these attempts: during the Southern Freedom Movement of the 1950s and 1960s, conspiracy theories were used by white supremacists attempting to delegitimize the extraordinary organizing of Black activists. Billboards were erected smearing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a communist, signs and flyers claiming that "communist Jews" were masterminding the civil rights movement were common, and pro-segregation organizations like the John Birch Society popularized these lies.

Black Lives Matter, the recent uprisings across the globe in the wake of the murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, and so many others, and the decades of political organizing across the country that have led to this moment are movements led by and for Black people. We see through any attempt to suggest otherwise by pointing fingers, scapegoating, or using antisemitic dogwhistles.

As Jews, we know how dangerous this is: when politicians target Jewish people and blame us for problems, it leads directly to violence against us. **When Black movements are undermined, it leads to more violence against Black people, including Black Jews.**

Antisemitism is part of the same machinery those politicians use to blame Black and brown people, people who are immigrants, people who are Muslim, and more. But whether they generate division and fear based on our religion, our skin color, or how long we've been here, their goal is to keep us from working together to win the things we all need to survive and thrive.

When Jewish people join together with our neighbors across racial and religious differences, as we have in the past, we can protect each other and build the future of freedom and safety we all deserve.

Jewish tradition teaches us that justice is not something that will be bestowed upon us, it is something that we need to pursue — the pursuit is itself sacred work. We'll show up for each other every time one of us is targeted because of our differences, and reject any effort to use fear to divide us against each other.

The Black Lives Matter movement is the current day Civil Rights Movement in this country, and it is our best chance at equity and justice. By supporting this movement we can build a country that fulfills the promise of freedom, unity, and safety for all of us, no exceptions.