

Joint Statement in Response to the Shooting in a Pittsburgh Synagogue

On behalf of our faith communities we extend our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the victims of today's shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. We further affirm that at the core of our traditions are the precepts of love and justice. This type of violence stands in stark contrast to who we are as a people and as faith communities. We work daily to build trust and develop strong relationships among our various faith traditions. When one community is wounded, we all suffer.

Our prayers are focused on healing and comfort at during the immediate aftermath of this heinous crime. We are profoundly aware that the entire Jewish community is grieving today. We are especially concerned for our Jewish sisters and brothers in Rhode Island. No words can even approach the depth of feeling we have for our cherished friends. We call on all Rhode Island faith communities to join in individual and collective prayer for Jewish community here in Rhode Island and around the world.

May our words and actions evoke love and concern in the presence of the demonstration of hate. May we rise to a higher standard of response and lead the way towards a more just, loving and kind world.