

**We Stand with Israel**  
A Project of the Jewish Community Relations Coalition of New Mexico

*We Stand with Israel* consists of Jewish organizations, associations and congregations across New Mexico that are joining together to support Israel in this time of crisis as it battles a brutal terrorist organization whose purpose is to destroy the State of Israel and Jews living there.

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, Hamas terrorists crossed the border from Gaza into Israel to murder, torture and kidnap Israeli citizens. They invaded Israel by land, by air and by sea. They brutally murdered babies, children, and the elderly. They targeted young people attending a peace concert. They raped women. They killed parents in front of their children and then took the children captive. They burned people alive. They abducted innocent civilians of all ages and brought them to Gaza as hostages.

The Hamas massacre of October 7<sup>th</sup> was the deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust, and the third-deadliest terror attack in the world since 1970. Over 1,400 people were murdered, over 3,000 people were injured and over 220 people are believed to have been taken hostage.

*We Stand with Israel* includes people with varying views on the path to peace between Israel and Palestinians. However, today we stand strongly together as one to condemn attempts to justify these brutal, gruesome attacks on civilians.

We also stand against attempts to draw false equivalency between Israel's national defense measures to eliminate this significant threat to its citizens and the human atrocities perpetrated by a terrorist organization against civilians. **Nothing** justifies the murder, sexual violence, and terror Hamas brought to innocent Israelis that day.

Hamas, supported by Iran, is a terrorist organization that has run Gaza since 2007. Its [charter](#) calls for the destruction of Israel and, in Article 7, explicitly calls for the killing of Jews. In its quest to eliminate the Jewish state, Hamas has also neglected its duties to support and protect innocent Palestinians in Gaza.

Israel not only has the right, but also the responsibility, to eliminate Hamas to protect its citizens. Hamas should never be able to launch a terror attack against Israel and its citizens from Gaza again.

In our advocacy, *We Stand with Israel* is guided by the following:

- The October 7<sup>th</sup> terror attacks were pure evil and can never be justified.
- Hamas should immediately release all the hostages without condition.
- Israel has the right to defend itself from Hamas and stop the terrorist threat Hamas poses to its citizens.
- Journalists and editorialists covering events in Israel and Gaza bear a responsibility to accurately characterize the atrocities committed by Hamas as terrorism and to distinguish

between those brutal acts specifically targeting innocent civilians and Israel's efforts to target the terrorists and protect its citizens from further harm.

- Palestinian civilians in Gaza are also victims of Hamas which uses innocent Palestinians as civilian shields and locates its terrorist operations in, among and under schools, hospitals, apartment buildings and other civilian institutions.
- We support humanitarian relief for Palestinians in Gaza; realistic protections should be in place to ensure that Hamas does not divert critical supplies from innocent civilians to its own forces.
- We support a substantial security package for Israel and for humanitarian aid for Palestinians in Gaza as soon as possible.
- We believe there is still hope for peace between Palestinians and Israelis, but not while Hamas is in control of Gaza and has the capacity to continue to launch terror attacks against Israel.
- We are concerned about the rise in antisemitism in recent years including since the Israel-Hamas War. We are facing increasingly dangerous times for Jews throughout the world, not just in Israel.
- There is no place for antisemitism or other forms of hate in our communities and we will remain vigilant in supporting the safety and security of all New Mexicans.

ADL – Anti-Defamation League Mountain States Region

Chavurat Hamidbar (Fellowship of the Desert)

Congregation Albert (Albuquerque)

Congregation Beit Tikva (Santa Fe)

Congregation B'nai Israel (Albuquerque)

HaMakom Congregation Santa Fe

Hillel at University of New Mexico

Institute for Tolerance Studies

Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque

Jewish Community Foundation of New Mexico

Jewish Learning Channel

Limmud New Mexico

Los Alamos Jewish Center

New Mexico Jewish Historical Society

Rabbinical and Cantorial Association of Albuquerque

Santa Fe Distinguished Lecture Series

Santa Fe Jewish Center - Chabad

Santa Fe Middle East Watch

Shabbat with Friends New Mexico

Temple Beth Shalom (Santa Fe)

The Las Vegas Jewish Community, Congregation Montefiore