

SHABBAT MESSAGE
January 13, 2023



Hi Everyone,

I hope you've had a great week, and happy new year! I had hoped that my first message of 2023 would be focused on all the wonderful things we have planned as a community for the year ahead. But last week, yet again, a white nationalist group dropped leaflets in our state, this time in North Kingstown and on Providence's East Side.

For those of you that were personally impacted by this, I know how unsettling it is. Even if you weren't directly impacted, as a community, this is certainly alarming. I want to assure you that the Alliance is in constant communication with law enforcement throughout the state, with the Attorney General's office, and with the US Attorney's office. We are all working together to make sure our community stays safe and secure.

The Alliance also continues to work with leaders in business, government, and the nonprofit sector to develop solutions to address rising antisemitism and hate. In December we convened a diverse group of leaders around this topic, and everyone committed to helping develop and implement solutions to this problem. It will take time, but I'm confident that we'll make headway.

I know it can be scary, but it's also important to know that we are not alone. In December hundreds of our neighbors throughout our state participated in the *Shine a Light on Antisemitism* campaign, posting menorahs in their windows to show solidarity with our community. The State House was lit up to celebrate Hanukkah on the first two nights, also in solidarity with our community. Last month I wrote in the Providence Journal that we needed people to stand with us, so we don't stand alone, and so many of our fellow Rhode Islanders answered that call.

As we move forward, we need our allies to continue to stand with us. We need our elected leaders to call out these incidents every time they happen. We need them to call these acts what they are, cowardly attempts to garner attention. Attempts that are not welcome in Rhode Island.

As we enter Shabbat, a time of peace and rest, I ask you all to remember that we are not alone. And remember all the joy that is in our community. Remember all the reasons why we are strong and vibrant. In 2023 I resolve to keep my focus on this joy, and I look forward to many celebrations with all of you.

Until next time, I wish you a safe, peaceful, and joyous Shabbat.

Shabbat Shalom!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam".

Adam Greenman
President & CEO