

A Resolution Against Antisemitism

Whereas, we in Montgomery County have seen a sharp increase in the incidents of antisemitic incidents that have horrified County residents of all faiths;

Whereas, the County Council unanimously passed a resolution condemning antisemitism and all forms of hate speech and bigotry towards any racial or ethnic group;

Whereas the County Council resolution states that Montgomery County commits to countering antisemitism and hate through engagement with community leaders; and

Whereas, we elected municipal officials in Montgomery County believe that the voices of our communities should be added to the County’s, in expressing our condemnation of these antisemitic acts,

Therefore, we, as local elected municipal leaders of Montgomery County, resolve the following:

Antisemitism has no place in our communities, at our schools, in our public areas, and on our doorsteps. As local elected leaders, we fully condemn this age-old hatred of the Jewish people and stand in solidarity with our Jewish residents.

We stand firmly against any and all actions that aim to intimidate our Jewish residents through the use of hate speech, display of hate symbols, such as Nazi Swastikas, and through physical assault. We oppose with equal fervor, any expression of hate or bigotry against people of any racial, religious, ethnic identity, or sexual orientation.

We support activities undertaken in our schools that educate our children about the history of antisemitism, raise awareness of this bigotry, and encourage students to oppose antisemitism and other hate speech and activities when they see or hear of them.

We also believe that activities must take place in our communities to raise greater public awareness about antisemitism, both historically and contemporaneously, and commit to implementing a public awareness campaign against antisemitism that engages every municipality in Montgomery County.

This campaign will be comprised of public “antisemitism awareness” events in differing municipalities of the county this calendar year. We will seek the broadest possible public involvement in these activities.

We will work with experts and leaders, such as the Anti-Defamation League, the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Maryland Municipal League’s Montgomery County chapter, and local law enforcement and other entities, to provide a full spectrum of topics to increase awareness of antisemitism and hate in our communities. We believe that vigorous, consistent public education will provide the most effective defense against this and other age-old hatreds that have no place in our dynamic, diverse, and inclusive communities.

Elissa Leonard, Board Chair
Chevy Chase Village

Tracey Furman, Mayor
Town of Kensington

Jud Ashman, Mayor
City of Gaithersburg

Charles Hendricks, Mayor
Town of Laytonsville

Bridget Newton, Mayor
City of Rockville

Jeffrey Slavin, Mayor
Town of Somerset

Mark Davis, President
Town of Brookville

Gregory Chernack, Council Chair
Village of Chevy Chase Section 5

Irene N. Lane, Mayor
Town of Chevy Chase

Melanie Rose White, Mayor
Village of Friendship Heights

Joanna Welch, Mayor
Town of Garrett Park

Andrew Kauders, Council Chair
Village of Martin’s Additions

Dia Costello, Mayor
Town of Glen Echo

Adrian Adreassi, Council Chair
Village of North Chevy Chase