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A Grassroots Toolkit from Interfaith Alliance

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PARTNERING AGAINST HATE: A GRASSROOTS TOOLKIT FROM INTERFAITH ALLIANCE

WE ALL HAVE A STAKE IN KEEPING OURSELVES and our neighbors safe. By partnering across differences, we can challenge the forces of division that pit us against one another. But this work requires self-awareness and a willingness to take action.

The Partnering Against Hate toolkit is designed to support community partners and activists in our shared work of keeping one another safe. Partnership is an ongoing process that requires lifelong effort. The questions below are meant to set a baseline from which you can move forward and continue to grow.

SELF-INVENTORY

For each statement, please respond with one of the following: always true, often true, neutral, sometimes true, rarely true.

1. I seek out opportunities to learn more about the culture and experiences of those who have different racial, ethnic, and religious identities than my own. I appreciate that this is a lifelong process.

2. I intentionally lift up the voices of people in my workplace and community that are underrepresented.

3. I stay up to date on the challenges faced by people of other backgrounds and experiences in my local community.

4. I reflect on my own experiences, attitudes, and biases and how they may inform my own engagement in change work.
5. I am comfortable accepting constructive criticism about how my own behavior may be insensitive or harmful.

6. I feel equipped to call out insensitive or harmful language and behavior when I witness it, even if it comes from someone I care about.

7. I take the initiative to speak out against discrimination and harmful behavior when I encounter it.

8. I seek out opportunities to form relationships with people of different backgrounds and experiences.

9. I respectfully ask questions to better understand the experiences of others, knowing that no one is obligated to educate me on their culture, history, or traumas.

10. I seek out spaces where diverse groups are represented, even if it is outside my comfort zone.

11. I participate in events and efforts to advance social justice led by people outside of my racial, religious, ethnic, and socioeconomic group.

12. My local faith community regularly engages with other faith communities that are different from our own.

13. I contribute to my faith community’s efforts to combat hate, both by participating in and initiating opportunities for education and activism.

14. My faith group discusses and plans ways to support victims of hate incidents and their communities when they occur.

15. I stay informed on state and local politics, with an eye towards how the actions of elected leaders impact people of different backgrounds and experiences than my own.

16. I use my online presence to lift up people of marginalized identities and I speak out against hateful rhetoric.

17. I consistently demonstrate my commitment to social justice through action, not just when incidents of hate crimes and bias incidents occur.

18. I make a concerted effort to help those close to me, particularly children, value and appreciate diversity by modeling behaviors that uplift and protect marginalized people.
INTERFAITH ALLIANCE FOUNDATION IS THE only national interfaith organization dedicated to protecting the integrity of both religion and democracy in the United States. With tens of thousands of members across the country, including more than 75 different faith traditions as well as those of no faith, Interfaith Alliance represents a diverse network of Americans united by our commitment to the Constitution’s promise of religious freedom.

Based in Washington, DC, with state and local affiliates across the country, our work includes public education, grassroots activism, policy advocacy, the weekly State of Belief Radio program, and resources to assist faith leaders and politicians in navigating the boundaries between faith and politics.