

Action Plan for Election Season Peace

A collaboration between the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Columbia Jewish Federation and Interfaith Partners of South Carolina (IPSC).

Problem Statement

While open elections in many countries engender fear, conflict and even violence, here in America we are accustomed to an orderly and civil process. During this season of polarization and tension, we are called to proactively build peace to support democracy.

Position Statement

Our goal is to help ensure a peaceful election season, understanding that:

- If we want to continue to live in the America we love, we must remember who we are – a group of individuals with differing ideas, and a democracy that provides us with a way to live together in peace.
- America is not perfect, but we should always strive to achieve our ideals of peace, harmony, opportunity and respect for all.
- Disruptive and/or violent actions against our fellow Americans will not accomplish our shared values and goals.
- Interfaith conversations have taught us that we can show compassion to each other even when we have sharp differences. We have learned that we can respect others with whom we disagree.
- We call on all of our interfaith partners across South Carolina to uphold our vision of peace and respect.
- We call on everyone in America to come together to support the democratic process which allows us to speak, think, live and enjoy freedom.

Response

- Media Release and Follow Up
- Social Media Messaging
- Emergency Hotline for Congregations Needing Support
- Congregational Memo of positive messages for services and meetings
- Scenario Planning for Incident Preparedness
- Share Plan with Civil Authorities and Community Leaders
- SC Interfaith Harmony Month (January 2021)

More Information

Those interested in learning more about how to maintain calm and civility in the coming weeks may visit <https://www.facebook.com/InterfaithPartnersOfSC/> For more information, call 1-888-849-1513 or email PIO@interfaithpartnersofsc.org.