



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**JEWISH FEDERATION OF DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL  
DENOUNCES RECENT ACTS OF HATE**

DURHAM, NC (January 4, 2017) – The Jewish Federation of Durham and Chapel Hill denounces the recent acts of hate, including hate crimes and hate speech that have surged in the aftermath of the election. We call for individuals, organizations, communities, and leaders across the country to rise in a unified voice against hatred and intolerance.

The Torah instructs us, “You shall not stand by the blood of your neighbor” (Lev. 19:16). Our own history has shown us that silence emboldens the oppressors. Hatred and intolerance threaten core American and Jewish values and endanger Jews and other minorities nationally and locally. We stand against anti-Semitism, xenophobia, racism, Islamophobia, homophobia and misogyny.

The strength of our local community is its diversity and underlying values of treating each other with dignity and respect. These are values that we will not waver on as a local community and that we expect from our national leadership.

As Jews, we know firsthand the extreme danger of rhetoric of racial superiority in government leadership and advisors. Our commitment to the Jewish values of Tikkun olam (repairing the world), Tzedakah (justice and charity), Chesed (kindness), K’lal Yisrael (Jewish peoplehood), and Hachnasat orchim (welcoming newcomers) and our pledge of “Never Again” compels us to speak up.

**About the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill:**

The Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill is the umbrella organization representing the Jewish community of Durham, Orange, Chatham, Person, and Alamance counties.

The mission of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill is to connect Jews in the local community, to help those in need both here and abroad, and to provide and support programs and services that enable current and future generations to lead more meaningful lives inspired by Jewish values. The Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

<http://www.shalomdch.org>

<http://www.levinjcc.org>

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