



May 30, 2017

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Statement on the May 26th Hollywood MAX murders

We stand in solidarity with our community that is grieving the horrifying murder of two brave community members, Taliesin Namaki-Meche and Ricky Best, who stood up to protect their fellow Portlanders from harassment. A third man, Micah David-Cole Fletcher, was attacked but is thankfully expected to recover from his injuries. The actions of these men demonstrate the true spirit of this community and exemplify the way we strive to care for one another. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families, and to the two young girls and fellow MAX riders who experienced this trauma firsthand.

Reportedly, the attacker was yelling anti-Muslim slurs at a teenage girl wearing a hijab, and her friend. Hacienda wishes to reaffirm our commitment to supporting the safety of Muslims in our community, and our commitment to extend a welcoming hand to people of all faiths, races, and backgrounds. We believe in a Portland where everyone lives without fear of discrimination, exclusion or harm.

In the wake of this brutal tragedy, we hope you will join us in redoubling our efforts to promote human rights and dignity, and to combat the forces of hate and bigotry with love and care for our fellow Portlanders. If you wish to make a donation to help the families and survivors affected by this attack, there are several community fundraising campaigns underway; the links can be found in [this article from the Oregonian](#).

It is up to all of us to build the society we envision. Let us find the courage to act as bravely as these three heroes, and continue to foster a community that allows all Portlanders to thrive.

Ernesto Fonseca
CEO, Hacienda CDC

