

**Resolution Regarding Antisemitism and Hate
Beth Israel Congregation
Bath, Maine**

For purposes of this document, we are using the definition of antisemitism put forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, (IHRA). *Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.*

Beth Israel Congregation of Bath, Maine hereby affirms the following:

Whereas, Beth Israel Congregation is a vibrant, inclusive and diverse Reform synagogue, we strive to realize the ideals of Torah, Tikkun Olam, Gemilut Hasadim and Tzedakah, and ensure a safe and diverse haven for all expressions of Judaism.

Whereas, as residents of Maine, we recognize that the unprecedented local rise in antisemitism, including graffiti, vandalism and hate speech targeting Jews, is part of the larger national trend of the increase of hate movements.

Therefore, be it resolved that we will:

1. Publicly condemn expressions and acts of antisemitism and other forms of hate directed at any marginalized Maine community.
2. Report local instances of antisemitism to law enforcement and the Anti-Defamation League's incident reporting form on their website.
3. Act in solidarity with, and partner with other targeted communities.
4. Advocate for effective hate crime legislation.
5. Respond to the need for education about the history and dangers of antisemitism and how to combat it.
6. Provide a safe and inclusive space for local college students to find support and connection to the Beth Israel community.
7. Educate ourselves and others about the history and founding principles of the State of Israel as a safe homeland for Jews fleeing the Holocaust and other atrocities.
8. Remain committed to providing secure and welcoming spaces for worship, study and other gatherings for all.