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## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### **BUILDING COMMUNITY CONDEMNS HAMAS TERRORIST ATTACK IN ISRAEL ON OCTOBER 7, 2023, AND ALL VIOLENCE AGAINST ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN CIVILIANS**

### **REMEMBER OUR SHARED HUMANITY**

New York, New York October 19, 2023 – Building CommUnity, the narrative change and cultural transformation communications and marketing organization, is committed to working with communities and organizations throughout the United States and around the world in furthering a purposeful multicultural and multiracial community through building awareness of our shared humanity, values, and goals; racial and cultural healing; shared storytelling; understanding; empathy and compassion; educating, guiding and communication.

Building CommUnity calls for people everywhere to unite against hate, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism in any form, and violence. We strongly condemn the October 7, 2023, brutal Hamas terrorist attack in Israel of innocent civilians. We empathize with the generational trauma and pain this attack has triggered for the Jewish people around the world and our prayers are with them. There is no justification for terrorism inflicted on any person or community, whatever their religion, race or culture. Terrorism and extremism are meant to sow and strengthen divisions and hate in order to conquer, annihilate, oppress, and assert power and control over others.

We also strongly condemn the violence inflicted on innocent Palestinians and will continue using our voice against the ongoing inhumane treatment of the Palestinian people. Every human being, no matter what background, religion, race, or culture they may be, deserves to live in peace with fundamental human needs, including safe homes, plentiful food and fresh water, equitable healthcare and access to quality education.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s words continue to resonate. We call on people everywhere to remember our shared humanity with one's neighbors of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds. Together we are stronger. Together we can overcome the atrocities perpetrated by some against others. Together, we can make the world a better place, one day, one moment at a time. We call on people everywhere to reach out to your neighbors; Israelis and Jews, Palestinians and Muslims, and people of all faiths and cultures – Black, White, and Brown – to give them support and comfort, to let them know that they are not alone, to ask questions if you have them, and to unite for peace and prosperity for all.

Recently released research from the Heart of America Annual Survey conducted in June 2023, found that 74% of Americans agree that there is a renewed urgency for fighting racism and hate in America as well as 67% saying they are hopeful Americans can work through differences and find lasting common ground in the future. (Research supported by the National Collaborative for Health Equity (NCHE). To view the full survey report, go to: [NCHE Heart of America Annual Survey](#)) Numerous Americans have come together in the past to fight against racial inequities, hate, and violence. Envision the power that 74% of unified Americans would have to make lasting change. Envision the influence 74% of unified Americans would have to shape policy that better people's lives in the United States and around the world. We must do that now. We must remember our shared humanity. There is no place for hate; only for listening, understanding, empathy, compassion, and love.

Please join our mailing list ([www.Building-CommUnity.co](http://www.Building-CommUnity.co) – *bottom of home page*) to find out more about upcoming, open conversations that Building CommUnity is hosting; and/or contact [info@Building-CommUnity.co](mailto:info@Building-CommUnity.co) for more information on Building CommUnity's services.