

## A Maine Pledge To Protect the Civil Rights of Immigrants

The following letter was circulated for signatures in November 2016 to organizations, schools and colleges, faith communities, and elected officials in the state of Maine in response to rising acts of racism and xenophobia, anti-immigrant political rhetoric, and the resulting fears and uncertainties faced by immigrant communities. With thanks to the signatories who have pledged to protect civil rights, please circulate, share, and post this letter.

**To our immigrant friends, neighbors, colleagues, and fellow community members: We support and pledge to defend your civil rights and to work toward building communities of compassion, dignity, and safety for all.**

إلى المهاجرين الأصدقاء والجيران والزملاء، والزملاء أعضاء الجمعيات.  
نحن بفخر ندعم حقوقكم المدنية ونتعهد بالعمل نحو بناء مجتمعات الرحمة والكرامة والسلامة للجميع.

**Ku socota: saaxiibadeen, dariskeenna, iyo bulshadeenna oo dhan: Waxaan taageeraynaa oon xushmad u haynaa xuquuqdiina rayad ahaan waxaan ballan qaadaynaa inaan ka wada shaqaynaynaasidaan u dhisi lahayn bulsho isjecel, is xushmaysa oo amaan ah.**

**À nos amis immigrants, à nos voisins, à nos collègues, et aux membres des communautés: Nous soutenons et honorons vos droits civiques et nous nous engageons à travailler pour bâtir des communautés de compassion, de dignité et de sécurité pour tous.**

**Para nuestros amigos, vecinos, y colegas inmigrantes y para los miembros de la comunidad: Apoyamos y respetamos a sus derechos civiles y estamos comprometidos a trabajar para construir comunidades llenos de compasión, de dignidad y de seguridad para todos.**

**Aos nossos amigos, vizinhos e colegas imigrantes e aos membros da comunidade: Apoiamos e respeitamos dos seus direitos civis e estamos empenhados em trabalhar para construir comunidades cheias de compaixão, dignidade e segurança para todos.**

### Signed,

Abbey of HOPE (Hands of Peace Extended)  
ACLU of Maine  
Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church  
Angolan Community of Maine  
President, Bates College  
Catholic Charities of Maine  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
Community Financial Literacy  
Congolese Community Association of Maine (CoCo Maine)  
Congregation Bet Ha'am  
Dd Swan Consulting  
Education Program, Colby College  
Empower the Immigrant Woman  
First Parish Portland Unitarian Universalist  
First Universalist Church of Auburn, Unitarian Universalist  
First Universalist Church of Yarmouth  
Frannie Peabody Center  
Furniture Friends  
Greater Portland Family Promise  
Greater Portland Health  
Harvard Center, Bates College  
Hispanic Ministry, Portland Diocese  
Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine  
Hope Acts  
HopeGateWay United Methodist Church, Portland  
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)  
Immigrant Resource Center of Maine  
In Her Presence  
Iraqi Community Association of Maine  
Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine  
Ladder to the Moon Network

Lewiston City Council President, Kristen Cloutier  
Lewiston City Councilor, Jim Lysen  
Lewiston School Committee Member, Megan Parks  
Light Mission Church  
Living With Peace  
Maine Access Immigrant Network (MAIN)  
Maine Association for New Americans (MANA)  
Maine Council of Churches  
Maine Equal Justice Partners  
Maine Immigrant and Refugee Services (MIRS)  
Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition (MIRC)  
Maine Migrant Health Program  
Maine People's Alliance  
Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN)  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellows  
Mayor Ethan Strimling, City of Portland  
Morning Glory Arts Therapy  
NAACP Portland Branch  
New England Arab American Association  
New England Yearly Meeting of Friends (Quakers)  
New Mainers Alliance  
New Mainers Public Health Initiative  
New Mainers Political Action Committee  
New Mainers Resource Center  
New Mainers Tenants' Association  
Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights, Colby College  
Portland Adult Education  
Portland City Councilor At Large, Jon Hinck  
Portland City Councilor, Belinda Ray  
Portland Public Schools, Xavier Botana, Superintendent  
Portland School Board and At Large Portland City Councilor, Pious Ali

Preble Street  
Rabbi Jared Saks, Congregation Bet Ha'am  
Rwandese Community Association  
St. Ansgar Lutheran Church  
St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center  
Saint Joseph's College  
St. Luke's Cathedral (Episcopalian), Portland  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Portland  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas – Portland Area  
Slim Peace  
Somali Bantu Community of Lewiston, Maine  
Somali Community Center of Maine  
Southern Maine Worker's Center  
State Representative, Peggy Rotundo  
State Representative, Rachel Talbot Ross  
Sustainable Livelihoods Relief Organization  
Temple Beth El, Portland  
Treetop Zen Center  
Trinity Episcopal Church, Portland  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco and Biddeford  
Dean, University of Maine School of Law  
President, University of Southern Maine  
Welcoming Immigrants Network  
Welcoming the Stranger  
YMCA of Southern Maine

#mainesupportsimmigrants #pledgetoprotect #immigrantrights #strongcommunities

<https://mainesupportsimmigrants.wordpress.com/>

Contact [cbestem@colby.edu](mailto:cbestem@colby.edu) with any questions.