

United Against Hate Month promotes culture of inclusion and respect

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United Against Hate Month (May 13 to June 13, 2019) is a call for local civic action across the Dayton region to stand united against hate and to promote a culture of inclusion and respect.

On March 20, over 250 people gathered at a forum facilitated by the Dayton

Human Relations Council to share ideas about responding to the planned May 25 hate group rally in Dayton. From that meeting, the United Against Hate coalition emerged and is designed to be a platform for residents to share the many, diverse ways they plan to respond and to show that hate is not a Dayton value --



Logo: Val Smith and Frank "Buddy" Pitts

before, during, and after Memorial Day weekend.

As a result of the discussion, the group has launched www.unitedagainsthatedayton.com, a website including an events calendar to help connect people who want to peacefully respond to the hate group. Events can be added directly on the site. United Against Hate posters will be available for download and are encouraged to be shared at events, in windows, at schools, businesses, churches, and homes throughout the area.

Two social media pages, <u>instagram.com/unitedagainsthatedyt</u> and <u>facebook.com/unitedagainsthatedyt</u>, are also active for community information and participation.

"Hate is an open attack on tolerance, decency, and overall community health," said Human Relations Council Executive Director Erica Fields. "We must not ignore it, but instead take action, unite against it, and create opportunities for sustained movement. United Against Hate is a platform to help uplift the community as we work toward inclusion, respect, empathy, and equity."

"I hope residents and community groups will take advantage of the Dayton United Against Hate campaign and make it their own," added Mayor Nan Whaley. "Although we may choose to express our anger and frustration about this event differently, our community has certainly shown that we are united against hate."

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