

Beth El Call to Action: Mass Shooting in Buffalo, NY

We are sickened by the acts of an 18 year old male white nationalist who murdered 10 innocent Black people buying groceries in their East Buffalo, NY, Tops supermarket. The victims' names are Celestine Chaney, 65; Roberta Drury, 32; Andre Mackniel, 53; Katherine Massey, 72; Margus D. Morrison, 52; Heyward Patterson, 67; Aaron W. Salter, 55; Geraldine Talley, 62; Ruth Whitfield, 86; and Pearly Young, 77.

We refer you to the powerful statement below by [Alicia Garza](#), principal of the [Black 2 the Future Action Fund](#) and Co-Founder of the Black Lives Matter Movement.

Statement on Racist Mass Shooting in Buffalo, New York by Alicia Garza

Many of us are wondering: what can we do to make a difference?

We encourage you to follow the lead of Black organizers and activists. You can begin by reading [Roadmap 2022: A Black, Progressive Policy Brief](#) and identifying a policy area in which you want to get engaged.

Take action:

- [Sign up with SURJ](#) ([Showing Up for Racial Justice](#)) and participate in SURJ's [new member orientation](#) on **June 9 at 8pm**. With chapters around the country, including in Boston, SURJ works for racial justice by following the lead of local Black organizers and activists.
- Join the fight to protect voting rights through Stacey Abrams' [Fair Fight](#)
- Join the fight against white supremacy through [Black Lives Matter Boston](#), [NAACP](#), or [Color of Change](#)
- Support the legislative agenda of the [new Health Equity Compact](#) launched this week by Black and Latino health care and business leaders in Boston
- Advocate for a five-year moratorium on new prison construction in Massachusetts through [Families for Justice as Healing](#)

Give:

- Make a gift to and follow the [Jews of Color Initiative](#) or [Be'chol Lashon](#)
- Make a gift to and follow these Black-led groups in Buffalo:
 - [Black Love Resists in the Rust](#), fighting white supremacy and anti-Black racism in Buffalo. Through Black Love Resists in the Rust, you can donate to a [community mental health services and fresh food fund](#).
 - [African Heritage Food Cooperative](#), serving food deserts and giving ownership back to the community.
 - [Open Buffalo](#), focused on leadership development, advocacy and organizing.
- Make a gift to this organization in Buffalo:
 - [Every Bottom Covered](#), the first and only diaper bank in Western New York.

- Follow the lead of folks on the ground in Buffalo. Instagram accounts of local organizers to follow include:
 - [@ColoredGirlsBikeToo](#)
 - [@BuffaloCommunityFridge](#)
 - [@VOICEBuffalo](#)
- Make a gift to and follow Boston and national Black-led organizations fighting for justice [here](#), [here](#) or [here](#).

Got other action ideas? Please let us know and we will compile and share a list.

In solidarity and action,

Michelle Fineblum, Vice President, Tikkun Olam

Karen Blumenfeld and Judy Goldberg, Co-Chairs, Beth El Antiracism Working Group

Congregation Beth El of the Sudbury River Valley

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