



June 15, 2021

We, the undersigned Metro Denver faith leaders express our unequivocal support for the Park Hill Safe Outdoor Space (SOS) at Park Hill United Methodist Church & Temple Micah in Park Hill.

As people of faith, it is our moral duty to welcome the stranger; and we know from experience that by building relationships with others, the one who was once a stranger to us can become a companion and friend.

Many of us, and our congregants, have ministries with, and are ministered to by, those experiencing homelessness in our midst. Safe Outdoor Spaces are secure, staffed, resource and service-rich environments that provide an outdoor, individualized sheltering option for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Denver. They are a well-organized, compassionate expression of our responsibility to care for our unhoused neighbors.

The plans for the 40-person Safe Outdoor Space in the parking lot of Park Hill UMC & Temple Micah have been met with opposition from a segment of the surrounding community. We welcome the dismissal of the lawsuit attempting to stop the Park Hill SOS plans and pray that the neighbors struggling with this opportunity to welcome the stranger will join us in at least accepting, if not celebrating, the opening of the Space on June 15.

This is about dignity of all people – no matter what we look like, where we come from or what is in our wallet. We believe we all belong. We stand boldly with Pastor Nathan, Rabbi Mo, their congregants and our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

Signed by 115 Metro Denver clergy and faith leaders & 87 lay leaders below.

Note: Congregation/Denomination/Ministry listed for identification purposes only

Rev. Jessica Abell
Living Water Community
Denver

Rev. Lauren Boyd
St. Andrew UMC
Highlands Ranch

Dr. Charles Alkula
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Boulder

Rabbi Deborah Bronstein
Reform Jewish, Congregation Har HaShem
Boulder

Msgr. Robert Amundsen
Roman Catholic
Denver

Rev. Bill Calhoun
Presbyterian Church USA
Denver

Rev. Haley Andreades
United Methodist
Denver

Pastor Paul Carlson
Lutheran-ELCA
Denver

Rev. Janel Apps Ramsey
Progressive Christian
Westminster

Rev. Shaye Champ-Correll
Christian Church Disciples of Christ
Lafayette

Rev. Kirsten Barlow
Heritage United Methodist Church
Littleton

Rev. Linda Cheek
Hope UMC
Greenwood Village

Rabbi Eliot Baskin
Reform Jewish
Greenwood Village

Pastor Reg Cox
Lakewood Church of Christianity
Lakewood

Rev. Clover Beal
Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church
Denver

Pastor Dan Cummings
Denver Community Church
Denver

Dr. Patricia Bell
First United Methodist Church
Douglas, WY

Rev. Ian Cummins
Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church
Denver

Rev. Mike Bergman
Park Hill UMC
Denver

Elder Norm Davey
The Way Church
Centennial

Rev. Don Bird
Broomfield UMC
Broomfield

Rev. Ben A. David Hensley
Lakewood UMC
Lakewood

Rev. Bonita Bock
Lutheran-ELCA
Denver

Rev. Rebecca David Hensley
Lakewood UMC
Lakewood

Cristina Bordes
Interfaith
Boulder

Rev. Kelly Dignan
Unitarian Universalist
Denver

Rev. Sandi Dillon
Washington Park UMC
Denver

Marrton Dormish
Minister of Community Engagement
The Refuge
Broomfield

Rev. Amelia Dress
United Church of Christ
Erie

Rev. Wesley Dunbar
St. John's Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Thornton

Rev. Andy Dunning
University Park UMC
Denver

Dr. Michael Earnest
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Denver

Thomas English
University Park UMC
Denver

Rev. Mark Feldmeier
St. Andrew UMC
Highlands Ranch

Rabbi Brian Field
Judaism Your Way
Denver

Maureen Flanigan
Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church
Littleton

Sister Margaret Elizabeth Fuhr
Catholic Sisters of St. Francis
Denver

Rev. Nicole Garcia
Westview Church
Boulder

Rabbi Bernard Gerson
Congregation Rodef Shalom
Denver

Executive Pastor Jon Gettings
Denver Community Church
Denver

Rabbi Fred Greene
Congregation Ohr Shalom
Boulder

Rabbi Salomon Gruenwald
Hebrew Education Alliance
Denver

Dr. Guyette Laraine
Park Hill UMC
Denver

Pastor Michelle Haan
Denver Community Church
Denver

Rabbi Kim Harris
Congregation B'nai Chaim
Morrison

Rev. Amanda Henderson
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Denver

Rev. Michael Hidalgo
Denver Community Church
Denver

The Rev. Ted Howard
St. John's Episcopal Church
Boulder

Dr. Tracy Hughes
Mountain View United Church of Christ
Aurora

Rev. Dr. Valerie L. Jackson
Cameron UMC
Denver

Pastor Jason Janz
Providence Bible Church
Denver

Dr. Jeff Johnsen
Mile High Ministries
Denver

Rev. Michele Kaminsky
St. Luke's UMC
Highlands Ranch

Rev. Marla Kauerz, retired
United Methodist Church
Centennial

Pastor Hannah Kellerman
Denver Community Church
Denver

Rev. Gordon Kieft
Calvary Baptist Church
Denver

Br. Daniel Klawitter
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Denver

Pastor Maggie Knight
Denver Community Church
Denver

Sister Anna Koop
Loretto Community
Denver

Rev. Paul Kottke
United Methodist
Denver

Rev. Angela Kotzmoyer
Applewood Valley UMC
Golden

Rev. Mollie Landers Hatt
Lakewood United Church of Christ
Lakewood

Rev. Sharon Langfeldt
Christ Church UMC
Thornton

Rev. Bradley Laurvick
Highlands United Methodist Church
Denver

Rev. Sherri Laws
United Church of Christ
Aurora

Rev. Inga Oyan Longbrake
Messiah Community Church
Denver

Deacon Judy Lounsberry
Lutheran-ELCA
Littleton

Reverend Mary MacDonald
Grace UMC
Denver

Rev. Kae Madden
Church of the Beloved ECC
Northglenn

Pastor Mele Mafi
First United Methodist Church of
Aurora

Sister Patricia McCormick
Loretto Community
Denver

Pastor Chad McNeely
Denver Community Church
Denver

Rev. Mark Meeks
Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church
Denver

Rev. Sally Megeath
Episcopal Diocese
Denver

Rev. Dr. Donald Messer
Executive Director, Center for Health & Hope
President Emeritus, Iliff
Denver

Rev. Mike Morran
First Unitarian Church of Denver
Denver

Doug Nelson
Earth and Social Justice Pastor
The Refuge
Broomfield

Rev. Dr. Eric Nelson
Heritage Christian Center
Aurora

Rev. Jeff Neuman-Lee, retired
Church of the Brethren
Denver

Rev. Bich Thy Nguyen
Mountain Sky Conference-United Methodist Church
Denver

Rev. Dave Nii
Community of Christ
Centennial

Bishop Karen Oliveto
United Methodist Church
Colorado

Rev. Susan Otey
United Methodist
Golden

Rusty Plowman, Interfaith Specialist
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Thornton

Apostle Lawrence Powell
Soul Care Full Gospel Center
Aurora

Apostle Sandra Powell
Soul Care Full Gospel Center
Aurora

Rev. Stephanie Price
The Land
Centennial

Rev. Jeff Rainwater
Mountain Sky Conference of the UMC
Denver

Rev. Laura Rainwater
Park Hill UMC
Denver

Rev. Dr. Vernon Rempel
Beloved Community Mennonite Church
Littleton

Outreach Director Ihsan Riahi
Denver North Islamic Center
Northglenn

Rev. Dr. Anne Rice-Jones
Rose of Sharon Tabernacle
Lakewood

Rev. Ruth Rinehart
Unitarian Universalist
Golden

Rev. Jessica Rooks
Mountain Sky Conference of the UMC
Denver

Rev. Laura Rossbert
United Methodist
Denver

Rev. Anne Scalfaro
Calvary Baptist Church
Denver

Rabbi Amanda Schwartz
Jewish
Denver

Rev. Jeremy Scott
UMC of Johnstown
Johnstown

Reverend Jeannie Shero
Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church
Littleton

Rev. Pedro Silva
United Church of Christ
Boulder

Rev. Randall Spaulding
Boulder Mennonite Church
Boulder

Rev. Liliana Stahlberg
Glory of God Lutheran Church
Wheat Ridge

Pastor Bekah Stewart
Denver Community Church
Denver

Rev. Nadine Swahnberg
Jefferson Unitarian Church
Golden

Fr. Terry Kissell
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church
Aurora

Pastor Caitlin Trussell
Augustana Lutheran Church, ELCA
Denver

Rev. Dr. Timothy Tyler
Shorter Community AME Church
Denver

Rev. Jeni Umble
Living Light of Peace/Mennonite
Arvada

Reverend Jack Veatch
Evergreen Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Littleton

Marie Venner
Colorado Call to Action
Denver

Rev. Dr. Louise Westfall
Central Presbyterian Church
Denver

Rev. Wendy Williams
Jefferson Unitarian Church
Golden

Pastor Sara Wirth
Lutheran ELCA
Arvada

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