



November 7, 2023

The Strategic Partners (Neshama: Association of Jewish Chaplains, The National Association of Catholic Chaplains, The Association of Professional Chaplains, The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education and The Canadian Association for Spiritual Care) in collaboration with The Association of Muslim Chaplains, have created a Taskforce to address the growing Antisemitism and Anti-Muslim bias we are witnessing throughout the world.

We recognize that right now, our Jewish and Muslim colleagues and their communities are grieving and terrified. There should be no tolerance for Antisemitism, Anti-Muslim bias, bigotry, or discrimination of any kind, especially in chaplaincy.

Our goal is to provide a platform of support to our members to help navigate this difficult reality in our work as chaplains/spiritual care clinicians. As chaplains, we are uniquely situated to make a difference in fighting hate because we are able to step into liminal spaces and build connection. Our capacity both to bear witness to suffering and to demonstrate empathy are skills the world needs right now. Through the leadership of this Taskforce, we hope to cause a ripple effect in supporting chaplains of all faiths and all whom they serve around our world.

The Taskforce will work to address the following:

- Share how to support our Muslim and Jewish colleagues
- Provide a safe space for chaplains to name their hurt, fear, and helplessness
- Offer resources (including webinars) that outline modes of communication in an interfaith space
- Provide training and resources in Trauma Informed Care
- Offer a writing and video gallery for chaplains/spiritual care clinicians to tell their stories of hope
- Put forth guidelines for employers on how to support chaplains during this difficult time

The Taskforce will convene in November and there will be communication out to all of our members with more information by early December.

We ask all of our members to hold our Muslim, Arab, and Jewish family in your hearts and prayers.