



PACT's Beloved Community joins the NAACP and Others to create an Anti - Racist Public Safety Model

Community Leaders will join a summer dialogue on Public Safety and Social Justice
Event date: July 26th, 2 pm at City Hall in Downtown San Jose

Media Contact:

Rev. Ray Montgomery, Director, PACT
revray@pactsj.org Cell: 408-504-3586

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SAN JOSE - “ We want to call evil, evil” said PACT’s Executive Director Rev Ray Montgomery at a recent interfaith march in San Jose. “We make a pledge to no longer be complicit in listening to white supremacy, racism or bigotry. We have to take action ... mindful action.”

On July 26th at 2 pm PACT’s Beloved Community, the NAACP and other Community Organizers will collaborate to dismantle systemic racism, as well as elevate equality, restorative criminal justice and transparency for the South Bay Area.

In San Jose, the Police Chief Eddie Garcia often uplifts the 10th largest U.S.city as home to a “Model” for the nation’s urban policing.

Now reports dismantled that image as rampant racism has hit the front page news with SJPD nefarious 10-70D-SJ Facebook group and an active Anti-Muslim lawsuit was filed by a veteran SJPD officer Nabil Haidar. In the streets, San Jose is home to the deadliest police force in the Bay Area, according to recent Mercury News reports. For five years the Merc captured how race is an issue as state-sanctioned police violence has disproportionately killed Latinos in the city. And not one SJPD officer who used lethal force was fired, instead they continue to patrol the city.

The Beloved Community has taken action since 2014 and constructed more than seven dialogues between the community and elected officials, the police and sheriffs. PACT uplifted the impacted families and forged policy for a more just and safe populus. Yet, now we see the new surge in “people power” to demand deep reform and trackable change after the horrors of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd’s murders.

PACT, NAACP and others organizers will call to dismantle racist policing systems and reimagine a new model for public safety. Activists will unite to elevate strategies that extend beyond bias training, removing cops in schools, and halting arrests for minor crimes. Look to hear more on ways to decertify criminal cops as well as remove the Police Officers Bill of Rights and end the officers full immunity. As well as insight on defunding the police and redirecting funds to invest in social programs. Two school districts have recently voted to defund SJPd.

In this moment after weeks of national and local non-violent uprisings, San Jose and Santa Clara County top officials including Mayor Liccardo and District Attorney Rosen shared new police and justice reforms in response to pressure from Black Lives Matter protests.

Hundreds of local non-violent marchers joined two virtual sessions with San Jose officials. The reports of painful teargas, rubber bullets and aggressive officers filled the online comment session. The City Council was led to pivot and to ban rubber bullets and call for accountability from its police force.

Community leaders have heard political diatribes in the past- empty promises - yet now we will work as a collective to ensure that this is a new era of change and accountability. We welcome the public and faith communities to join the discourse on July 26th at 2 pm. We call for all to wear masks and social-distancing at the rally. We seek to erase oppressive policing and to enact strategies framed by racial equality and restorative justice. We will gather at the helm of local power - outside Downtown San Jose's City Hall. The vulnerable can access the rally via a virtual experience on Facebook Live at facebook.com/pactsj.

Beloved Community's Mission

Our faith calls us to work for love and justice. So, we the Beloved Community Team of PACT build power among the impacted and oppressed to speak truth about the justice system; to transform the culture and practice of law enforcement; and to ensure the voice, value and physical and digital safety of everyone in our neighborhoods, cities, county, and state.

PACT's Unified Prophetic Vision: We are PACT: Diverse, multi-racial, multi-faith community builders, who challenge ourselves and all those with power to catalyze a movement to end racial and economic inequalities in Silicon Valley. With a prophetic voice that organizes people to speak truth and justice, we demand and create pathways to shared prosperity and a society in which every person lives with dignity and respect. PACT is a grassroots organization that empowers every day people to create a more just community. PACT is part of PICO CA and Faith in Action, the largest grassroots, faith-based organizing network in the country.

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