

Good Morning

I am Barbara Burkhardt. I live in Leland, and I am here on behalf of Northwest Michigan United for Racial Equity. I am compelled to do this work as a citizen of Leelanau County and as a Catholic woman, following the Church and Catholic Social Teaching, which, like all faith traditions (and humanist philosophy) speaks of how we are to treat one another. I am here to present a letter with over 300 signatures of concerned citizens, business owners, and even a few visitors, of Leelanau County.

This is the letter –

We are business owners, residents, members of local organizations, and visitors to beautiful Leelanau County **who are expecting a county action plan** with next steps related to the Leelanau County Anti-Racism Resolution.

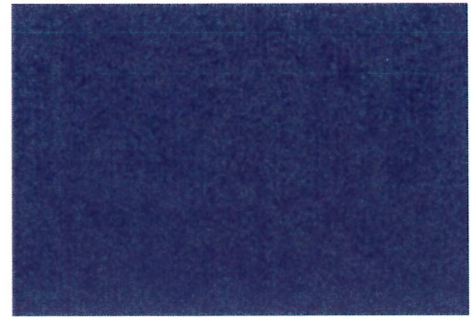
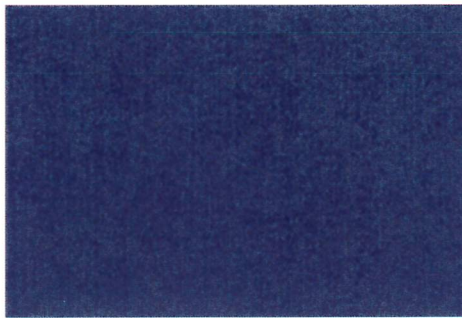
In today's world **we believe** it is important to get to know the experiences of our neighbors of diverse racial backgrounds and make sure that **anyone** who visits or may want to live here feels safe and welcome **regardless of the color of their skin**.

We want our civic institutions to address overt racism any time it rears its ugly head. We also want them to address long-standing systemic issues that may persist because of historical disadvantages to people of color such as poor health and socio-economic, educational, and other challenges. In August 2020, our Leelanau County Board of Commissioners recognized these issues in the anti-racism resolution that they **unanimously** approved.

It has been one year since the county board passed its resolution, which condemned racism and committed the county to taking positive steps to learn more about it and address it. We applaud the county for passing the resolution in the face of a terrible racist incident. By signing below, we now encourage and look forward to a county action plan with next steps, including a **county anti-racism committee with citizen representation**. This is important for our children and for our communities to thrive.

The people who signed this letter represent every township and community in the county, and visitors too, who hope to see Leelanau County as a place where everyone is respected. The signers of this letter are your neighbors and friends, pastors and teachers, doctors and nurses, retired people and working people, parents and grandparents, white, brown, and indigenous people. These people are all **aware** and **concerned** about racism in our community, and in our country. We all know that the solution to the problem of racism begins with us, and that includes our local government. You have made a commitment to address the issue of racism in our county

Thank you for your work. We look forward to working with you to constitute a county anti-racism committee (modeled after the county substance abuse committee) to continue the important work to make Leelanau County safe and welcoming for all people, as we move forward toward Martin Luther King's vision of the beloved community.



Leelanau County Anti-Racism Resolution

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(This sign-on letter and names will be displayed at www.LeelanauUnited.com and provided to Leelanau County Commissioners.)

Rob Abernathy, visitor to Leland-owner, Rob Abernathy, LLC, Florida and Illinois

Barbara Abbott, Leelanau Township

Susan Ager, Northport

Jen Amin, early childhood specialist, Northport/Leelanau Township

Paul Anderson, visitor, Northport

Jeff Anderson, Solon Township

Karen Anderson, visitor, Washington, D.C.

Evelyn Andrade, RSS, DHHS, Traverse City

Alanna Alfonseca, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

Nancy Allen, chef-educator-writer and artist, Cleveland Township

William Allen, sculptor-artist, Cleveland Township

Dawn Atkins, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

Robert Atkins, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

Jane Axley, visitor, Naperville, Illinois

Jackie Baase, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Steve Baase, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Sandra Bacon, Empire

Lois Bahle, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay Township

Henry Bailey, Tribal Citizen, Cleveland Township

Jennifer Banta, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

Christi Bardenhagen, fruit grower-former farm owner, Leland

Christina Barkel, Cedar/Solon Township

Kay Barnell, concerned citizen, Empire Township

Lura Beal, nurse, Traverse City

Stephanie Berger, Centerville Township

Juliet Berkshire, Snow Moon Ranch, Suttons Bay

Mindy Binsfeld, concerned citizen, Empire

Holly Bird, Co-executive Director, Title Track

Alexandra Bohlmeyer, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Michelle Bordeaux, owner, Bella and the Bungalow, Leland

Sarah Bordeaux, Lake Leelanau

Julie Botsford, CFO, Cedar North LLC and J2 Farm, Solon Township

Sara Boys, Elmwood Township

Allison Brown, optician, Leelanau Township

Stacey Brugeman, journalist-mom-concerned citizen, Cedar/Centerville Township

Robert Buckman, concerned citizen, Bingham Township

Anne Burkhardt, frequent visitor, Minneapolis

Barbara Burkhardt, chaplain, Leland

Daniel Burkhardt, visitor, Chicago

David Burkhardt, very concerned citizen, Leland

Betty Bushey, licensed professional counselor-retired, Elmwood Township

Dennis Bushey, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

Ron Calsbeek, Glen Arbor

Diane Calsbeek, Glen Arbor

The Rev. Dr. Robin Carden, clergy, Cleveland Township

Dawn Chalker, Elmwood Township

Elda Chapa, parent-grandparent-citizen, Leelanau Township

Kali Chapelle, concerned citizen and social worker, Northport

Abigail Chatfield, Elmwood Township

Caroline Chatfield, concerned citizen, Leland

Laura Ciccone, Leelanau Township

Priscilla Cogan, writer, Leland

Penny Concannon, caring citizen, UpNORTH BIPOC, Leelanau Township

Pat Conklin, concerned citizen, Centerville Township

Diane Conners, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Dean Conners, owner, Borealis Design, Solon Township

Jeremy Connolly, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Guillermo Contreras, Field Service Representative, Telamon, Kent County/Grand Rapids

Julie Cordano, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Tori Craig, teacher, Maple City

Jeanne Creighton, retired librarian, Leland

Celeste Crouch, concerned citizen, Glen Arbor

Beatriz Cruz, community member-citizen, Suttons Bay

Jair Cruz, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

Joan D'Argo, Solon Township

Kylie Davis, Manistee

Terri DeFilippo, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Ryan DeFour, Cedar

Robert DeKorne, owner, Pyramid Point Custom Guitars, Cleveland Township

Randy Delafuente, parent and citizen, Leelanau Township

Matthew Dignan, concerned citizen, Northport/Leelanau Township

Paul Diller, Elmwood Township

Bette Donahue, Elmwood Township

Molly Donahue, Leelanau Township

Nancy Doughty, retired clergy, Elmwood Township

Nancy Duck, resident, Leland

Clarence Duncan, concerned citizen-summer resident for 40 years, Leland

Bill Dungjen, parent-citizen-educator , Solon Township

Leah Dunn, Elmwood Township

Cara Durbin, Cedar/Solon Township

Mike Durbin, teacher, Traverse City Area Public Schools, Solon Township

Rachael Dyer, teacher, Leland

Simon Dyer, Lake Leelanau/Leland

Judith Egelar, retired-concerned citizen, Leland

Laura Elwell, registered nurse, Leland

Hanna Elwell, concerned citizen, Leland

Sarah Elwell, concerned citizen, college student, Leland

Megan Ernst, Northport/Leelanau Township

Jeremy Evans, Leland

Michelle Ferrarese, Birch Point Farm, Owner, Elmwood Township

Carolyn Faught, owner, Omena Cut Flowers, Leelanau Township

Ruth Fenlon, Grand Traverse County

Brett Fessell, concerned citizen-county resident, Kasson Township

Michael Fisher, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

Kristy Fisher, teacher, Elmwood Township

Nancy Flanagan, teacher, Cedar

Maureen Fletcher, concerned citizen and constituent, Leelanau Indivisible and SWIM (State Wide Indivisible Michigan), Lake Leelanau/Bingham Township

Kathy Fordyce, concerned citizen, Empire

Richard (Rick) Foster, past moderator and past president, Trinity UCC Northport and Northport Lions,
Northport/ Leelanau Township

Michael Fowler, owner, Professional Dock and Hoist, Cedar/Solon Township

Lynn Francomb, retired, Elmwood Township

Janis Frazee, retired women's health nurse practitioner, Cedar

Ellen Fred, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Phil Gaeiaon, pastor, Leelanau Township

Nancy Gallagher, end of life midwife, Suttons Bay

Susan Gardner, Pastoral Administrator St Kateri Tekakwitha parish, Peshawbestown

Lindsay Gardner Hine, parent-concerned citizen, Leland

Phil Garrison, Pastor, Trinity Church UCC, Leelanau Township

Kathrine Garthe, co-owner, Garthe Farms LLC, Leelanau Township

Dana Getsinger, Elmwood Township

Cyrus Ghaemi, physician, Cedar/Solon Township

Charlene Goral, concerned citizen, Centerville Township

Tina Greene-Bevington, Suttons Bay

Terry Griffin, owner, Gentle Motion Feldenkrais, Elmwood Township

Hannah Grinage, Lake Leelanau

Evangeline Grobbel, Leland

Gillian Grobbel, Leland

Mary Hagan, RN, Empire

Angela Hagy, Grand Traverse County

Richard Halbert, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

Sarah Hallstedt, owner, Hallstedt Homestead, Leelanau Township

Mary Hanson, concerned citizen, Empire Township

Gina Harder, concerned citizen and Township Trustee, Leelanau Township

Jody Hayden, owner, Grocer's Daughter Chocolate, Empire

Kimberly Hayes, significant other of a person of color, Cedar/Cleveland Township

Alison Heins, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

Katherine Heins, teacher, Elmwood Township

Jennifer Henbest, concerned citizen and parent, Traverse City

John Herrold, concerned citizen, Centerville Township

Donna Hillard, retired banker, Empire

Justina Hlavka, owner, Red Wine and Brew Tour, Bingham Township

Cynthia Hollenbeck, retired teacher, Glen Arbor

Amanda Holmes, Executive Director, Fishtown Preservation Society, Leelanau Township

Jason Homa, concerned citizen, Kasson Township

Pamela Houtteman, concerned citizen, Glen Arbor

Esmeralda Howell, concerned citizen, Traverse City

Joan Hunault, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

John Hunter, concerned citizen, Traverse City/Bingham Township

Ranae Ihme, owner, Leelanau Vacation Rentals, Glen Arbor

Maria Jaramillo, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

Sharon Jennings, grandparent, Elmwood Township

Amanda Johnson, Leland

Tim Johnson, concerned citizen, Cedar/Centerville Township

Jacqueline Johnson, retired teacher, Leelanau Township

Jay Johnson, retired attorney, Empire

Bronwyn Jones, concerned resident, Maple City/Cleveland Township

Kelly Sean Karcher, business owner, Hygge Supply, Lake Leelanau

Ellen Keen, Parent, Leland

Libby Keenan, Retired School Social Worker, Suttons Bay

Melissa Kelenske, owner, Wool & Honey, Cedar/Centerville Township

Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe, educator, Traverse City

Jacquelyn Kendall, concerned human, Kasson Township

Dina Kennedy, Traverse City

Laura Koon, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Diane Kraus, Empire

Shaina LaFond, parent-concerned citizen, Peninsula Township

Suzanne Landes, Leelanau Township

Christen Landry, Lake Leelanau

Elizabeth Landry, parent-concerned citizen, Cedar

Robert Lawson, Suttons Bay

Kelly Lively, co-owner, The Lively Farm, Empire

Jim Lively, co-owner, The Lively Farm, Empire

Jane Lively, co-owner, The Lively Farm, Burdickville

Judy Livingston, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Marlena Lopez, Suttons Bay

Lillian Mahaney, concerned citizen, Leland

Christina Marbury, Elmwood Township

Daniel Marbury, parent, Elmwood Township

Adrienne Maresca, parent-concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Amy Marowitz, concerned citizen, Cleveland Township

Barbara Marsh, Suttons Bay

Robert Martel, Solon Township

Jean Martin, retiree-concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Elva Martinez, parent-citizen, Leelanau Township

David Mathia, Member-Manager, D. F. Mathia LLC. Business Consultants, Elmwood Township

Faye Mathia, Elmwood Township

Warren Matson, Counselor-Advocate, Cornerstone Clinical Associates, Wayne, Illinois

John Maxwell, concerned citizen, Leland

Nannie Maxwell, concerned citizen, Leland

Thomas Mayhew, concerned resident of the county, Leelanau Township

Carol Mead, concerned citizen, Glen Arbor

Alison Merz, Lake Leelanau

Kira Metcalf, concerned citizen, Centerville Township

Maggie Mielczarek, business owner, Leland gal, Leland

Emily Miezio, parent, Suttons Bay

Peg McCarty, concerned citizen, Glen Arbor

Mary Egan McGlynn, Leland

Pat Miller, retired, Empire

Peggy Miller, concerned citizen, Leland

Sue Miller, retired educator-social worker, Leland

Sarah Mills, concerned citizen, Leland

Erica Mohr, Realtor, Real Estate One, Grand Traverse resident, multi-generational Leelanau roots

Sarah Montgomery-Richards, college instructor and parent, Bingham Township

Taylor Moore, concerned citizen, Cleveland Township

Juana Moreno, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

Julie Morris, Kasson Township

Brittany Morton-Smith, Cleveland Township

Jenifer Murray, public health professional, Empire

Steve Murray, concerned citizen, Empire

Elizabeth Neddo, co-owner, Wool & Honey, Cedar/Solon Township

Brian Nefcy, concerned citizen, Grand Traverse County

Christine Nefcy, Physician, Grand Traverse County

Molly Nefcy, student-concerned citizen, Traverse City

Jonathan Nesky, Cedar

Patty O'Donnell, concerned citizen, Bingham Township

Susan Odom, Suttons Bay Township Planning Commission, Suttons Bay

Bethany Osorio, teacher-parent, Leland

Nicco Pandolfi, educator-concerned citizen, Lake Leelanau/Leland Township

JoAnn Papenfuss, concerned citizen, Bingham Township

Ester Paredes, Suttons Bay

Cheryl Paul, concerned citizen, Elmwood Township

JoAnna Pepe, Kasson Township

Petra Pepellashi, Suttons Bay/Bingham Township

Linda Pepper, leadership team, Indivisible Traverse City, Green Lake Township, Grand Traverse County

Ellen Perry, Leland

Jim Perry, Leland

Matt Peschel, Cedar

Sarah Peschel, parent, Cleveland Township

Thomas Petersen, Empire Township

Carol Peterson, Empire

John Peterson, Empire

Jim Petoskey, parent, Suttons Bay

Melissa Petoskey, Grand Traverse Band Tribal Member-concerned citizen, Peshawbestown

Ellen Pisor, concerned citizen, Leland Township

Laura Quackenbush, citizen, Leland Township

Michelle Racich, owner, Plum Blossom Tea Company, Suttons Bay

Nancy Ramos, parent, Suttons Bay

Megan Raphael, Kasson Township

Peter Raphael, concerned citizen, Kasson Township

Susan Rauser, Cedar

Angela Ray, family support worker, Child Family Services, Bingham, Township

Martha Raymond, Glen Arbor

Diane Rehak, Leland Township/Lake Leelanau

Judith Reinhardt, Cedar

Peachy Rentenbach, concerned citizen, Glen Arbor

Rebecca Reynolds, concerned citizen, 8180 Films, Leland

Anne Rodeck, teacher, Omena

Whitney Roberts, citizen, Elmwood Township

Cheryl Robinson, Cleveland Township

Elizabeth Rodríguez, nurse, Leelanau Township

Angela Rojas-Dedenbach, concerned citizen, Haslett

Audrey Roman, business owner, Bingham Township

Bill Ross, citizen, Ross Family Unit, Cleveland Township

Jenee Rowe, parent, Suttons Bay

Amy Russello, Cleveland Township

Martha Ryan, owner, Martha's Leelanau Table, Suttons Bay

Matt Ryan, chef, Martha's Leelanau Table, Suttons Bay

Mary Salerno, Leland

Andrew Savina, Leelanau County home owner, Bingham Township

Barbara Schneider, concerned citizen, Kasson Township

Kim Schneider, Suttons Bay

Jim Schwantes, concerned citizen, Cedar

Niles Segerlind, student, Suttons Bay

Nick Seguin, teacher, Leland Public School, Traverse City

Geradine Simkins, concerned citizen-small business owner, Birthways Consulting LLC, Maple City

Maggie Singer, Elmwood Township

Dorothy Serrine, Elmwood Township

J Robert Serrine, educator, Elmwood Township

Chris Skellenger, Honor

Beryl Skrocki, Empire

Eryn Sluiter, Lake Leelanau

Amy Smith, social worker, Northwest Education Services, Leland

Jeff Smith, concerned citizen, Centerville Township

Heather Smith, Leelanau Township

Carol Smith, concerned Leelanau County resident, Elmwood Township

Peter Solenberger, citizen-voter, Elmwood Township

Meg Staley, owner, Meg Staley Handmade, Maple City

Barbara Stamiris, concerned citizen, Solon Township

Deborah Stannard, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Rebecca Stearns, teacher, Leelanau Township

Richard Stearns, Leelanau Township

Chris Stone, concerned citizen, Lake Leelanau

Jessyca Stoepker, concerned citizen, Petoskey

Megan Stout, parent, Traverse City

Carol Street, visitor to the peninsula for decades, Torrance, CA

Dick Summerwill, retired, Northport

Joyce Summerwill, retired, Northport

Bob Sutherland, president, Cherry Republic, Cleveland Township

Ashley Suttman, teacher-parent-citizen, Leland/Leelanau Township

Mary Swartz, concerned citizen, Bingham Township

Midge Sweet, concerned citizen, Northport

Elaine Tait, parent, Solon Township

Joshua Tait, citizen, Cedar

Kristi Thomas, Leland

Dan Tompkins, owner, Sunrise Landing, Northport

Rachel Tompkins, owner, Sunrise Landing, Northport

Mary Tonneberger, Omena

Daniel Toole, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Shannon Torres, Cleveland Township

Amy Trumbull, Bingham Township

Sam TwoCrow, Indigenous Ed Director, Northport

Alma Vasquez, concerned citizen-parent-rehabilitation assistant, Michigan Rehabilitation Services/State of Michigan, Suttons Bay

Elias Vasquez, concerned citizen, Suttons Bay

Gerardo Vasquez, Suttons Bay

Beth Verhey, concerned citizen-resident, Leelanau Township

Norma Verhey, citizen, Leelanau Township

Kristen Verhey, concerned citizen-voter, Leelanau Township

Rolf von Walthausen, owner of local business-community volunteer-concerned citizen, Piano Technology Services, Centerville Township

Jaffe Wade, Leland

Rev. Lucy Waechter Webb, Ordained Presbyterian Church (USA) Minister, Bingham Township

Abigail Wagner, small business owner-music teacher, Leland

David Wagner, concerned citizen, Leland

Judy Wagner, concerned citizen, Leland

George Wakulat, retired-concerned citizen, Leland

Iris Walters, concerned citizen, Leland

Nichole Warner, Centerville Township

Malia Warren, Oakland Township

Jill Webb, Empire

Kevin Weber, physician, Suttons Bay Township

Jill Wellman, Centerville Township

George Wellman, Centerville Township

Max Wendell, clergyman, Empire

Janis Wesley, concerned citizen, Traverse City

William Wesley, Traverse City

Ty Wessell, Northport

Peter Westerman, retired high school teacher-tutor, Leland

Susan Wheadon, concerned citizen, Leelanau Township

Norman Wheeler, Empire Township

Mimi Wheeler, Empire Township

Bill White, concerned citizen, Leland

Courtney Wiggins, owner, Joyful Noise Sound Therapy, Traverse City

Sarah Willis, Bingham Township

Arden Wilson, educator, Leelanau Montessori Public School Academy, Lake Leelanau

Sue Wood, concerned citizen, Centerville Township

Shane Wyatt, constituent, Elmwood Township

Patti Yearn-Andresen, community member, Bingham Township

Susan Yamasaki, retired teacher, Empire Township

Allison Zimpfer, Suttons Bay Schools employee-social worker-concerned resident, Maple City