



COVENANT OF NONVIOLENCE

*"Nonviolent resistance is the most potent weapon available to oppressed people."*¹

-- The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We, as members of this action convened by Repairers of the Breach and/or one of our partners, each commit to upholding our shared Covenant of Nonviolence in every aspect of the action, including all communications, activities, events, and actions related to this event, and to adhere to the following guidelines as we embark on this transformative campaign together:

- I will embrace and uphold my responsibility to honor and respect the inherent worth and dignity of every human being. Recognizing that the sanctity of life flows in each and every one of us, I will act with respect towards all.
- I will arrive and be present with a clear mind and centered spirit, committed and ready to contribute my gifts to building a long-term moral fusion movement that will challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, and ecological devastation, and reclaim the moral narrative and agenda in our nation.
- I will actively support the leadership of people who are most directly impacted by systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, and ecological devastation, recognizing the moral imperative that those of us who are most impacted must be able to exercise our agency in speaking our own truths and actively shaping decisions that affect our lives.
- I will actively build fusion unity across lines of division often used to try to divide us, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, class, geography, sexual orientation, immigration and documentation status, and gender and gender identity, and to lift up the interconnectedness of issues that impact the poor and disenfranchised. In forming inclusive and diverse fusion coalitions, we will increase the strength and power of our movements while forming long-lasting, transformative relationships built on mutual trust and respect.
- I believe that by maintaining nonviolent discipline, I will contribute to upholding the integrity, vision, values, and goals of our movements. Consistent with our commitment to honor and respect the dignity and humanity of every human being:
 - I will not use hostile language, swear, use insults, or engage in any aggressive, threatening, or intimidating behavior.
 - I will not use violence (verbal or physical) and I will not threaten violence in any manner. I stand for avoidance of violence and against the making of threats of violence.
 - I will not carry, possess, or use any weapons or anything that could be construed as a weapon.

¹ Martin Luther King, Jr., "My Trip to the Land of Gandhi," in *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, ed. James Melvin Washington (HarperSanFrancisco, 1991), 25.

- I will not throw debris, waste, trash, or other items, and I will not harm, damage, or destroy any life or property.

- In order to promote an environment where people feel welcome and respected and to affirm my own

humanity and dignity:

- I will walk with dignity, and not run, if I wish to leave an event or action.
 - I will not bring, possess, or use alcohol, marijuana, or illegal drugs at an event or action.
- I may wear a face mask for the health and safety of myself and others. However, I will not otherwise obstruct my ability to tell my story about why standing up against injustice is important to me in a public and accessible manner.
- As we engage in nonviolent moral fusion direct action, others present may try to disrupt and weaken the nonviolent foundation of the action. It is imperative to the strength and success of this action that we maintain nonviolent unity, discipline, and rigor – tapping into a power and soulforce that exists within each of us. Accordingly, at all times, I will be firmly grounded in nonviolence as a philosophy, practice, and discipline and will strive to embody values of courage, inclusion, pursuit of justice, and love for all humanity.
- As we organize to build a long-term moral fusion movement, I will actively invite others to join us in this journey of nonviolent struggle in our movements to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, and ecological devastation; reclaim the moral narrative in our nation; achieve systemic change that concretely improves the lives and conditions of the poor and disenfranchised; and revive the heart and soul of our democracy.

Signed:

_____ Signature Date _____ Print Name