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Lessons from Gettysburg: Historic Battlefield "Re-Consecrated" After Hate Group Rally

When people in Gettysburg, PA heard the Aryan Nations hate group [was planning a rally](#) on the very spot where Abraham Lincoln delivered his most famous defense of American democracy, they knew they couldn't sit by in silence.

The Adams Unity Coalition, part of the [Pennsylvania Network of Unity Coalitions](#), had just six weeks to prepare. They had limited resources. And they had to compete with almost a dozen other festivals taking place that same weekend.

How did they do it? What did they learn along the way? [Find out in our latest Local Lesson from Gettysburg.](#)

Our video team is editing a video of the Gettysburg community response -- stay tuned for the finished product!

New Feature: NIOT Group Spotlight

There's a new feature on our website and e-newsletter: the **NIOT Group Spotlight**, where we highlight one of the [NIOT groups across the country](#) that's taking a stand for acceptance and inclusion.

[NIOT Rockland County's story](#) begins in the aftermath of a rash of attacks on area Latino day laborers. A broad coalition of Rockland County, NY residents decided to stand together and take positive action for a safer community. After gathering together to view the first Not In Our Town film, they continued to meet monthly, and took on the name [Not In Our Town Rockland County](#).

Check out our Group Spotlight to read [NIOT Rockland County's full story](#), and download the posters from their recent campaign for a hate-free community.



Welcome Jonathan Bernstein, New Not In Our Town Executive Director

It's a pleasure to welcome Jonathan Bernstein as Executive Director of Not In Our Town. Jonathan will be working in tandem with CEO and Executive Producer Patrice O'Neill.

A longtime Not In Our Town supporter, Jonathan brings over 20 years of leadership experience working for acceptance and inclusion. Most recently, as director of the Anti-Defamation League Central Pacific Region, he oversaw the investigation of allegations of discrimination or harassment,



and monitored the activities of hate groups and extremists in the region. He also coordinated the ADL's educational efforts to advance human rights and promote tolerance. We are thrilled to have Jonathan as part of our management team!

New Tools for Faith Leaders on the Immigration Divide

It's not always easy for clergy to speak out on immigration reform. Sometimes they don't see eye to eye with their flock.

[Unity in the Community](#), the long-time Not In Our Town affiliate in Manassas, VA, has put together [Words of Compassion](#), a collection of relevant resources from a wide variety of religious texts, faith-based organizations and the interfaith community. No matter your stance on the issues, anyone looking to approach the immigration issue from a faith-based perspective should find it tremendously useful. [Read more...](#)

Positive Oakland Community Response Video is Gaining Ground

You may have heard about the vandalism that occurred in Oakland after the involuntary manslaughter verdict of transit officer Johannes Mehserle in the death of Oscar Grant. But that's just one part of the story.

Our office is right in the middle of where the vandalism happened, but it is also where constructive, peaceful demonstrations took place. We thought it was important to [film the encouraging community response](#) that happened right outside our door.

Over the past week, [AlterNet](#), [Witness](#), [True/Slant](#), and [Change.org](#) have blogged about [our video](#), and more stories are in the works. Thanks for sharing the video, and for helping shed light on the positive side of Oakland that didn't make the evening news.



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