

Resolution #17-08  
A Resolution Reaffirming Brookings County's Values of Inclusion, Respect,  
Tolerance, Equality and Justice, and the County's Commitment Toward  
Action to Reinforce These Values

WHEREAS, accounts of incidents of hate targeted at Muslim, Sikh, Arab, Jewish, Latino, African-American, Asian, Native-American, female, people with disabilities, immigrant, refugee, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and other high risk community members have been reported to law enforcement, on social media, and to advocacy organizations across the nation; and

WHEREAS, many in our county are hurting and fearful as a result of the rise of a rhetoric of exclusion and vilification; and

WHEREAS, the Brookings County draws strength from the diversity of its residents' ages; ethnicity; gender; gender identity; language; nationality; physical, mental, and developmental abilities; race; religion; sexual orientation; skin color; socio-economic status; political ideology; and perspective; and

WHEREAS, Brookings County appoints a member to the City of Brookings' Human Rights Commission whose mission is to improve human relations in the Brookings area by fighting discrimination through education and a complaint resolution procedure; and

WHEREAS, Brookings County supports the elimination of violence and harassment against all people. The County further recognizes women and minorities have a higher risk of being victims of such acts and is committed to providing services, education, culturally competent law enforcement practices, and governance for the prevention of crimes against women and minorities; and

WHEREAS, Brookings County supports the peaceful exercise of free speech and assembly for all people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Brookings County that:

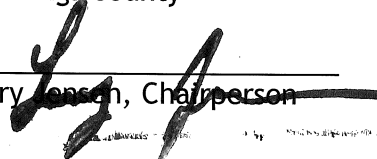
Section 1. Brookings County will continue to be an inclusive county that treats everyone with dignity and respect, and affirms and celebrates its mosaic of diverse residents and visitors.

Section 2. Brookings County reaffirms its commitment to uphold justice, provide equality of opportunity for all, actively encourage all voices to be heard, promote inclusion, and oppose acts of intolerance or discrimination.

Section 3. Brookings County will implement measures to facilitate reporting, tracking, and responding to hate and bias-motivated activities in the county.

Passed and approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017.

Brookings County

  
Larry Busch, Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
Vicki Buseth, Finance Officer

