



Abraham's Table of Long Island



How Should Long Island's Faith Community Respond to Rising Hatred?

Thursday, August 4, 2022, 7:30-9:00PM

At the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center, 74 Hauppauge Road, Commack or attend via You Tube using this link: <https://youtu.be/W-fuJeGKXlc>

Hate is on the rise. Despite the fact that many hate crimes go unreported, U.S. Department of Justice data show that in New York State hate crimes rose by 31 percent in one year. In April of this year, the ADL reported that New York State leads the nation in anti-Semitic acts. On July 4, a firebomb was thrown at a sign in front of Fatima Al-Zahra Mosque in Ronkonkoma. In February, a Bayport man was charged with sending dozens of hate-filled letters to Long Island LGBTQ organizations. In January, a Long Island couple faced hate-crime charges after they verbally harassed a Black family.

This panel will explore:

- *How does NY State law define hate crimes and incidents?*
- *Why is hatred on the rise?*
- *What should the Long Island faith community do to respond to rising hatred in our region?*

Panelists:

- **Moderator: Tracey Edwards, LI Regional Director, NAACP**
- **Rabbi Lena Zerbarini, Kehilath Shalom Synagogue, Cold Spring Harbor, and a member of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission**
- **Rev. Earl Y. Thorpe, Pastor, Church in the Garden, Garden City**
- **Frederick K. Brewington, civil rights attorney and certified lay servant, United Methodist Church**
- **Dr. Isma Chaudhry, Board Co-Chair, Islamic Center of Long Island, Westbury**