



NORTHEAST COALITION
OF NEIGHBORHOODS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 12, 2017

WE ARE ALL GOOD IN THE HOOD

For 25 years, Good in the Hood (GITH), in partnership with Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN), local businesses, multicultural groups and neighbors, has hosted the **Good in the Hood Multicultural Festival**, spearheading neighborhoods throughout Portland to engage in the momentum of our city as a whole in its celebration and the defining of neighborhood. Their mission is to promote the cultural aspects of the North and Northeast community.

Last week GITH and NECN received a letter threatening violence at this year's event and against festival organizers. We are working with local and federal law enforcement to investigate these threats, and to provide increased protection at this year's festival. We thank the Portland Police Bureau and other agencies for ensuring this year's event will still take place. In the days since the threat, we have been overwhelmed with public support, encouragement, and love. It's evidently clear that Portland stands in solidarity against hate and our community will not tolerate this type of fear and intimidation.

We will not stand by and be silent while anyone in our community is bullied and threatened with hate. We will continue to support Good in the Hood as a community-orientated festival that welcomes all walks of life. Their effort to "strengthen unity in the community" is a mission that fits with ours, to "increase livability through civic engagement and community building".

We strongly encourage all our neighbors, friends we know and those we have not met yet, to stand in solidarity with marginalized and vulnerable communities and individuals. Support Good in the Hood. Find ways to get trained in bystander intervention, and disrupting racism trainings. Get to know all your neighbors, even those who may be different from you, as your neighbors are your greatest assets in our ability to create resilience and safety during challenging times.

Statement from Good in the Hood President:

We would like to thank the community for the tremendous amount of support we've received these last few days. Your words of encouragement and love is what our staff and volunteers need at this moment. We are grateful and humbled.

We are more determined to make the 25th year anniversary of the Good in Hood Festival the BEST! Please show your support by attending our festival on June 23-25, volunteer your time with us, and if you can donate to our organization. We award scholarships to members of our community who are pursuing higher education. We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the Good in the Hood Festival.

Unity in the Community,
Shawn Penny

www.goodinthehood.org
www.necoalition.org