

# BluePrint for PEACE



The Peace Alliance

Prevent Violence. Repair Harm. Heal Lives.

## *Endorsement Request*

**We face staggering levels of violence in America and around the globe.** The social and economic costs to individuals, families, and our communities are overwhelming, and yet we have far more effective root-cause solutions available than we are currently employing. We must implement policies and invest in programs, both domestically and internationally, that are proven to work, bringing them up to the scale needed to turn this devastation around.

We are asking that elected officials, candidates, governing bodies, organizations, businesses and individuals **endorse and sign-on to this broad framework of the “BluePrint for Peace”**

The BluePrint advocates for proactive, healing-focused approaches that positively impact individual and societal challenges related to conflict, violence, and underlying traumas. These effective, proven approaches should become concrete plans that are robustly funded and implemented at local, state, federal and international levels, ultimately lowering the financial and emotional cost to our nation and world. Endorse this broad framework of the BluePrint for Peace as an early implementation step and commit to moving these types of initiatives forward:

- ◇ **Humanize Justice Systems:** Move away from overly punitive policies toward healing-oriented, rehabilitative-focused criminal and juvenile justice approaches that address underlying root causes. Work to dismantle racial inequities in the current judicial system and monetary incentives inherently built into the current prison industrial complex and eliminate the cradle-to-prison pipeline. Restorative and transformative justice, diversion/alternative incarceration programs, trauma-informed systems, and robust prisoner rehabilitation and re-entry programs are among the most promising solutions.

- ◇ **Empower Community Interventions:** Comprehensive activities and strategies working to address such challenges as crime, domestic violence, intra-community violence, etc. as well as other broad prevention-focused supports, particularly for marginalized communities. Public health approach models have shown high success. Effective programs would be trauma-informed by offering cross-sector solutions that are deeply plugged-in to any potential Childhood Adverse Experiences (ACEs). They include: hands-on street outreach and intervention, wrap-around services, increased accessibility to mental health services, child-parent psychotherapy, out-of-school programs, police/community relations, among other key modalities. It is also critical to demilitarize police departments and direct robust funding toward mobile rapid response teams with mental health expertise to better de-escalate challenging situations.
- ◇ **Teach & Practice Peace in Schools:** Provide whole-child education, conflict resolution and self-regulation practices and curricula in our schools, using neuro-regulatory strategies and tools such as: social-emotional learning, stress management, empathetic and nonviolent communication techniques, restorative processes, mindfulness, and other proven peacebuilding methods to transform violence, bullying, and other challenges facing youth. Successful approaches can reduce truancy and increase performance and graduation rates. All curricula should have programs for students, teachers, and administrators taking into account the diverse needs of the student population as well as any ACEs. Programs created should again be trauma-informed and culturally intersectional.
- ◇ **Enhance Personal and Interpersonal Supports:** Robust resources addressing mental health, trauma, PTSD, toxic stress, suicide prevention, domestic violence, workplace conflict & violence with supports for: stress management, life skills, parenting skills, and related areas.
- ◇ **Foster International Peace:** Peacebuilding approaches to international conflict and atrocity prevention in global hotspots through mediation, diplomacy, and effective on-the-ground programs. Important components involve development, limiting nuclear weapons, mitigations relating to climate change, post-conflict justice, humanitarian aid, truth and reconciliation and support for frameworks necessary for democratic processes led on the ground by diverse and representative local stakeholders.

**All efforts must integrate the understanding of intersectionality and implicit/explicit biases, taking all cultures into account, and be cultivated by diverse authors.** As we attend to these peacebuilding approaches within the BluePrint, we must also address the **climate crisis** and the unprecedented conflicts which are emerging out of this global catastrophe.

**Please show your support and sign-on at:**  
[www.peacealliance.org/blueprint](http://www.peacealliance.org/blueprint)