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PRESS RELEASE

Rally to celebrate peace, tolerance and diversity planned for Thursday in downtown New Bedford

New Bedford, Massachusetts- A rally in celebration of peace, tolerance and diversity is planned for Thursday, June 29 outside New Bedford City Hall at 5:30 p.m.

A project of the New Bedford Human Relations Commission, whose mission is to promote mutual understanding and respect among all citizens of the city and to assure equal opportunity for all, through education, research and investigation, and collaboration, along with its community partners. The rally will feature music and remarks by Police Chief Joseph Cordeiro and other speakers.

The rally was organized as a response to incidents of intolerance around the country, as well as past incidents locally, according to organizers.

"New Bedford has long been a beacon of tolerance and inclusivity throughout its history, from its days as a major stop on the Underground Railroad and center of abolitionist leadership, to its later industrial growth and destination for immigrants to the United States," said Mayor Jon Mitchell. "It is important that the people of New Bedford continue to hold fast to the ideals of peace, diversity and equity and this rally is an occasion to reinforce our commitment as individuals and as a community."

Discussion and light refreshments will immediately follow the program at the Southeastern Massachusetts Labor Council at 560 Pleasant Street, hosted by We Won't Go Back New Bedford.

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