

An Open Letter to Chairman Michael Fromm and President David Bernstein of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, the 75 Jewish Signatory Organizations and the Larger Jewish Community

February 25, 2020

Shalom Aleichem.

We very much appreciate your letter of last week expressing solidarity with our community at this very difficult time. Your words have warmed our hearts and lifted our spirits!

As you well know, the Chinese American community has lately been going through a lot: from a worrisome confrontation between the United States and China to a worsening atmosphere for our civil rights and civil liberties, and now to this coronavirus crisis and its ramifications. You have warmly extended us a hand when we need it most – right now – and we are most grateful.

There's a Chinese proverb to the effect that it is precisely when you are suffering or in crisis that you learn who your real friends are. Historically, our two communities have been close and intimately bonded; we feel a close kinship with our Jewish brothers and sisters, a relationship we should never take for granted.

I'm reminded of a time when the tables were turned, and it was the Chinese community in New York that came to the aid of its Jewish brethren. The year was 1903, and many Jews had been killed and injured in the infamous Kishinev pogrom in Russia. There's a short article about it in the *Forward* here:

<https://forward.com/culture/134950/the-night-new-york-s-chinese-went-out-for-jews/>

More recently, when the tragic shooting at the Tree of Life - Or L'Simcha synagogue in Pittsburgh occurred in 2018, the United Chinese Americans (UCA), a leading national coalition with chapters and partners in more than 30 states, sprang into action and led an effort to secure signatures from more than a hundred Chinese American organizations nationwide declaring our solidarity with the Jewish community.

This is a trying time for us all. With so much of the world in trouble and so much uncertainty, even, sadly, in our own society, this friendship and solidarity is even more needed and reassuring. The coronavirus crisis has, once again, demonstrated our vulnerability and our interdependence. It offers further evidence that in order for us to survive, let alone thrive, we must come together and fight for our common destiny and common humanity!



UNITED CHINESE AMERICANS

美國華人聯合會

Let us heal and repair the world together, *B'ezrat HaShem!*

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Haipei Shue', written in a cursive style.

Haipei Shue
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xiaoyan Zhang', written in a cursive style.

Xiaoyan Zhang
Chairman

United Chinese Americans (UCA)





UNITED CHINESE AMERICANS

美國華人聯合會

2020年2月25日

尊敬的JPCA主席Fromm、
会长及总裁Bernstein、
75个犹太组织及广大犹太社区：

Shalom Aleichem（愿你平安）！

上周我们收到了来自75个犹太组织的来信。感谢我们的犹太兄弟姐妹们在这个困难时期对我们社区的声援。你们的话语和行动温暖了我们的心、提振了我们的精神！

不用说，华裔美国人社区最近经历了很多事情：从令人担忧的中美对抗，到我们的公民权利和公民自由的恶化气氛，再到这次冠状病毒危机。当我们最需要时，您已经向我们伸出了热情的援手。谢谢你们！

中国谚语说，患难知真交。从历史上看，我们两个社区是如此密切地联系在一起，以至于我们对彼此之间的亲情有时视为理所当然。由于世界上有如此多的麻烦和不确定的变化，包括我们自己的社会，这种友谊和团结变得更加需要和令人欣慰。

我想起在一个角色互掉的历史时刻，1903年，许多犹太人在臭名昭著的俄罗斯基希涅夫（Kishinev pogrom）反犹浩劫中被杀及受伤，正是纽约的华人社区帮助了犹太人，体现了手足之情。

在2018年发生了悲惨的匹兹堡犹太教堂枪击案时，由30多个州的分会和合作伙伴组成的美国华人联合会（UCA）迅速采取行动，并发起了由一百多个全美华裔组织联合签名的公开信，表示我们对犹太社区的声援。

如今对我们所有人来说都是艰难的时刻，冠状病毒危机所发生的一切再次证明，我们都是如此脆弱、如此联结、如此相互依存。它再次表明，为了我们所有人健康生存、茁壮成长，我们必须团结起来，为我们的共同命运和共同的人类而奋斗！

让我们两个社区一起工作，以作为不同社区如何共同生活和繁荣的示例。让我们一起治愈和修复世界！

B'ezrat HaShem（赞美上帝）

衷心的，



薛海培会长



张小彦主席

美国华人联合会（UCA）