



**Jewish Community
Relations Council**

MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

August 20, 2014

Contact: Elana Kahn-Oren
414-390-5736, elanao@milwaukeejewish.org

JCRC condemns religious persecution in Iraq

The Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation is grateful to the United States in answering the cries the Christians, Yezidis, and other religious minorities who are being brutally targeted by extreme Islamic terrorist groups in Iraq. We commend U.S. efforts to deliver military and humanitarian aid to victims of violent extremists in Iraq.

As a Jewish community, we are horrified and revolted by the persecution of religious minorities. Having suffered discrimination, persecution, and violence, while much of the world stood idly by, we empathize with the fate of the religious and ethnic minorities in Iraq. We know how religious persecution can lead to great tragedy.

We call on the nations of the world to speak and act to protect all those who are targeted solely because of their faith. We are proud that the State of Israel, among the only countries in the Middle East where Christians are allowed to practice their religion freely and openly, has taken a strong public stand against these terrible acts and has for the last two years offered medical care and shelter to victims of ISIS violence.

We stand in support of those who wish to bring stability to the region and to end the suffering at the hands of ISIS.