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Rhodes College

Rhodes Community,

Last week, we wrote you to unequivocally condemn acts of terrorism and war that deliberately target civilians and express our horror at the events that unfolded in Israel. The attack by Hamas that killed hundreds of young people at a music festival and entire families in their homes, while kidnapping hundreds of others, violated international law and laws of war. With the same firm commitment to the protection of all civilian lives, we are horrified by and deeply grieve the terrible loss of life at al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza yesterday, a place where people had gathered to seek lifesaving care and shelter.

As the situation in the Middle East continues to evolve at a dizzying pace, we cannot and will not comment on every event as it unfolds, as information seems to be shifting every hour. What we will do is mourn the hundreds of Israeli and Palestinian lives lost (as well as the many victims from other countries around the world), hold the impacted families and communities close in our hearts, and pray for the safe return of all hostages. What we will do is pray and hope for a lasting and just peace. What we will do is work tirelessly to eradicate antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all forms of prejudice and hate. And what we will do is care for all members of our community, who hold many different views on current events but who we know all share a deep compassion for one another and a commitment to modeling thoughtful and respectful dialogue across difference always. All our campus resources remain available to support you in any way that we can.

Jennifer Collins

President

Nicole J. Johnson

Vice President for Student Life



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