

An invitation to bring healing and community change in response to tragedy

Making the Dream a Reality

"A Mother's Love Liberates" – Maya Angelou

Almost seven years since the tragic loss of her son Philando Castile, his mother, Valerie Castile with love, determination and her faith in God, continues her work each and every day to ensure Philando's legacy lives on.

In honor of Philando, she founded the Philando Castile Relief Foundation. Through the Foundation, she has been able to aid families with funerary assistance, lunch debt reduction and provide varying levels of support to victims of gun violence.

She has been instrumental in the collaboration and implementation of policy changes in government and law enforcement. In the first legislative session for 2023, she stood with members of the Minnesota chapters of Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action, where she advocated for legislation for critical gun safety laws. HF14 would require background checks on all handgun and semiautomatic military-style assault weapons. HF14 would allow loved ones and law enforcement to petition removal of access to firearms from those deemed dangerous to themselves or others. To read more, or to check the bills' status, go to the Minnesota State Legislature website https://www.leg.mn.gov/leg/legis



Valerie Castile and supporters of Moms Demand Action at the Capital.

Valerie Castile is a mom on a mission. A mission to honor her son Philando by working to decrease the unnecessary loss of life by another, spread awareness of the ongoing trauma associated with gun violence, and create the narrative that All Lives Matter.
Thank you, Valerie!

The Philando Castile Community Peace Garden Needs Your Help

The Philando Castile Peace Garden was created as a community gathering space for peace, justice and healing. With the help of monetary donations as well as volunteers donating their time, the Peace Garden has been maintained for the community, and the peace community at large. To ensure this fund is continuously replenished, we need new and existing donors. With your donations, the Peace Garden can enter a renewal phase that will provide signage for the garden and its art installations. Click to contribute to Philando's legacy today!
https://www.givemn.org/story/Philando-Castile-Peace-Garden

Event: Talk to a Social Worker

If you or someone you know is looking for community based information, the Rondo Community Library will be hosting "Talk to a Social Worker" sessions throughout the month of May. During these sessions, you can learn about assistance referral options for: shelter/housing, mental health services, food/SNAP benefits, government resources, community resources and legal resources. The sessions run weekly from 2 PM – 6 PM, with various days available. To make an appointment or for more information, go to

https://sppl.bibliocommons.com/events/637be2890342357ca0327b0b

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The Meaning Behind the Sculptures

Have you walked through the Philando Castile Peace Garden and noticed the large metal sculptures? These sculptures are actually West African Adinkra symbols. Each symbol represents its own guiding principle, and most commonly signify a tribute to Philando. Here are two examples, and more will be featured in future newsletters.





Each symbol, carefully selected and constructed holds a powerful message of healing and unity, the mission of the garden.

Follow the Peace Garden on Social Media

Are you following us on social media? You can find the Philando Castile Peace Garden on Facebook, Philando Castile Peace Garden and Instagram @philandocastilepeacegarden. Please accept your invitation to these platforms to help bring healing, community change and peace. Learn more about the Peace Garden and get information on upcoming events.

Click here to get started:
Facebook
Instagram

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