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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Spring Institute Stands with Individuals of all Cultures, Ethnicities and Religions

**DENVER, CO** - In the wake of the divisive rhetoric leading up to the U.S. Elections, Spring Institute expresses its solidarity with individuals of all cultures, ethnicities and religions, including the many immigrants and refugees who have contributed to the rich cultural fabric of Colorado.

"The kind of divisiveness and attacks on Muslims and other individuals because of their faith, skin color, accent or country of origin that we have seen in the lead up to the elections diminishes America's greatness rather than strengthens it," said Paula Schriefer, President and CEO of Spring Institute. "We call on all political, religious, and cultural leaders at the local, state and federal levels to stand with us in supporting and defending those who have been the targets of discrimination or attacks within our borders."

Colorado is home to a thriving and diverse population, with immigrants and refugees currently comprising 16% of Denver's population and about 20% of Aurora's. They contribute not only to the cultural, artistic, and culinary development of our state, but also to the state's thriving economy, contributing tens of billions of dollars to our state's annual economic output.

In pursuit of our vision of a world in which all communities embrace the integration of newcomers and are enriched by the cultural diversity of their entire population, Spring Institute will continue to provide language, cross-cultural, career development and other integration services to the people and organizations of our state.

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Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning is a nonprofit organization with a mission to empower people and organizations to succeed across languages and cultures. To find out more, visit our website at www.springinstitute.org