

CLASSROOMS WITHOUT BORDERS

CURE FOR HATE PRESS KIT



FOR MORE DETAIL GO TO
WWW.CWBPGH.ORG/CURE-FOR-HATE

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Tony McAleer



Topics Include:

Healing from Hate: Battle for the Soul of a Nation
The Cure for Hate: A Former White Supremacist confronts the Legacy of the Holocaust

Tony McAleer is an advocate for radical compassion, drawing upon his journey from white supremacist to educator and mentor. As an Instructor with Life After Hate, Tony brings firsthand experience and expertise to his work supporting individuals leaving hate groups. His advocacy efforts have taken him around the world, collaborating with law enforcement, government agencies, and grassroots organizations to combat hate and promote tolerance. Through his book “The Cure For Hate” and ongoing efforts, Tony challenges harmful ideologies and fosters a more compassionate society.

Tony McAleer is a renowned international speaker and author of *The Cure for Hate*, dedicated to raising awareness and providing solutions for individuals, families, communities, law enforcement, and governments confronting the rise of White Supremacist movements. As a co-founder of Life After Hate, a nonprofit organization, Tony works to guide people away from hate-filled ideologies, offering support to those trapped in the same destructive mindset he once held.

Tony can customize a session per your classroom needs



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For Immediate Release
September 18, 2024

Contact: **Erica Fox Zabusky**
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The Department of Homeland Security Funds Partnership Between Classrooms Without Borders and The Cure for Hate to Combat Extremism Through Education

PITTSBURGH, PA –Classrooms Without Borders (CWB), a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, is proud to announce its strategic partnership with The Cure for Hate, upon receiving a DHS Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) Grant. This collaboration aims to empower educators and students to resist the growing threats of extremism, antisemitism, and hate through in-school and community engagement.

The TVTP Grant Program is designed to support local communities in building sustainable, multidisciplinary prevention capabilities that mitigate targeted violence and terrorism. The funding will enable CWB and The Cure for Hate to reach dozens of schools and hundreds of students across western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and West Virginia.

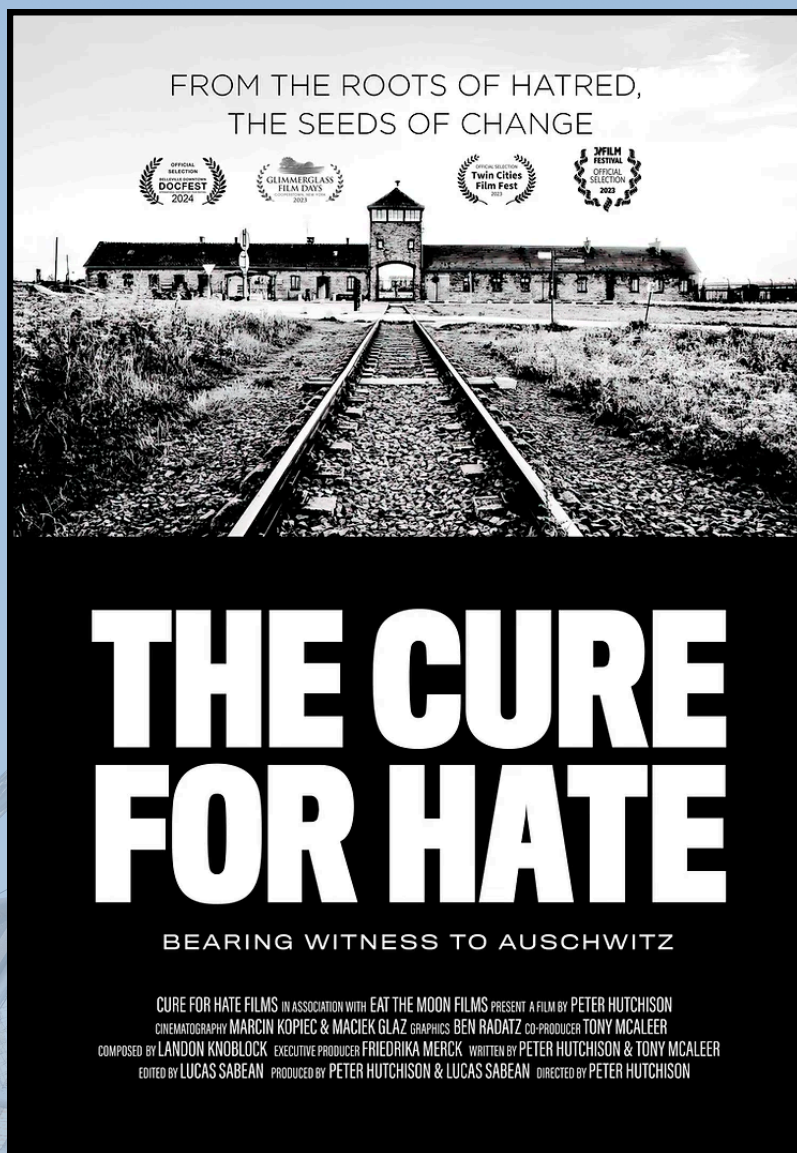
At the heart of the partnership is ***The Cure for Hate***, a program centered around the transformative journey of Tony McAleer, a reformed neo-Nazi leader. In addition to screenings of the documentary ***The Cure for Hate***, communities will engage with McAleer and the film's director, Peter Hutchison.

“In this time of rampant antisemitism, we are grateful for the resources that will allow us to continue bringing anti-hate programming into schools,” said Tsipy Gur, Founder and Executive Director of Classrooms Without Borders. “This partnership will empower the next generation to stand against hate and build a more just and compassionate world.”

The partnership will equip students and community members with a deep understanding of the societal and personal roots of othering, dehumanization, and extremist violence. In-school programming will teach students how to recognize and resist coded hate speech online. The program also includes workshops, digital literacy training, and community events focused on antisemitism, Holocaust denialism, and online radicalization.

“As we grow increasingly divided as Americans, and polarization around issues of race and nationalism are stoked, the question so many seem to be asking is, ‘How did we get here, and how do we turn back the tide?’ We look forward to partnering with Classrooms Without Borders in providing young people with the tools to better understand the seeds of hate, and to help our better angels to prevail,” remarked Peter Hutchison.

“The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh has been at the center of innovative programs to combat hate even before the worst antisemitic attack in U.S. history on three Jewish congregations here in 2018. We are proud to support Classrooms Without Borders as they work to educate our entire community about antisemitism in an effort to foster the kind understanding and acceptance we need so urgently today,” commented Jeff Finkelstein, President and CEO of the Jewish Federation.



THE CURE FOR HATE

Classrooms Without Borders and The Cure for Hate are partnering to provide school and community programming in **western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and West Virginia**, beginning in 2025. Contact us to arrange:

School Programming:

- *The Cure for Hate* screening, followed by discussions with Tony McAleer and Peter Hutchison
- Student workshops on antisemitism, othering, dehumanization, and online radicalization
- Professional learning for educators and administrators on building inclusive classroom communities

Community Programming:

- *The Cure for Hate* screening, followed by discussions with Tony McAleer and Peter Hutchison
- Community conversations on Holocaust denialism
- Community conversations on the risks of online radicalization with insights from law enforcement

Kate Lukaszewicz
Education Programs Director
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**Center for
Prevention Programs
and Partnerships**

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FROM THE ROOTS OF HATRED,
THE SEEDS OF CHANGE



THE CURE FOR HATE

BEARING WITNESS TO AUSCHWITZ

CURE FOR HATE FILMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH EAT THE MOON FILMS PRESENT A FILM BY PETER HUTCHISON
CINEMATOGRAPHY MARCIN KOPIEC & MACIEK GLAZ GRAPHICS BEN RADATZ CO-PRODUCER TONY MCALEER
COMPOSED BY LANDON KNOBLOCK EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FRIEDRIKA MERCK WRITTEN BY PETER HUTCHISON & TONY MCALEER
EDITED BY LUCAS SABEAN PRODUCED BY PETER HUTCHISON & LUCAS SABEAN DIRECTED BY PETER HUTCHISON



The Cure for Hate Film

In the Jewish tradition, tshuvah means "return" and describes the return to God and our fellow human beings that is made possible through repentance for our wrongs.

Tony McAleer is a former Skinhead and holocaust denier who went on to become a founding member of the anti-hate activist group Life After Hate. Profoundly aware and deeply ashamed of the lineage of hate he'd once promoted, Tony had long-contemplated traveling to Auschwitz in the spirit of tshuvah - to bear witness to the inconceivable ravages of the Holocaust, and deepen his personal work against the rise of extremist politics.

This project documents his profoundly personal journey of atonement to Auschwitz/Birkenau - exploring the conditions that allowed for the rise of fascism in 1930s Europe; shedding a unique light upon how men get into, and out of, violent extremist groups; and serving as a cautionary tale for our time that underscores the dangers in allowing hate to be left unchecked.



The Cure For Hate Impact Campaign

Anti-semitism, Islamophobia and acts of violent extremism are on the rise. As polarization seeps into every aspect of our society - and hateful rhetoric is increasingly normalized in both political discourse and online culture - we witness a weakening of the fabric of our communities. While many adults struggle to see the humanity in people they disagree with, youth are even more vulnerable to this binary thinking. Hate groups deftly exploit cultural upheavals to propagate ideology, further polarize society, and influence new, young members.

Individuals indoctrinated by hate speech can feel emboldened to commit violence - with or without direct recruitment. Young people are uniquely susceptible to the othering and "us vs. them" mentality that these hate groups employ, disenfranchised youth even more so.

Thanks to a grant from The Center for Prevention Programs & Partnerships, we have been able to leverage the film and McAleer's unique experiences to counter this tide, engaging vulnerable youth to enhance their resilience to radicalization, and making communities more compassionate and cohesive in the process.



Praise for The Cure For Hate

"A riveting and deeply important film" - Kathryn Spitz Cohan, Film Pittsburgh ED

"I can't stress this enough, this film is something special and is not something you have ever experienced before. This film will move you... one of the best I've seen in 2023." - Steve Kopian, Unseen Films

"It's documentaries like this one that must keep the memory of the horrors of genocide over ideology alive today, or dare we repeat the past." - Alan Ng, Film Threat

"A beautifully shot, well-directed film that... holds a substantial level of importance, not only about our past but our future. 4 1/2 Stars." - Chris Jones, Overly Honest Movie Reviews.

Interested in bringing The Cure for Hate to your community?

Contact impact@thecureforhatefilm.com

"I've taught the Holocaust with many meaningful, impactful, and emotionally compelling resources but this film is so powerful in a different way. His journey to bear witness, interspersed with his personal story is incredible."
- June Morris, Board of Directors, National Council for the Social Studies, 2019-2022

The Cure For Hate Curriculum

When *The Cure for Hate* Social Impact Program visits schools, students view a 55-minute version of the film, and then debrief and process using a curriculum that includes a set of experiential activities organized around themes. With input from a diverse group of stakeholders - employing storytelling and a research-based pedagogy - *The Cure For Hate* curriculum is designed to stick with kids, enhancing their resistance to "the seeds of hate" long after they leave the classroom.

In collaboration with educators, we designed the curriculum with flexibility and ease in mind. The module-based structure and flexible lesson time allows teachers and/or school sites to choose the themes they feel are most urgent and relevant for their students and communities, while still centering Tony's story of atonement, and the urgency of anti-hate education today. Whether delivered in school-wide assemblies or a single classroom, the film and curriculum provides an entry point to much-needed conversations about the threat of indoctrination for vulnerable youth.

Goals

- Help young people understand the roots of hatred – the conditions under which it thrives – and ways to prevent its spread.
- Provide young people with specific tools to counter "othering" tendencies. Teach digital literacy as an antidote to online recruitment
- Promote community resiliency through community screenings and programming with local anti-violence organizations

Discussion Themes and Film Clips

1. Introduction
2. Identity & Indoctrination
3. "Othering" & Dehumanization
4. Compassion Curiosity & Courage (the "3 C's")
5. Vulnerabilities to Polarization: Then and Now
6. The Power of Bearing Witness: Holocaust Education
7. Digital Literacy
8. The Story of the Guards: The Legacy of Trauma and Shame

Impact Campaign Offerings:

- Screening of the 55 minute or 90 minute version of The Cure for Hate
- Town hall discussion led by Tony McAleer, co-founder of Life After Hate and the film's subject; and Peter Hutchison, director of the film and co-author of the curriculum.
- Facilitated lessons and workshops from The Cure for Hate curriculum
- Educator professional development on The Cure for Hate curriculum
- Host & facilitation of interfaith dialogues
- College and University screenings and panel discussions
- Community and faith-based workshops

The Cure For Hate Community Tour

In towns across the country, we have screened the film and convened conversations about belonging, compassion, and resisting polarization with diverse audiences. With secondary school and community response outstripping our expectations, we found ourselves on the road for 8 weeks with the program – screening to nearly 4400 students in over 40 schools – with total engagements numbering over 6100 persons. And our work has just begun.

Hate doesn't happen in a vacuum. For that reason, we aim to enhance resiliency to radicalization using a whole-of-society approach.

Leveraging our growing national network, we partner with community leaders, interfaith organizations, and colleges/universities to create event-based screenings in the same communities we are engaging with secondary schools. These film events include town halls, panels, solution-oriented workshops and info-shares that serve the broader community - all towards fostering ways to rethink and resist polarization.

"In a world increasingly immersed in anger and violence, *The Cure For Hate* not only provides us a back seat into one man's journey for redemption, but potentially, a roadmap of sorts, for us all."

–Dr. David Raker, Professor of Education, Westfield State University



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PETER HUTCHISON
FILMMAKER & PROGRAM CREATOR
WWW.THECUREFORHATEFILM.COM/TEAM

Peter Hutchison is an award-winning filmmaker, NY Times Bestselling author, educator & activist.

His films include Requiem for the American Dream: Noam Chomsky and the Principles of Concentration of Wealth and Power (Netflix/Amazon Prime/Kanopy) – a NY Times Critics Pick, it's companion book a NY Times Bestseller. The more recent Healing From Hate: Battle for the Soul of a Nation (Amazon Prime/Kanopy) - an exploration of hate group activity as seen through the lens of masculinity - has been described as a "raw masterpiece".

Devil Put the Coal in the Ground, a holistic look at the ravages of extractive industry and corporate power in West Virginia, is currently in festival release, having garnered 5 Best Documentary Feature Awards.

His longstanding commitment to issues around male identity has resulted in the films You Throw Like A Girl: The Blind Spot of Masculinity (MEF), Angry White Men: Masculinity in the Age of Trump (Grasshopper), and The Man Card: White Male Identity Politics from Nixon to Trump (MEF).

He holds an M.S. in Counseling Psychology with a focus on Addictions and Systems Dynamics.



TONY MCALEER
WORKSHOP LEADER & PROGRAM CREATOR
WWW.THECUREFORHATEFILM.COM/TEAM

Tony spent 15 years in the white supremacist and neo-Nazi movement, starting as a skinhead before evolving to leadership positions. Instrumental in ushering in the use of the internet as a means to disseminate white supremacist propaganda, he was ultimately brought before the Canadian Human Rights Commission for his offences in a case that captured nationwide attention.

Following over a thousand hours of individual & group counseling to understand his own process, Tony was instrumental in helping to found Life After Hate, an organization that supports those considering exiting hate groups. Tony served as its Executive Director from 2013-2017, and Board Chair until his departure in 2019.

Now a certified Life Coach, Tony works closely with law enforcement and government, from Attorney Generals to senior staff at the Department of Homeland Security. Tony has testified before Congress, and was recently invited to the Paris Summit for the Christchurch Call with the Prime Minister of New Zealand. He also supports Government and Law enforcement in Victoria, Australia helping them grapple with the rising problem of violent white supremacist groups.

He is the Author of *The Cure For Hate: A Former White Supremacist's Journey from Violent Extremism to Radical Compassion*, published by Arsenal Pulp Press; his TED Talk on "Radical Compassion" is available via TEDx



KATIE SOLITO
IMPACT PRODUCER
WWW.KATIESOLITO.COM

Katie Solito is an accomplished educator, with fifteen years of experience in diverse public high schools and adult education settings. Holding a Masters in Secondary English Education, Katie brings her knowledge of curriculum design, learner theory, and engagement strategy to the impact space.

As an educator, Katie knows how to reach people. She possesses an inventive yet practical skillset to deepen the impact documentaries can have. A news hound and voracious reader, she is keenly interested in exploring the larger cultural and geopolitical forces that shape the everyday.

She crafts educational materials that challenge learners to question their assumptions and truly engage with the systemic issues of our time through immersive role-plays, ethical inquiry, and active learning. Employing stakeholder research and an understanding of pedagogy, she facilitates discussions, screenings and campaigns that are memorable and impactful, sparking internal and societal change.

Katie is deeply engaged in the complex issues facing youth today and seeks to use film to engage and enlighten this crucial generation.

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LUCAS SABEAN
CURE FOR HATE PARTNER & EDITORIAL PRODUCER
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Lucas Sabea n is an editor, producer and filmmaker, whose output includes independent narrative & documentary features, commercial video, and a large body of experiential work.

Co-founder of Eat the Moon Films & Big Tent Productions, he has produced & edited Healing From Hate: Battle for the Soul of a Nation (Freestyle, MEF), directed & edited Angry White Men: American Masculinity in the Age of Trump (Grasshopper Films) and Devil Put the Coal in the Ground, a holistic look at the ravages of extractive industry and corporate power in West Virginia.

He recently directed, produced & edited The Man Card: White Male Identity Politics From Nixon to Trump (2020, MEF) as well as You Throw Like A Girl: The Blindspot of Masculinity (2020, MEF).

He was named a "Filmmaker of Tomorrow" at the Telluride Film Festival for his short film Relieve (1999). His films include the feature End of Era (Underground Zero, 2003), and The Last Stand (Best Feature, Backseat Film Festival, 2008). Choreographer Paul Taylor has called his films "superb - like poems made visible." He has an MFA from Boston University in Film Production.



CAITLYN BOYLE
CAMPAIGN STRATEGIST
[HTTPS://CAITLINBOYLE.CO/](https://CAITLINBOYLE.CO/)

Caitlin Boyle is a specialist in distribution and social impact for documentary film.

Caitlin has served as the leading strategic advisor for independent film, providing coaching and guidance for independent film teams in managing their film's social impact and distribution.

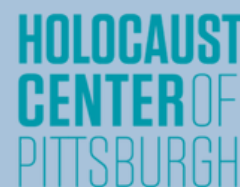
Caitlin also serves as the Director of Filmmaker Development at DOC NYC, America's largest documentary film festival, and as the project manager for the FaithDoc Impact Lab at Auburn Media's Hartley Media Impact Initiative.



THE INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY ASSOCIATION
FISCAL SPONSOR

The IDA supports the vital work of documentary storytellers and champions a thriving and inclusive documentary culture. We are dedicated to the vision of a world where documentary creators flourish. Through our work, we connect audiences with the best of the form, provide resources, create community, and defend the rights and freedoms of documentary artists, activists and journalists around the globe. We do this work because we believe that documentaries enrich and deepen our culture, fostering a more informed and connected world.

PARTNERS



Suggested Letter for Parent/Guardian Prior to The Cure for Hate Program

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited to announce an upcoming educational opportunity at our school: ***The Cure for Hate***, a program that will be co-presented locally with Classrooms Without Borders. This unique program features Tony McAleer, a former white supremacist, who has made a sincere journey of repentance, and filmmaker Peter Hutchison. Tony and Peter will be present in-person to engage directly with students, offering a rare and impactful experience that promotes understanding, empathy, and resilience against hate. You may learn more about [***The Cure for Hate***](#) [here](#).

The Cure for Hate program includes an educational documentary detailing Tony's transformative journey, including his sojourn in Auschwitz, accompanied by a curriculum that helps students recognize and resist the "othering" of people who are different from them. Additionally, the program addresses how adolescents can identify and resist online radicalization efforts, with a specific focus on antisemitism and racism.

Select the appropriate text for the state:

● **Pennsylvania:**

- ☐ Please note that this program aligns with Act 70 of 2014 under the Commonwealth's Public School Code.

● **West Virginia:**

- ☐ This program supports the goals of the West Virginia Commission On Holocaust Education.

● **Ohio:**

- ☐ The program aligns with the "desired impact" outlined by The Ohio Holocaust and Genocide Memorial and Education Commission.

As part of the program, students will be asked to complete a survey after ***The Cure for Hate*** film and discussion with Tony McAleer and Peter Hutchinson. The survey will be anonymous and will not collect any personal identifying information. Survey responses will be aggregated for analysis and reporting.

If you prefer that your child not participate in *The Cure for Hate* programming, please [school - provide instructions here].

If you prefer that your child participate in the educational programming but not complete the post-learning survey, please [school - provide instructions here].

Please read and review the accompanying ***Program Evaluation Information Sheet*** with your child. If you have any questions, concerns, or if you would like to preview the documentary, please feel free to contact [Contact Name] at [Contact Information]. The program is scheduled for [Date].

Thank you for supporting our school's commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Sincerely,
[Principal Name]

Classrooms Without Borders & The Cure for Hate Impact Partnership
Student Program Evaluation Information Sheet

Program Title: Classrooms Without Borders & the Cure for Hate Impact Partnership

Person in Charge of the Program Evaluation: Kate Lukaszewicz, Education Programs Director of Classrooms Without Borders. Kate's phone number is (412) 212-3267.

What is the purpose of this Program Evaluation?

The purpose is to learn more about strategies to increase student, teacher, and community understanding of the personal and societal roots of othering, dehumanization, and extremist violence. This includes skills to recognize and counteract hate speech online and skills to foster civil dialogue across differences, as a means of combatting violence and terrorism.

Why are we asking you to participate in the Program Evaluation?

You are being asked to take part in this evaluation because you are a student who is participating in a Classrooms Without Borders & Cure for Hate educational program. The feedback you provide in the survey after the CWB/CFH program will help us learn about your experience, evaluate the impact of the program, and improve the program in the future.

What do I have to do to participate?

If you take part in this program evaluation, you will be given a link/QR code to a digital, anonymous and confidential post-program survey. Complete the survey and submit, as instructed.

Will anything bad happen to you?

Some of the questions might make you uncomfortable or be hard to answer. You can choose to stop participating at any time without any penalty.

Will this Program Evaluation help you or others?

This evaluation may not help you, but we do hope to learn about the impact of the CWB/CFH program on students, teachers and community members, so we can improve the program in the future.

Who will see the information collected about you?

The only information collected from you will be the responses to your survey. Individual survey responses will be kept private and shared only with the program team and the entity that funds this programming. Survey responses will be pooled into groups and studied for themes and reactions. Results that are shared publicly will not have your name or other identifying details.

Do you get paid for participating in the CFH program or completing a survey?

No, you will not be paid for participating in the CFH program and survey.

Will it cost anything to be in the Program Evaluation?

No, it will not cost you anything to take part in this Program Evaluation.

Do you have to be in this Program Evaluation?

No, you do not have to participate. Your alternative is to not participate. There is no penalty for not participating.

What if I have questions?

You can ask any questions that you have about the Program Evaluation. If you have a question later, you may call the person in charge of the study at 412-212-3267.

If you have issues taking part in this program evaluation and want to talk to someone who is not the person in charge of this project, you may contact Castle Institutional Review Board (Castle IRB) at 888-442-2472 extension 2 or irbteam@castleirb.com.

Evaluation Link Students

