

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you from Cleveland, Ohio where today I hand-delivered our petition, which more than 3,000 of you have signed, to the office of Mr. Paul Dolan, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Cleveland's Major League Baseball team.

I was joined by fellow representatives from the Council for American Indian Ministries of the United Church of Christ, the Committee of 500 Years of Dignity and Resistance, people of faith from across the country and the leadership of the United Church of Christ, whose headquarters are in Cleveland.

[Check out the photos from our march through downtown Cleveland & the petition delivery.](#)

As we met with a representative from Mr. Dolan's office, supporters engaged in a prayerful witness, calling on the team owners to use their power to change the team's inappropriate name "Indians" and racist mascot, Chief Wahoo.

With your help, we came, we saw, we prayed, and we demanded action in the name of love and justice. We know that we are all created in God's image. Holding on to racist images and inappropriate names only serves to injure our common humanity and to disfigure God's image in all of us.

I am proud that our message has been heard, both by the leadership of Cleveland's baseball team and by MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred, who has also been sent our petition today.

Thank you for standing in solidarity with me, and Native brothers and sisters throughout the country, by working to dismantle racist imagery and names in sports and in our society.

Blessings,

Toni Buffalo

PS – Why not spread the word about this issue or share [these photos](#) on facebook? It's a great way to show others that the movement for change is building!