

# Continued Bias Related Incidents in Garrigus Suites 10-21-21

**Subject:** Continued Bias Related Incidents in Garrigus Suites

Dear Garrigus Suites Residents,

I am writing to notify our community of two incidents of bias that occurred the week of October 4th. On a white board, derogatory slurs that are commonly associated with the LGBTQIA+ community were written and verbal remarks in regards to race and ethnicity were used. An investigation is currently underway, and we are providing support to any impacted students.

The behaviors displayed in these repeated incidents are unacceptable and must cease immediately. It is an expectation of the University of Connecticut and this community that students be responsible for the impact of their individual actions and intervene when harmful behaviors are witnessed that threaten the inclusivity of our community.

In full transparency, we would like to share our plan to continue to address this issue and offer opportunities to engage in dialogue and provide spaces for healing.

The Garrigus Suites Action Plan:

- Connect with the RAINBOW Center and the African American Cultural Center
- Offering a chance for residents to come together to learn about the power of words and the harm that bias language has on the community. A follow-up email will be sent with the date, time, and location of the meeting.
- Passive education, including a newsletter offering multiple resources

Now, here is where you come in. I urge you to join us in disrupting the narrative that events such as these create about our community. We can disprove these notions of intolerance by showing up in allyship to events, initiatives, and programs that uplift our underrepresented communities. Partner with us, show up, and participate. Let's demonstrate that Garrigus Suites is a community of acceptance and inclusion.

We hope that the person/persons responsible for this behavior will choose to make a different decision in the future. If there is anything our staff can do to assist you, please feel free to contact us. You can always reach someone by calling the RA on-duty at (860) 933-

5211, calling the HD Office at (860) 486-3448 or emailing the Hall Director at [Sydney.wein@uconn.edu](mailto:Sydney.wein@uconn.edu).

In solidarity,

Sydney

**Sydney Wein, M.Ed.**

(she/her/hers)

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