### WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AND BRAVER ANGELS

## **RECRUITMENT GUIDE FOR HOSTS**

#### 1. Who to Approach

- <u>5-11 people you know and trust</u>. These are people that you feel comfortable with in a group conversation about a political topic.
- <u>Invite people who feel similarly to you about the election</u>. These initial groups are not a place for inter-party debates. Later there will be opportunities to connect with people who differ on the election outcome.
- <u>Invite people who you think may agree with the principles</u> in the "*What We Will do to Hold America Together Letter*." The link to the letter is in the sample email invitation.

### 2. <u>Send the Email Invitation Letter</u> (provided separately after you register as a host)

Consider adding a personal touch to say why you are doing this.

#### 3. Answering questions from potential participants

- Key points to make
  - We are experiencing historic levels of polarization in this country, and it's cresting right now.
  - > It's time for ordinary citizens to do something about it.
  - In partnership with Braver Angels, the University has created a way for small groups to come together to address this challenge. There will also be large University-led gatherings.
  - > There are groups meeting all over the country.
  - This is a gathering of like-minded individuals all committed to the principles of the Hold America Together Letter. The rationale: each side needs its own conversation first about how to get past feelings of disdain for those who voted different and how to prepare to reach out to those who voted differently.
  - > Later there will be opportunities for gatherings with people from both sides.
  - The group will only need to meet once, although we could decide to follow up together.
  - > I can describe the agenda and to send it to you if you like.