

THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

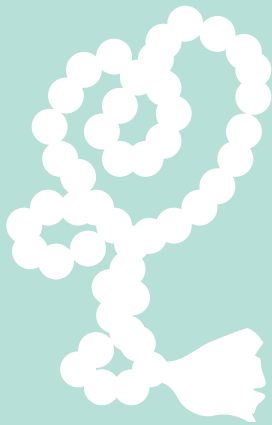
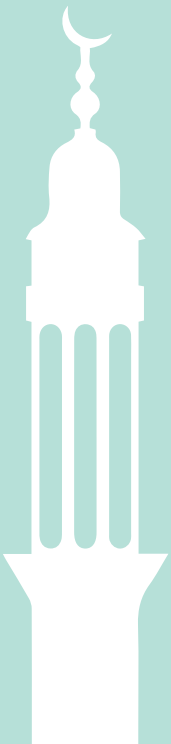


TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & FOUNDER
2	OPENING MINDS
5	STRENGTHENING FAMILIES
8	DEEPENING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING
11	ADVANCING INCLUSIVITY AND RESPECT
13	THE JAMES PARKS MORTON INTERFAITH AWARDS DINNER
14	ICNY AT A GLANCE: PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014
16	ICNY GLOBALLY
17	ICNY IN THE HEADLINES
18	THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK 2013-2014 DONORS
20	FINANCIAL REPORT
21	ICNY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF & INTERNS

MISSION STATEMENT

The Interfaith Center of New York seeks to make New York City and the world safe for religious differences by increasing respect and mutual understanding among people of different faiths, ethnicities, and cultural traditions, and by fostering cooperation among religious communities and civic organizations to solve common social problems.



The Interfaith Center of New York
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 540
New York, NY 10115
Tel: (212) 870-3510/fax: (212) 870-3499
www.interfaithcenter.org

LETTER FROM DIRECTOR & FOUNDER

We are deeply grateful to our partners — grassroots religious leaders, secular professionals and donors who have worked with us to open minds, strengthen families, deepen mutual understanding, and advance inclusivity and respect.

This year the **Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute** **OPENED MINDS** of 25 teachers from 13 states, selected from a pool of over 120 applicants. In partnership with **Union Theological Seminary** and supported by the **National Endowment for the Humanities**, the three-week program introduced these teachers to American religious diversity and gave them tools for teaching more effectively about contemporary religious life. In addition, we hosted and ran **School-based Religious Diversity Programs** and a **Debate in the Neighborhood Program** which trained religiously diverse high school students in the art of debate.

ICNY **STRENGTHENED FAMILIES** by bringing together government agencies, social service providers, and religious groups to broaden outreach to under-resourced communities, to make sure certain services are culturally competent, and to enhance services through volunteerism. The **Reentry Family and Faith Circles of Support** program is a partnership among ICNY, the **Harlem Community Justice Center**, **Network Support Services**, and several **Harlem churches and mosques**. With funding from **JC Flowers Foundation** and **Episcopal Charities**, the program offers interfaith hospitality and a chance to give back to the community through faith-based and civic events to parolees returning to the neighborhood and their families.

Building upon the **29th Annual Rabbi Marshall Meyer Retreat for Religious Leaders on Child Welfare and Foster Care**, ICNY's **Catholic-Muslim Common Action Initiative** entered a new phase. We are developing training programs for child welfare and foster care service providers and Muslim community leaders, with the aim of offering more culturally sensitive children's services for Muslim families and recruiting more Muslims to serve as foster or adoptive parents.

DEEPENING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING of our city's diverse religions and customs is key to building trust. Through its **Catholic-Muslim Common Action Initiative** and **Social Work and Religious Diversity Training**, ICNY has demonstrated that learning about other religions' social teachings and launching shared social service projects serve to bond diverse communities.

Finally, ICNY **ADVANCED INCLUSIVITY AND RESPECT** for racially, ethnically, and religiously diverse groups by joining more than 50 organizations and individuals signing on to an **amicus brief** supporting a federal lower court's decision in *Floyd, et al. v. City of New York et. al* that found the New York City Police Department liable for a pattern and practice of racial profiling in implementing its stop-and-frisk policies. In addition, ICNY joined **New York Disaster Interfaith Services** and other religious and civil rights groups in protesting the **National September 11th Memorial and Museum's** airing of the film "The Rise of Al-Qaeda," which we believed did not adequately distinguish between Al-Qaeda and Islam.

All of this work was possible because of your belief in and support of ICNY. Thank you for your ongoing contributions to our programs and for your vision of our city as a place safe for religious diversity.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Chloe Breyer
Executive Director



The Very Rev. James Parks Morton
Founder & Chair Emeritus



OPENING MINDS

PROBLEM ADDRESSED:

Most K-12 students in American schools learn little or nothing about religious diversity, in large part because many teachers and school systems (especially, but not only, in public schools) are reluctant to teach about religion. When they do learn about religions, students are usually exposed to little more than the “dates and doctrines” approach. This gives them no clear idea of how their religiously diverse neighbors actually live on a day-to-day basis.

HOW ICNY MAKES A DIFFERENCE:

ICNY is one of very few organizations nationwide that has both strong ties with diverse local religious leaders and institutions and a solid grounding in the academic study of religion. We are ideally suited to build bridges between NYC religious communities and secular educators teaching about religion, as well as directly between students from different religious backgrounds. Our programs provide first-hand experiences of NYC religious life, introducing participants to the human face of religious diversity.

“Where else do you have the opportunity to enjoy Jumma prayers at a mosque on Friday, Shabbat dinner at a fellow teacher’s home that evening, Shabbat services at a local synagogue on Saturday, an African-American Baptist church service on Sunday, a walking tour of a Hindu temple on Monday, conversation and meditation at a Buddhist temple on Tuesday, and dinner at the home temple of Shango/Yoruba priest on Wednesday?”

Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute Participant.

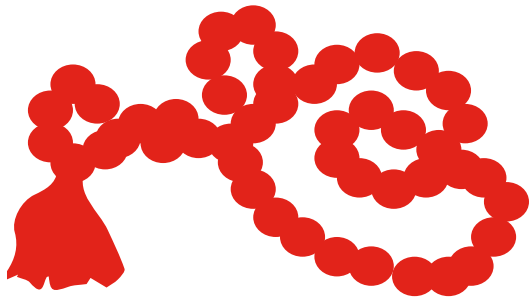
RELIGIOUS WORLDS OF NEW YORK SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Institute was designed to introduce teachers to American religious diversity and offer them the pedagogic tools they need to teach their students about contemporary religious life. ICNY worked to recruit teachers and develop the program from the fall of 2013 through the spring of 2014, then led the Institute itself in July 2014.

Funder: National Endowment for the Humanities **Partner:** Union Theological Seminary **Staff:** Dr. Henry Goldschmidt



2014 Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute site visit to Ganesh Temple, Flushing, Queens



The 2014 Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute combined important topics, a spectacular venue, a collegial learning environment, and the fostering of wonderful friendships. Twenty-five educators from 13 different states across the country gathered at Union Theological Seminary for three weeks in July, to explore, discuss, and deepen our sense of what was possible at each of our schools.

As the co-founder of the nation's first interfaith high school, I approached the summer institute with the eyes of a learner. I tried to stay very present to my emotions, feelings, and discomfort as we explored and discussed the different topics and religions. In order to have empathy for my students as I now challenge them to encounter new worldviews and beliefs, I needed to place myself in the position of learner. Our philosophy is that the world's religions have a common ethic of peace and justice and — by working together in understanding — the next generation can use their faith to create peace in the world. As educators, we got to experience a small piece of that together in New York last summer. I am grateful for the impact that the Religious Worlds Institute is already having on my work as an educator, my school community, and American society.

Reflections from Kimberly Medendorp,
Co-Founder, The Peace & Justice Academy,
Pasadena, CA

SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS ON RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

When 9/11 happened, I was really very angry. I couldn't believe that Muslims had done this terrible act. And it was through interfaith work that I was able to come back to saying, 'Okay, this isn't what Islam is about.' When I saw Christians, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, and secular people reaching out to support Muslim communities – that brought me closer to my own faith...

Dr. Mehnaz Afridi, Director of The Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Education Center, Manhattan College speaking at Regis High School.

Public, private, and parochial schools working to enhance the study of religious diversity, immigration, or other civic issues call upon ICNY to create education programs tailored to their specific needs. In 2013-2014, ICNY developed and facilitated programs for students at several public and faith-based schools. We held a discussion of "Muslim Holidays and the New York Public Schools" at DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx; moderated a Muslim-Catholic dialogue on social justice issues for 500 students at Regis High School, a Jesuit school on the Upper East Side; and led 50 students from the Grace Church School in lower Manhattan on a visit to the Islamic Center at New York University.

Funder: Fee-Based, **Staff:** Dr. Henry Goldschmidt

DEBATE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

This year our debate trainers worked with students at four faith-based organizations and one secular charter school: the Islamic Leadership School in the Bronx; the Hindu Temple Society of North America in Queens; the Sikh Coalition in Manhattan; the Muslim American Society in Brooklyn; and the New Visions Charter High School for advanced Math and Science in the Bronx.

The program culminated on April 12th, with 20 students from the four faith-based organizations participating in the third annual Debate in the Neighborhood final tournament, arguing motions on free speech, hate speech, MTA advertising, and cyber-bullying.

Funder: The Open Society Foundation **Staff:** Dr. Henry Goldschmidt



2014 Debate in the Neighborhood site visit to 118th St. Gurdwara & Sikh Cultural Center, Richmond Hill, Queens

ICNY trains immigrant and underserved high school youth from diverse religious backgrounds in the art of debate, including public speaking, critical thinking, and leadership skills. Site visits to each other's faith communities are invaluable to the program and foster deeper interfaith understanding and dialogue. This past year our Muslim, Hindu, and Sikh students visited the Muslim American Society Youth Center in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, and the 118th Street Gurdwara in Richmond Hill, Queens. And so on a rainy Sunday in March we found ourselves sitting in a circle of about twenty students on the carpeted floor of the prayer room at the MAS Youth Center, comparing Muslim and Hindu understandings of God. Following a presentation by a Muslim community leader, one of our Hindu students raised his hand to ask a question of his Muslim peers. Below is a summary of exchange that followed:

"I'm sorry," the Hindu student began, somewhat hesitantly, "but I don't understand . . . can you please tell me what your God looks like?"

A Muslim student responded that in the Islamic tradition, God is thought to transcend any and all human representations, and visual images of God are strictly forbidden.

A Hindu student then explained that in her tradition, too, the essence of the divine is thought to be beyond all representation, yet statues and images of deities are still an important part of religious life – a way for human beings to engage with the divine, even if they cannot grasp its ungraspable core.

The students found that Hindu and Muslim understandings of God are both similar and different in complex ways. In India and elsewhere, this kind of Hindu-Muslim dialogue is too often overshadowed by the threat of interreligious conflict, but in ICNY's Debate in the Neighborhood program, such conversations among religiously diverse young New Yorkers take place in an environment of mutual respect and open inquiry.



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES



PROBLEM ADDRESSED:

When NY government agencies are called on to intervene with families — whether by investigating cases of child abuse or sentencing a father or mother to serve time in jail — they can cause unintended consequences, disconnecting families from their communities and support systems and breaking down trust between communities and city agencies. Religious leaders and religious communities offer unique resources for these families, but they need training and structure to help them make a positive

difference. When it comes to incarceration and recidivism, East Harlem is one of the 24 New York City neighborhoods responsible for 50 percent of the City’s annual prison admissions.

HOW ICNY MAKES A DIFFERENCE:

ICNY is uniquely positioned to facilitate collaboration between government agencies and religious groups working with families. These programs showcase our work in the area.



“*There doesn't need to be another nine-year-old growing up like I did.*”

Thomas Edwards, Raising My Voice Participant

“*I've had some public speaking experiences in prison, but “Raising My Voice [a public speakers’ bureau training program sponsored at Harlem Community Justice Center] has given me an opportunity to hone those skills, and be a more effective speaker.*”

Eddie Cuadaro, Raising My Voice Participant

RABBI MARSHALL T. MEYER RETREATS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Nearly 13,000 children were receiving foster care services in New York City in May 2013, and nearly 30,000 children's families received services to prevent foster care placement in June 2013.¹ New York City has increasingly moved towards a community-based care approach for children, implementing strategies that seek to keep children connected with their home neighborhoods, schools, and extended families. ICNY recognized that religious leaders can play an important role as family advisors, counselors, and information brokers during exchanges with the child welfare system.

The 29th Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat for Social Justice brought together nearly 100 religious leaders and service providers. The retreat included a keynote address by Ronald Richter, the former Commissioner of Administration for Children's Services (ACS); in-depth presentations about ACS's divisions including family permanency, parent recruitment and support, and community partnerships; presentations about borough-based partnerships; and the ACS-Casey Faith-Based Partnership that has helped develop child welfare ministries in NYC churches. Participants learned about how child abuse allegations are investigated and processed and how decisions are made to separate children from their biological families. Religious leaders also learned about how they can participate in child safety

conferences to help make decisions regarding child safety and removal, ways to educate their own communities, and how to advocate for policy changes. Religious leaders also gave presentations about how parent-child relationships are viewed in their traditions and the importance of culturally-responsive services.



NYC Former Children Services Commissioner Ronald Richter speaking at Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat on Foster Care

One notable outcome of the conference has been a positive change in religious leaders' attitudes about ACS. As indicated in a post-conference evaluation, many participants had come to the event with a negative view of the agency. However, as a result of the presentations, they indicated they would like to deliver sermons on child welfare and encour-

age congregants to become foster parents. They also indicated their interest to join an ACS Community Partnership Program in their neighborhood, and to encourage other religious leaders to learn about or work with ACS.

Funder: Ada G. and Stanley I. Halbreich Foundation & Individual Donors, **Staff:** Dr. Sarah Sayeed.

CATHOLIC-MUSLIM COMMON ACTION INITIATIVE

Muslim service providers in ICNY's network across the five boroughs have noted the need for greater cultural competency among foster care service providers who work with Muslim (and particularly African and African-American Muslim) families. An accurate count of Muslim children entering the foster care system is not currently available, since a child's religious affiliation is not systematically tracked during child protective intake. Anecdotal evidence from both agencies and religious leaders indicates, however, that even as Muslim families are targeted for protective children's services, there is a shortage of Muslim foster parents.

In Fiscal Year 2014, The Interfaith Center of New York laid the groundwork to launch an exciting city-wide initiative to raise awareness among child welfare and foster care service providers about the diversity of Muslim New Yorkers and to train Muslim community leaders on the goals of children's services and how best to work with this service system. The initiative aims to develop culturally-sensitive children's services for Muslim families, build stronger linkages and better communication between child welfare service providers and Muslim community leaders, and raise the awareness of Muslim community leaders so they can provide better support for children and families in foster care — including recruiting more foster or adoptive families who are Muslim. ICNY has connected with a range of child welfare organizations, including historically Catholic agencies, to involve staff in all five boroughs for training about cultural responsiveness in working with Muslim families.

Funder: GHR Foundation, **Staff:** Dr. Sarah Sayeed and Malik Muhammed.

1. http://www.nyc.gov/html/acs/html/statistics/statistics_links.shtml

REENTRY FAMILY AND FAITH CIRCLES OF SUPPORT

REENTRY FAMILY AND FAITH CIRCLES OF SUPPORT

Like Thomas, many formerly incarcerated individuals never want to return to prison. Integrating successfully back into their communities is critical in preventing recidivism, but feeling they have disappointed their families and communities may actually get in the way. Religious organizations have a broad range of capacities to help. Unfortunately, houses of worship and religious leaders may not realize how crucial they are, or they may not know how to offer the right support. The Interfaith Center is qualified to close this gap and contribute to lowering the recidivism rate.

In 2012 — with support from our funders and partners — ICNY launched the *Reentry Family and Faith Circles of Support Program*. Through this program, ICNY recruits, trains, and supports Harlem faith-based volunteers from five diverse houses of worship — St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Masjid Sabur, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Church of St. Charles Borromeo, and St. Luke AME — who warmly greet and converse with parolees scheduled to meet with their parole officers or appear before a parole judge at the Harlem Community Justice Center (HCJC). HCJC staff has said that this ministry has changed the culture at the center by lowering levels of anxiety for parolees and staff, inspiring more respectful relationships between parolees and staff — including court officers — and providing a reason for parolees at risk of recidivism to maintain their obligations to report regularly to their parole officers. ICNY also sponsored its first gospel concert at St. Luke AME in August 2014 to raise funds to support its Ministry of Hospitality.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Based on the success of this model, ICNY created a similar monthly lunchtime program at a nearby church called "Food for Thought" which features motivational speakers, employers, and religious leaders who provide tips on community reintegration to parolees.

PARTNERING WITH NETWORK SUPPORT SERVICES

Because of its relationships with many religious leaders in Harlem, ICNY was tasked by one of the funders of the program to collaborate with Network Support Services, a provider of community-based therapeutic integration support services, and expand its reach into Harlem by finding additional houses of worship willing to host weekly sessions. ICNY successfully located two houses of worship — St. Ambrose Episcopal church and the Masjid Sabur in Harlem — which have opened their doors and welcomed the returning citizens for their weekly meetings. St. Mary's Episcopal Church, which was already sponsoring a weekly meeting, agreed to expand to a second night for an additional group. While these houses of worship have graciously provided "Ministries of Hospitality," staffed by their congregational volunteers, ICNY hopes to make these Ministries more robust by recruiting additional volunteers from other houses of worship to prepare and serve refreshments and chat with the men and women transitioning from prison.

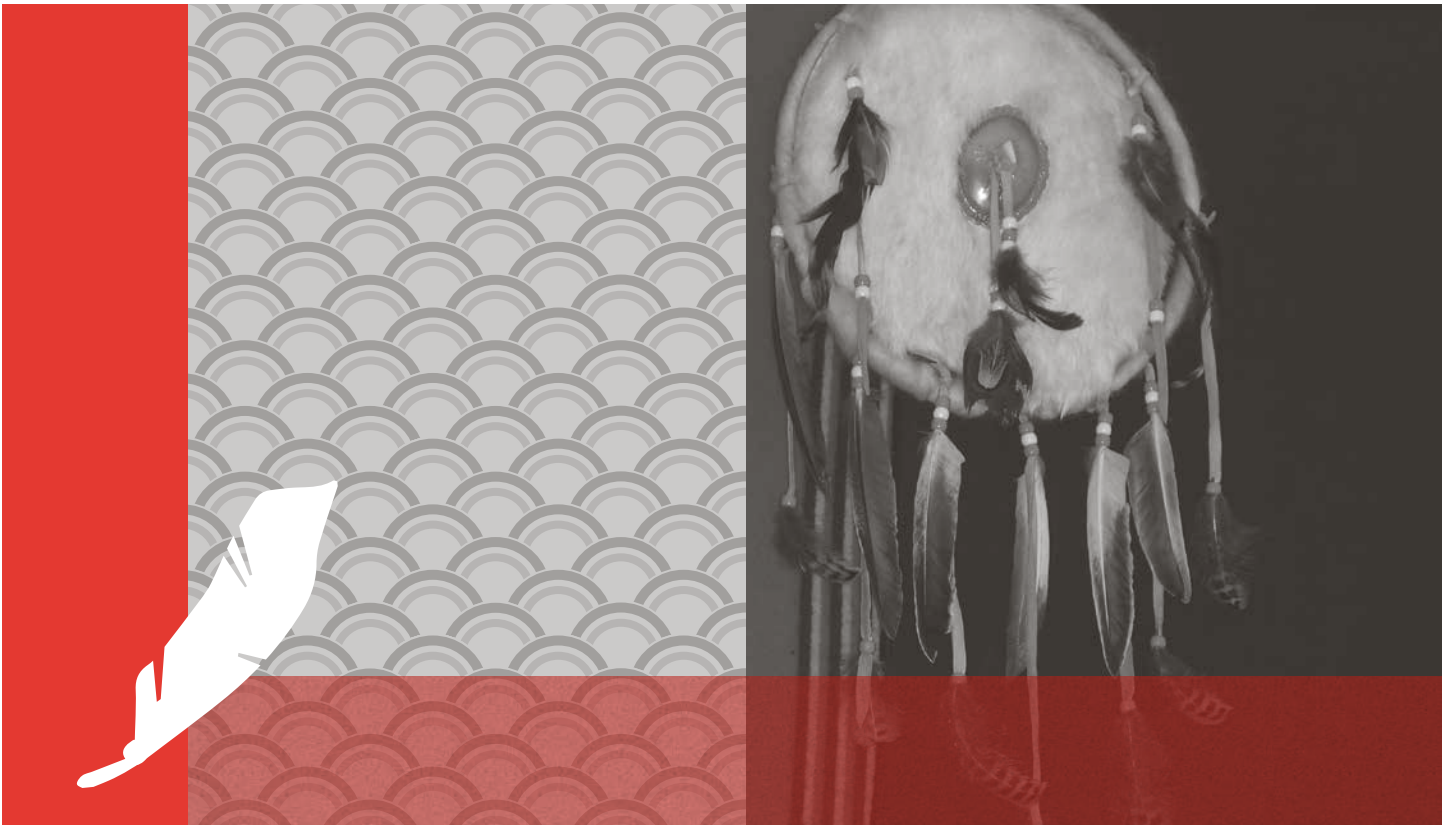
RAISING MY VOICE

Additionally, ICNY has joined HCJC in identifying and scheduling speaking opportunities at houses of worship for formerly incarcerated individuals who attended "Raise My Voice," a skills development, training and leadership program for improving employability and civic engagement. Individuals trained in this program spoke at a service sponsored by St. Philip's Episcopal Church of Harlem this September.

Funder: J.C. Flowers Foundation and Episcopal Charities, **Partners:** Harlem Community Justice Center (HCJC), Network Support Services, **Staff:** Rev. Chloe Breyer and Theo Harris.

My story is important because of what my life became as a result of running the streets. From the age of nine I started doing crime, and that went on for thirty-five years. In the two major cases that sent me to prison, two people died. There doesn't need to be another nine-year-old growing up like that. That's why my story's important. The "Raising My Voice" speaker's training was valuable to me because I learned skills that I was able to apply to the passion that I already have. It makes telling my story that much more effective. I can emphasize certain things, point out certain things. For instance, I can point out that the lack of education creates a lack of options, and that living on the street created another set of principles for me. Learning these speaking skills not only makes you a more effective speaker, but it makes you analyze yourself. It's therapeutic in a sense, because when you share your story with others you relive those moments you're talking about, and often times can see just what brought you to certain points in your life. I'm grateful to everyone involved in this training, and I look forward to sharing my story with those who can benefit from it the most.

Thomas Edwards, Raising My Voice Participant



DEEPENING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

PROBLEM ADDRESSED:

In the wake of 9/11, incidents of hate speech, desecration of sacred sites, and acts of violence rose significantly in New York City and across the country. This hostility was directed particularly at Muslims and Sikhs. While law enforcement addressed specific crimes, the healing of religious communities required a different approach. ICNY brought together top leaders of diverse religious groups on a ceremonial basis to send a public message of tolerance and respect. However, after working in this area for some years, ICNY saw a potential to transform hostility and intolerance through ongoing meetings between grassroots religious leaders. ICNY developed programs to enable local leaders to learn about each other's social teachings and to jointly envision, develop, and launch social service projects that would address common socio-economic problems affecting members of their communities.

ICNY also tapped social service professionals from public, private, and faith-based agencies as a key constituency to help bridge the gaps between religious groups. With religious diversity education and training, staff could respond with greater cultural sensitivity to New York's religiously diverse communities and thereby help reduce existing gaps in access to much needed services.

HOW ICNY MAKES A DIFFERENCE:

ICNY has the remarkable resources and expertise to transform these situations, with a breadth and depth of connections among religious community leaders and extensive contacts with city and private agencies. ICNY has facilitated greatly increased knowledge about religious diversity and cultural competency among social service professionals. It has enabled religious groups to strengthen each other by working together — empowering religious communities to improve access to services and to advance the inclusivity of the service system. As a result, members of different faith communities have been better served — and mutual understanding and trust has deepened between diverse religious groups.

“*With an overwhelming majority of Americans (84% according to a recent Pew report) professing affiliation with a religious community, it behooves social service and mental health workers to be able to address this important part of people's lives.*”

CATHOLIC-MUSLIM COMMON ACTION INITIATIVE

For the third consecutive year, the Central Harlem Vicariate invited Muslims to join their annual January Interfaith Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, and Imam Talib of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood presented reflections alongside a keynote delivered by Baptist Minister Rev. Al Sharpton. In Staten Island, the Albanian Islamic Cultural Center (AICC) invited parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) to an interfaith dinner on the occasion of Eid ul Adha. Both Imam Tahir of AICC and Father Liam of OLGC addressed Catholics and Muslims about the significance of Abraham's story for the two communities. This event was followed by His Eminence Archbishop Cardinal Dolan making a first visit to a NYC mosque — also at the Albanian Islam Cultural Center, as arranged by Fr. Liam — where he met with Staten Island Muslim leaders.

The program also initiated a new partnership between Muslim Women's Institute for Research and Development (MWIRD) and Highbridge Community Life Center (HCLC). The two organizations worked together to revitalize the Highbridge Clergy Coalition, which met monthly to discuss neighborhood concerns and sponsored a lunch for religious leaders, hosted by the Yankees at Yankee Stadium. Muslim and Catholic volunteers worked together to serve a free Christmas Day Community Lunch to over 239 homeless shelter residents, seniors and families in the Highbridge neighborhood. Participants also received a free distribution of gloves, hats, scarves and ear muffs. In Manhattan, St. Aloysius Church and the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood hosted a Harlem interfaith recovery education forum for 40 participants, featuring personal stories of recovery from addiction, as well as Catholic and Muslim perspectives on the role of spirituality in recovery. On Staten Island, AICC and OLGC brought together 10 youths from each congregation to learn about social justice in each faith tradition, visit each other's houses of worship, and engage in a joint cooking event to prepare food for a local soup kitchen which serves homeless men and women. The Catholic-Muslim-Jewish Women's Group continued to meet bi-monthly, using Scriptural Reasoning

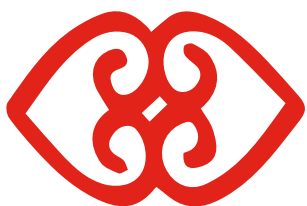
In 2010, events both tested and validated ICNY's work to deepen understanding between religious communities. NYC was rocked by deep hostilities over the proposed construction of a mosque and Islamic cultural center at Ground Zero. Tensions were heightened further when a decision to sell a Staten Island convent to the Muslim American Society was rescinded. Tensions rose again when the Muslim American Society met additional resistance from demonstrators in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn where they sought to build an additional mosque for Muslims in that neighborhood.

These flare-ups at the borough-level were part of the backdrop as ICNY began the critical work of building interfaith ties within neighborhoods, even as it continued to work with city-wide leaders. In 2010, ICNY launched a pilot program to foster dialogue and joint action between borough-based Catholic and Muslim social service providers and houses of worship. In its third year of operation, the program has helped to strengthen bonds between Catholic and Muslim leaders and agencies in each borough and harnessed their faith-based commitment to serve those in need.

to study sacred texts from the three faiths, including topics such as the Creation story, the environment, and education.

Funder: GHR Foundation, **Partners:** Muslim Women's Institute for Research and Development, Highbridge Community Life Center, Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood, Vicariate of Central Harlem, St. Charles Borromeo Church, Albanian Islamic Cultural Center, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, **Staff:** Dr. Sarah Sayeed.

SOCIAL WORK AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY TRAINING



Despite the emphasis on cultural diversity and multi-cultural competency in social work education, there has been a great deal of resistance to any serious consideration of religious diversity in the field, or any discussion of faith-based perspectives on the sorts of issues that social workers address. Discussions of religion still focus almost entirely on universal human "spirituality" to the exclusion of discussions of specific religious traditions and communities. Most social workers enter the field with no clear sense of how to engage with religious diverse clients, colleagues, or partners.

The Social Work and Religious Diversity program, offered in partnership with UJA-Federation of New York introduces social workers to the religious lives, experiences, and perspectives of diverse



Dr. Henry Goldschmidt moderating Social Work and Diversity panel on “Faith-Based Perspectives on Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women” with (Left to Right): Robina Niaz, Turning Point for Women and Families, Anindita Chatterjee Bhaumik, Connect, Chana Widawski, Kings County District Attorney’s Office and Shaykha Reima Yosif, Al-Rawiya Foundation

communities, in this case through conversations with academics, clergy members, community leaders, and faith-based social service providers. This year’s five-week course attended by 74 students included an introduction to faith-based perspectives on social justice and social service; addiction and recovery; youth development; sexual assault and violence against women; and on the role of hope in everyday life.

Partners: UJA-Federation of NY, **Staff:** Dr. Henry Goldschmidt.

I am incredibly grateful I attended ICNY’s Social Work and Religious Diversity training in 2014. The series was an eye-opening experience and one that added tremendously to my professional life. We heard speakers on a wide variety of topics who involved us in thinking about religion, its roles in our clients’ lives (as well as our own), and religion’s capacity to address fundamental issues of social service and social justice...I particularly benefited from the lunches afterwards because that really gave us a chance to connect and communicate. I learned a great deal about the variety of traditions, perspectives and backgrounds - religious, geographic, educational and ethnic - among the group of us that frequently sat together...Being exposed to such a wide variety of religious traditions led to...an increased comfort level with discussing it in general.

Before the class, I’d been trying to contact the imam of a client’s local mosque. I’d also been learning a bit about Islam. But after the course, I had a different understanding of the urgency of this search and the importance of that contact to my client. Later in the year, when I had a client who was effectively homebound, I worked hard to contact his priest to see about the possibility of his receiving Communion at home. The revival of these contacts with a religious community, contacts that once formed a fundamental part of people’s lives, was of tremendous emotional significance to my clients. Connecting with them on this level was important to our relationship — and my ability to help them.

Miriam Goldberg, Social Work and Diversity Participant



ADVANCING INCLUSIVITY AND RESPECT

PROBLEM ADDRESSED:

New York is a complicated city, a place made up dozens of immigrant communities, whose members speak different languages and adhere to a wide variety of religious traditions. For the immigrant New Yorker, the political system in his or her country of origin may be dramatically different from what exists in New York. The fact that New York continues to be a target for acts of religiously-motivated violence only adds to potential tensions. City officials' policies, statements and actions, informed as they are by

cultural and religious understanding, can contribute to or detract from building civil discourse and cooperation.

HOW ICNY MAKES A DIFFERENCE:

ICNY has the combination of resources to improve how New York's policies toward diverse religious groups are designed, articulated, and implemented. ICNY also acts as a trusted facilitator for local religious leaders and institutions to engage with officials and effectively advance their communities' needs and concerns.

IMPROVING POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

ICNY, along with more than 50 individuals and organizations, signed onto an amicus brief supporting a federal lower court's decision in *Floyd, et al. v. City of New York, et al.* that found the NYPD liable for a pattern and practice of racial profiling and unconstitutional stop-and-frisks. Victory was celebrated on October 31, 2014 when the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the lower court's decision. The ruling allows for parties to move forward with court-ordered remedies including the participation and leadership of communities most impacted by discriminatory and abusive policing practices.

Following passage of The Community Safety Act, ICNY addressed the need for greater oversight of the NYPD by advancing creation of an inspector general for the NYPD to address policies of “stop and frisk” and surveillance of houses of worship. Building upon a Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat on improving local police-community relations in 2013, ICNY held meetings with a newly appointed NYPD administration, including the Commissioner of Training and the Chief of Community Affairs. Following these meetings, ICNY worked with the NYPD Community Affairs Bureau, linking religious leaders with new patrol officers in high crime precincts to help orient them to these new communities. The value of ICNY’s work was formally recognized when Dr. Sarah Sayeed received the

Community Service Award from the NYPD Community Affairs Bureau.

As a next step, ICNY aims to produce a training video for patrol officers featuring highlights from interviews with diverse local clergy members and lay leaders, in which they discuss what the most important things are every NYPD officer should know about the religious life of their communities, and ideally how they would like NYPD officers to communicate with their communities.

Funders: Individual Donors , **Staff:** Dr. Sarah Sayeed and Rev. Chloe Breyer

CONFRONTING ISLAMOPHOBIA

As a member of the Interfaith Advisory Panel of the 9/11 Museum, ICNY works to ensure that the Museum presents religious beliefs in a balanced and thoughtful way, and that all religious groups experience the museum as being accessible to them.

ICNY and other members of the Museum’s Interfaith Advisory Panel expressed concern about the terminology used in a short exhibition film “The Rise of Al-Qaeda.” The film was produced for the Museum and is being shown to museum visitors. ICNY conveyed the assessment that the film needed greater context about Islam to avoid anti-Muslim backlash.

ICNY and other members of the Museum’s Interfaith Advisory Panel expressed concern about the terminology used in a short exhibition

Funders: Individual Donors , **Partners:** New York Disaster Interfaith Services , **Staff:** Dr. Sarah Sayeed and Rev. Chloe Breyer

REUNITING IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

ICNY serves on the Steering Committee of the NYS Interfaith Network on Immigration Reform and has participated in prayer vigils and rallies calling attention to the urgent need for the President and Congress to fix the United States’ broken immigration system, which removed over 438,000 individuals in 2013 and threatens to separate thousands more from their families this year if our political leadership fails to solve this most pressing problem.

Funders: Individual Donors , **Partners:** NYS Interfaith Network on Immigration Reform , **Staff:** Rev. Chloe Breyer, Dr. Sarah Sayeed and Ellen Greeley



Rally for immigration reform legislation outside Varick St. Detention Facility

Despite marriage to a U.S. citizen and the birth of a son on United States soil, one well-known and popular imam has been waiting for his green card to be approved since 2011. Although he was told by an immigration judge his case was cleared, he still awaits final approval pending the outcome of a background check. During this period, the imam missed attending his father’s burial in Kosovo because he was not permitted to travel outside the U.S., and both his visa and driver’s license are close to expiring. ICNY has written letters of support and has contacted elected officials on his behalf.

12TH ANNUAL JAMES PARKS MORTON INTERFAITH AWARDS DINNER JUNE 2014



From left to right: Dr. Dean Ornish, Former VP Al Gore, The Very. Rev. James Parks Morton, Peter Zimroth, Thomas "Oz" Enders, & The Rev. Chloe Breyer

Blessings of peace and harmony from faith leaders of different traditions kicked off the 12th Annual James Parks Morton Interfaith Dinner on June 8, 2014 at the New York Hilton Hotel. Arriving in business attire and traditional dress — including elegantly flowing saris, African patterned dresses, and glistening head scarves — 300 friends came together to celebrate the lifetime achievements of our four distinguished honorees. These remarkable individuals exemplify outstanding commitment to promoting human development and peace — values shared by the world's great religious traditions.

We recognized the extraordinary accomplishments of our honorees: **The Honorable Al Gore**, 45th Vice President of the United States and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2007, for his multi-decade commitment to preserving our environment and conveying forceful messages about the impact of advanced technology on our global economics and livelihoods; **Mr. Peter L. Zimroth**, Senior Counsel, Arnold & Porter LLP, for using his legal skills to further the ideals of justice, including representing a community of Muslims in Bridgewater, New Jersey who are fighting the township's attempts to prevent the establishment of a mosque; **Mrs. Gaetana Enders** (posthumously) for her humanitarian efforts to safely resettle refugees from Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia in Canada and the U.S;

and **His Holiness Sri Swami Satchidananda** (posthumously), an interfaith visionary who served as a dynamic advocate for world peace. Mr. Thomas "Oz" Enders and Dr. Dean Ornish graciously accepted the awards on behalf of the Enders Family and the millions of followers of Swami Satchidananda respectively. Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist and *The New York Times* Editorial Board Member **Serge Schmemmann** hosted the evening's festivities.

Especially heartwarming and entertaining were dramatic readings of excerpts from The Very Reverend Morton's forthcoming memoirs, scripted by Event Producer and Stage Director **Jonathan Cerrullo** and performed by Opera Singer **Edward Pleasant** and Broadway Actors **Mary Lou Barber** and **Ben Rauch**. Video clips of the evening are available by logging onto <http://interfaithcenter.org/archives/7111>.

Abbot Doam Sunim (Buddhist), **Imam Tahir Kukiqi** (Muslim), **Mr. Balbir Singh** (Sikh), **Priest Michael Manswell** (Orisha Tradition of Trinidad and Tobago), **Deacon Kenneth Radcliffe** (Roman Catholic), **Mr. Ramaswamy P. Mohan** (Hindu), **Cantor Lisa Segal** (Jewish), **The Ven. William C. Parnell** (Episcopal) and ICNY Board Member **Rabbi Joseph Potastnik** (Jewish) were among the religious leaders who offered their blessings.

ICNY AT A GLANCE

OPENING MINDS

The “dates and doctrines” approach to learning about other religions doesn’t prepare teachers or help students really learn about how their neighbors live on a day-to-day basis. ICNY programs provide first-hand experiences of NY religious life, introducing participants to the human face of religious diversity.

Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute

Teachers from across the U.S. attend a three-week session to introduce them to American religious diversity and obtain tools for instructing students about contemporary lived religions.



Harlem Youth Court students visiting Sabur Mosque

School-Based Programs on Religious Diversity

ICNY creates education programs tailored to the specific needs of public, private and parochial schools working to enhance the study of religious diversity, immigration, or other civic issues.

Debate in the Neighborhood

ICNY trains immigrant and underserved youth in the art of debating for democracy and develops their leadership skills.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

When NY government agencies intervene with families — whether placing a child in the child welfare system or sentencing someone to serve time in jail — they can cause unintended consequences, disconnecting families from their communities and support systems. ICNY is uniquely positioned to facilitate government agencies and religious groups to work together on behalf of these families.

Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreats for Social Justice

ICNY holds bi-annual retreats for faith leaders to learn about social issues, create networks for mutual support, and meet civic leaders and service providers. ICNY focused this year’s retreat on providing religious leaders with information and resources about ways they can play an important role as family advisors, counselors, and information brokers during exchanges with the child welfare system.

Catholic-Muslim Common Action Initiative

ICNY is laying the groundwork to build awareness about the diversity of Muslim New Yorkers among child welfare service providers, and training Muslim community leaders on the goals of children’s services and how best to work with this system.

Reentry Family and Faith Circles of Support

ICNY trains and mobilizes volunteers from Harlem houses of worship to help parolees successfully re-enter their communities and reconnect with their families.

DEEPENING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

Following 9/11 incidents of hate speech, desecration of sacred sites, and acts of violence rose significantly, and were directed particularly at Muslims and Sikhs. To heal relationships among religious communities, ICNY brings together leaders of diverse faiths as well as social service professionals to learn about other religion's social teachings and jointly develop and launch social service projects that address common problems.

Catholic-Muslim Common Action Initiative

To fully accomplish the goals of reducing distrust and building understanding and respect, ICNY has needed to bring its approach to strengthening bonds between top Catholic and Muslim leadership down to the borough and neighborhood levels. ICNY has begun working with local religious leaders to coordinate shared community projects and hold one-time events that can help break the ice and send a message of tolerance to members of diverse religious communities.



Rev. Al Sharpton and Imam Talib celebrate Martin Luther King Day

Social Work and Religious Diversity Training

Despite the emphasis on multi-cultural competency in social work education, there has been a great deal of resistance to discussion of faith-based perspectives on social work. This program introduces social workers to the religious lives, experiences, and perspectives of diverse communities.

ADVANCING INCLUSIVITY AND RESPECT

New York City's policies and officials' statements and actions—and the degree to which they are based on cultural and religious understanding — contribute to or detract from building civil discourse and cooperation. ICNY works to improve how NY policies toward diverse religious groups are designed, articulated, and implemented.

Improving Police-Community Relations

ICNY reached out to a newly appointed NYPD administration and held meetings with the Commissioner of Training and the Chief of Community Affairs.



Dr. Sarah Sayeed accepts Community Service Award from NYPD

Reuniting Immigrant Families

Serving on the Steering Committee of the NYS Interfaith Network on Immigration Reform, ICNY joins diverse faith leaders in reminding appointed and elected officials of their moral obligation to seek solutions in remedying the broken immigration system that separates thousands of families.

Confronting Islamophobia

ICNY works to ensure that cultural institutions present religious beliefs in a balanced and thoughtful way. ICNY also advises a range of groups on concerns such as offering context about Islam in media and how to use literature to introduce children and teens to Islamic religious tradition.

ICNY GLOBALLY

ICNY took a leading role in coordinating the *Religions for the Earth Conference and Multifaith Service* complementing the *People's Climate March* from September 19– 21 as a founding partner with GreenFaith, the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions, Union Theological Seminary, Religions for Peace, World Council of Churches, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.



Multifaith Service held at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine under phoenix sculptures created by artist Xu Bing (Photo Credit: Joe Caldwell)

Nearly 250 ethicists, religious leaders and traditional indigenous elders from across the world came together at the two-day summit to commit to exercising their influence and galvanizing faith-based action for the world's political and economic leaders to sign a climate treaty. The treaty would require nations to curb global carbon emissions and to support those who are most vulnerable to the effects of a changing climate. Featured speakers included **Former Vice President and Nobel Laureate Al Gore**, **Rev. Jim Wallis**, **Chief Arvol Looking Horse**, **Dr. Vandana Shiva**, **Rabbi Ellen Bernstein** and more.

Tens of thousands of marchers of many religious traditions gathered prior to joining the march to listen to the wailing of the shofar, the pulse of the drums and the spirited music of Roosevelt Credit, Peter Yarrow, Neshama Carlebach and others. Prayers were also offered by interfaith leaders including ICNY Board Members **Dr. Uma Mysorekar**, President of the Hindu Temple Society of North America, and **Rev. Dr. T. K. Nakagaki**, President of the Buddhist Council of New York. The weekend's events concluded with a Multifaith Service held at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, beneath two phoenix sculptures suspended from the ceiling, at which faith leaders called for humanity to come together, to be wakeful, and to heal the planet Earth.

ICNY is actively engaged at the United Nations. On January 16 of this year, the Rev. Chloe Breyer and ICNY Board Member Joseph Potasnik served as panelists on "The Rising Tide of Restrictions on Religion: Religions Respond" co-sponsored by the U.S. Mission to the UN and the Committee of Religious NGOs. ICNY co-sponsored a workshop on "What Can a Global Ethic Contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals? -- An Intergenerational Dialogue," on August 28 during the annual UN Department of Public Information NGO conference, and ICNY Board Co-Chair Dr. Kusumita P. Pedersen gave a talk on "Eco-Spirituality" on October 21 in a panel on "Spiritual Values and Their Role in Ecological Sustainable Development: Creating Common Goals."

ICNY plays host to many international guests who participate in the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program, such as Mr. Pavel Belobradek, Deputy Speaker, Lower House of Czech Parliament, who came to learn about ICNY's contributions to promoting human rights and ethnic and religious minority diversity in civil society. Later, a delegation of Jewish and Muslim educators from Israel were interested to explore new ways ICNY fosters pluralism, tolerance, and acceptance among citizens and immigrants of varying cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Finally, a diverse group of French professionals came to engage with American counterparts to discover how ICNY helps minority, immigrant, and at-risk youth integrate into mainstream society.

ICNY IN THE HEADLINES

THE BLOG Featuring fresh takes and real-time analysis from HuffPost's signature lineup of contributors

Josh Fox
Jared Bernat

Sarah Sayeed, Ph.D. or Become a fan
Director of Community Partnerships, Interfaith Center of New York

In Harlem, Catholics and Muslims Hold Interfaith Celebration to Remember Dr. King's Non Violent Resistance

Posted: 01/21/2014 2:42 pm EST | Updated: 03/29/2014 5:59 am EST

200 43 13 0 4 0

Like Share Retweet Link Email Comment

For the fourth year in a row, Catholics in Harlem convened an ecumenical and interfaith celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., inviting local Christian and Muslim clergy to join them.

Co-sponsored by the Central Harlem Vicariate, The Office of Black Ministry of the Archdiocese of New York, and the New York Support Group of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non Violent Social Change, the service was held at St. Joseph of the Holy Family Church. Highlights included the powerful voices of the Vicariate choir, liturgical dancers, and a keynote address by Rev. Al Sharpton, founder of the National Action Network, a leading civil rights organization. The Vicariate also invited a Muslim reflection from imam Al-Haji Talib 'Abdur Rashid of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood, a center that is a descendant of the Muslim Mosque, Inc. established by Al-Haji Malik Al-Shabazz (Malcolm X).



THE BLOG Featuring fresh takes and real-time analysis from HuffPost's signature lineup of contributors

Josh Fox
Jared Bernat

Sarah Sayeed, Ph.D. or Become a fan
Director of Community Partnerships, Interfaith Center of New York

This Ramadan: Valuing and Welcoming Women in Mosques

Posted: 07/17/2014 11:42 am EDT | Updated: 08/16/2014 9:58 am EDT

257 77 57 0 2 0

Like Share Retweet Link Email Comment

Image Credit: Argemis Apolinario

Ramadan is a month of gratitude, embracing community, of togetherness. Fasting promotes self-reflection and a reaffirmation of compassion and justice. It seems an opportune moment to look inward at Muslim communities and speak about the imperative to restore Prophet Muhammad's legacy, peace be upon him, of valuing and

Community Works Journal—Online Magazine for Educators

FEATURED ESSAY

Encountering Self and Other in Community-Based Education

By HENRY GOLDSCHMIDT

Dr. Henry Goldschmidt is the Director of Education Programs at the Interfaith Center of New York, where he leads the "Religious Worlds of New York" summer institute for K-12 teachers. He is a cultural anthropologist, community educator, and scholar of religious and cultural diversity. He received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and has taught religious studies and anthropology at Wesleyan University and elsewhere. He is the author of *Race and Religion among the Chosen Peoples of Crown Heights* (Routledge University Press, 2006), and coeditor of *Race, Nation, and Religion in the Americas* (Oxford University Press, 2004). He is a native New Yorker, and lives in Brooklyn with his wife and children.

Place-based and community-based educators are united in our efforts to break down the barriers between classrooms and communities—to ground education in experiential, student-centered encounters with the social and natural world. We work to enrich, and perhaps transform, our students' understandings of history, society, literature, the arts, and the physical sciences by helping them engage with what Michael Umphey calls simply "the world outside the window" (Umphey 2007:4). On this I think we all agree. But a number of important questions remain: What, exactly, should we encourage our students to look for outside the classroom window? What aspects of community life should they engage with? And how may we, as educators, best frame this engagement?

Needless to say, there is no single answer to these far-reaching questions. Different curricula, students, and school communities call for different forms of engagement with local places and people. But there is a clear trend in the academic literature, and in the practice of place- and community-based educators. For many leading scholars, it seems, community-based education is centered, above all, on students' engagement with places and people they feel connected to on an intimate, personal basis. As teachers, we often encourage our students to document their own neighborhoods and everyday lives, or chart the histories of their own families and communities. We tend to ask them, in short, to look "outside the window" and find reflections of themselves.

Umphey, for example, writes movingly of a community heritage project in the rural town of Libby, Montana, in which students researched the history of their hometown, focusing on previous generations' responses to economic dislocation and environmental degradation. "Through researching together," he concludes,

"they [the students] had formed a "we" that included all their classmates but also their parents and grandparents and the other place makers who had created Libby. Seeing themselves as members of this large and durable "we" had given them courage [to face the community's current economic hardships]. By engaging in their own bit of place making, they had strengthened their narrative identities, which is to say that they had found themselves, or constructed themselves if you prefer, by immersing themselves in the particular narrative environment that constituted their home place." (ibid 8-9)

This link between education and identification—between one's experience in school and one's sense of belonging to a larger "we"—is extremely important for many students and communities. Gregory Smith and David Sobel are surely right to argue that, "When students embrace rather than ignore or deny their own ancestry and traditions, they will be more likely to consent themselves to the difficult but rewarding work of making their communities good places to live" (Smith and Sobel 2010:47). This is all well and good—indeed, in many con-

Dr. Sarah Sayeed had two articles published in **The Huffington Post**. She was inspired to write about the ecumenical and interfaith celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. involving local Christian and Muslim clergy in "In Harlem, Catholics and Muslims Hold Interfaith Celebration to Remember Dr. King's Non Violent Resistance"¹. She notes that "bringing together religiously diverse African Americans, the service creatively and powerfully harnesses the common cause of many religions: self-liberation and justice for those who are oppressed."

In "This Ramadan: Valuing and Welcoming Women in Mosques,"² Dr. Sayeed suggests that "the American mosque has a unique opportunity and necessity to embrace the Prophetic [Muhammad's] practice of unreservedly receiving women in mosques "and giving women an independent choice "to prayer in the privacy of their homes."

Dr. Henry Goldschmidt's essay on "Encountering Self and Other in Community-Based Education,"³ appearing in **Community Works Journal-Online Magazine for Educators** recommends that community-based education pedagogy be broadened "...to engage students with communities that reflect their own sense of identity or belonging. ..." as well as search out "...other similarities and differences between our students' own ancestry and traditions and those of their neighbors." This allows "students to explore the bridges and boundaries among diverse, overlapping social worlds" and "...may offer students a deeply human encounter with cultural difference—an encounter that will help prepare them for active citizenship in their multicultural democracy."

1. In Harlem, Catholics and Muslims Hold Interfaith Celebration to Remember Dr. King's Non Violent Resistance. (2014, January 21). The Huffington Post. Retrieved from http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sarah-sayeed-phd/in-harlem-catholics-and-m_b_4631726.html

2. This Ramadan: Valuing and Welcoming Women in Mosques (2014, July 17). Retrieved from http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sarah-sayeed-phd/this-ramadan-valuing-and-b_5591713.html

3. Encountering Self and Other in Community-Based Education. (2013, November). Community Works Journal. Retrieved from http://communityworksinstitute.org/cwjonline/essays/a_essaystext/selfandother_henryg.html

INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK 2013-2014 DONORS

\$100,000 and Above

GHR Foundation
Anna-Maria & Stephen Kellen Foundation
Ms. Barbara Slifka, Joseph and Sylvia Slifka Foundation

\$10,000 to \$99,999

Mr. Stewart Aaron, Esq., Arnold & Porter LLP
J.C. Flowers Foundation
Foundation to Promote Open Society Generation Foundation
Mr. Richard D. Kaplan, J. M. Kaplan Fund
National Endowment for the Humanities
Dr. Kusumita P. Pedersen
Ms. Joumana Rizk
Ms. Mary Ann Thompson-Frenk & Mr. Joshua Frenk
Dr. & Mrs. Constantine Tsitsera
Ms. Dian Woodner, Paula Vial Fund, Jewish Communal Fund

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Beebe
Mr. David Blood
The Rev. Robert Brashear, Ada G. & Stanley I. Halbreich Foundation
The Rev. Chloe Breyer & Mr. Greg Scholl
Mrs. Mary Jane Brock, Hipp Brock Family Foundation
Episcopal Charities
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Foshee
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Guittard
Mrs. Helen L. Henderson
Mr. Peter Knight
New York Council for the Humanities
The Rev. & Mrs. Ted Pardoe, III
Ms. Denise Rich
Richmond County Savings Foundation
St. Philip's Church of Harlem
Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Stanton
Mr. James Venturi

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Ms. Mary Ellin Barrett
Ms. Shahnaz Batmanghelidj & Mr. Radford Klotz
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Bennett
Dr. Joanna Breyer
Mr. James Carroll & Ms. Alexandra Marshall
Ms. Carina Courtright
Ms. Claire Enders & Mr. Christopher Thomson
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Enders
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fagenson, Fagenson Family Fund
Mrs. Tonya Gonnella Frichner
Mr. Michael D. Fricklas, Esq.
Mr. & Mrs. Rajinder Gandhi
Mr. Eli Glassman & Ms. Joan Holland
Ms. Linda Hackett, C.A.L Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hecht
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Herzan
Mr. & Mrs. George Kantakis, Associated Cut Flowers
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen E. Kaufman
Mr. John Krysko & Ms. Nancy Rosanoff
The Rev. & Mrs. Ledlie Laughlin
Mr. Hans Li, Waka Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Ramaswamy P. Mohan
The Very Rev. & Mrs. James Parks Morton
Mr. Jonathan Moses, Esq.
Dr. Uma Mysorekar
New York Theological Seminary
Bernard W. Nussbaum Family Foundation
Ms. Clare Pierson & Mr. Peter Humphreys
Mrs. Riva Ariel Ritvo-Slifka, The Alan B. Slifka Foundation
Commissioner Marietta Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Roth, Esq.
Ms. Lili Ruane, The Carmel Hill Fund & The Four Angels Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Rubin
Ms. Dorothy Samuels
Mr. Frederick Schaffer, Esq. & Ms. Barbara Shatz
Mr. Michael Solender, Ernst & Young LLP
Ms. Phoebe Stanton
Mr. C. Robert Tully
Ms. Alex Wallace and Mr. Kenny Creed

Ms. Jorie Waterman & Mr. Laurence Jurdem
Mr. Michael Young, Esq.

\$500 to \$999

Mr. & Mrs. Yasser Abdelkader
Mr. Richard Barbash, Esq.
Ms. Priscilla Bowdin
Justice Stephen Breyer
Ms. Mirra Bank & Dr. Richard Brockman
Ms. Betty Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Cahill
The Rev. Robert Chase, Intersections International
Mr. Michael Connolly
Ms. Elizabeth Dabney-Hochman, Kids' Spirit
Mr. Robert S. Fink, Esq.
Ms. Rosalind Fink, Esq.
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Fleming
The Rev. & Mrs. Joel Gibson
Ms. Ellen Greeley
Mr. Simon Hooper
Dr. Peter Lombardo
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Paumgarten
Dr. Richard Pierson
Regis High School
Mr. David Rohde
Mr. & Mrs. William Schubart, Tulgey Wood Foundation
Mr. Fritz Schwarz, Esq.
Mr. Norman Shaifer
Mr. John Siffert, Esq.
Mr. Ted Smoot, Esq.
Ms. Linda Sylling
Mr. Kenneth Warner, Esq.
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Weese
Mr. & Mrs. Anton Wong
Dr. Clinton Wright, Tulgey Wood Foundation

Gifts up to \$499

9/11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows
Dr. Mehnaz Afridi
Sister Aisha Al-Adawiya

Deidre Keogh Anderson
Mr. Anthony Andresen
Ms. Joyce Phillips Austin
Ms. Emily Baldwin
Mr. & Mrs. William W. Baldwin
Mr. Irving Barrett
Ms. Astor Benjamin
Mr. Robert Berlind
Ms. Sheila Biddle
Ms. Ruth Black
Mr. & Mrs. Abba Bogin
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Boyle
Ms. Katrina Cary
Ms. Elvira Charles
The Rev. & Mrs. Stephen Chinlund
Ms. Susan Clydesdale
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Cohen
Ms. Anne Cohen
Ms. Elinor Cohen
Mr. Keith Connor
The Rev. Phyllis Currott
Ms. Mary Davis
Sister Carol Deangelo
Dewitt Clinton High School
Mr. James English
Rabbi Michael Feinberg
Mr. John Felbinger & Ms. Alice Korfman
The First Presbyterian & Trinity Church
Dr. & Mrs. Vaughn Folkert
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ford
Mr. Robert Frasbile
Ms. Jill Freeman
Father Randolph Frew
Mr. & Mrs. George Garvey
Mr. Gary Glassman
Ms. Irene Goldman
Ms. Shelby Goodrum
Grace Church School
Mr. Marc Greenberg
Mr. Joshua Greene
Mr. John Grim & Ms. Mary Evelyn Tucker
Ms. Karen L. Hampton-Hewitt
Rev. Dr. Peter Heltzel
Mr. & Mrs. Simon Hewett
Mr. & Mrs. Eugen Imai

Ms. Anne Hale Johnson
Rabbi Rachel Kahn-Troster
Ms. Karen Kaplowitz
Ms. Florence Kelly
Ms. Linda Kirk
Hon. John G. Koeltl
Mr. Newton Koltz
Mr. & Mrs. Henrik Krogius
Dr. Robert Laughlin
Mr. & Mrs. David Leeming
Mr. & Mrs. B. Paul Lindsay
Dr. & Mrs. Stanley Lipkin
Mrs. Lois Gehr Livezey
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Logan
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Looney
Fr. Ugo Nacciarone, SJ
Mr. Jonathan Macquitty
Mr. & Mrs. James Martin
The Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Matthews
Mr. Lawrence Michael McGinnis
Iyalorisha Oseye Mchawi
Mrs. Mary Meese
Mr. & Mrs. Geoffrey Menin
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Moore
Mr. Edward Moran
Mr. T.J. Mullin
Rev. Dr. T. Kenjitsu Nakagaki
Ms. Mira Nakashima, Nakashima
Foundation for Peace
Ms. Joan Ogden
Mr. Kevin Oro-Hahn
Ms. Judith Pacht
Ms. Julie Faith Parker
The Very Rev. Bill Parnell
Mr. Warren Perry
Mr. Sean Pica
Mr. & Mrs. James Polshek
Mr. Brent Porter
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
Mr. Eric Price
Dr. Laurin Raiken
Ms. Judy Raphael & Mr. Anthony S. Phillips
Dr. Betty Reardon
Mr. & Mrs. John Rigby
Ms. Dori Selene Rockefeller

Ms. Carly Rogers
Mr. David Saltonstall
Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Schirokauer
Father James Sheehan
Ms. Rita Sherman
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Donald Shriver
Mr. Gregory Simon
Sisters of Charity
Ms. Catherine Skopic
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sourian
Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Spelman
Ms. Ruth Stein
Dr. Diane Steinman
Rev. Dr. Cathryn Surgenor
Ms. Sarah Sze
Dr. Patricia E. Taylor & Mr. Kenneth D. Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. James Terry
Mr. Kenneth Thomas
Mr. Elliot Thomson
Sir John Thomson
Ms. Marjorie W. Townsend
Dr. Joanna Underwood
Ms. Mary Lou Van Buren
Ms. Michaela Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Weingarten
Women in Islam
Mr. & Mrs. John Woodbridge
Mr. Lawrence Woodbridge
Mr. Koray Yilmaz
Mr. Marc C. Zauderer, Esq.

Pro-Bono Services

Associated Cut Flowers
Mr. Bruce Bennett, Esq., Covington & Burling LLP
Ms. Merle Frimark. Publicity & Press Relations
Mr. James Knowles, Interfaith Award design & fabrication
Mr. Patrick Manchester, Esq. Covington & Burling LLP
UJA-Federation of New York

Our list reflects contributions given from July 1, 2013 to July 30, 2014. We apologize for any inadvertent omissions or incorrect information in the list. Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish to acknowledge it appropriately. Please notify us of any corrections by calling the Development Office.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The audited results for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014 set forth below comply with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard 117 "Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations."

ICNY's balance sheet reflects a 4 percent decrease in net assets. Revenue and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2014 decreased by 23 percent and 19 percent respectively. Lower revenue was anticipated in last year's report and budget process. The decrease was due to lower contributions received, mainly from foundations. Expenses decreased largely due to a reduction in personnel.

ICNY is addressing these shifts in revenue and expenses by ongoing careful cost controls. At the same time, the organization is examining its program and mission with an eye to growing future revenue. Our mission remains as relevant now as when we began in 1997, and ICNY is committed to finding creative and effective ways to make our city and our world safe for religious differences.



Kevin Oro-Hahn
Treasurer

	2013			2014		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Unrestricted Revenue	647,699	-	647,699	604,240	-	604,240
Restricted Revenue	-	465,400	465,400	-	255,913	255,913
Total Revenue	647,699	465,400	1,113,099	604,240	255,913	860,153
Salaries	441,573	140,298	581,871	301,437	169,855	471,292
Professional Services	104,988	15,593	120,581	158,558	35,288	193,846
Grants Given	-	95,704	95,704	46,833	45,887	92,720
Direct Program Expenses	110,094	63,132	173,226	1,036	29,877	30,913
Fundraising	20,317	-	20,317	1,093	-	1,093
Administrative	108,665	-	108,665	100,002	-	100,002
Total Expense	785,638	314,727	1,100,365	608,959	280,907	889,866
Net Income (Loss)	(137,939)	150,673	12,734	(4,719)	(24,994)	(29,713)
Balance, 7/1	488,880	186,822	675,702	350,942	337,495	688,437
Balance, 6/30	350,942	337,495	688,437	346,223	312,501	658,724

The 2014 and 2013 financial amount amounts are audited. Financial statements of The Interfaith Center of New York, Inc. are available by writing to The Interfaith Center of New York, Inc., 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 540, New York, NY 10015 or to the Department of State, Office of Charities Registration, Albany, NY 12331.

CHANGES AT ICNY

With much gratitude for his wisdom and guidance for the past seven years, ICNY bade farewell to **Stephen W. Guittard, Esq.** as treasurer and board director. In his place, the Board of Directors voted to approve **Kevin Oro-Hahn** in January 2014. Kevin is an analyst and portfolio manager at Ingalls and Snyder. Previously, he worked at Columbia University's School of Business, where he continues to teach an investing class, and for 12 years he was a campus chaplain and pastor.

ICNY sadly mourns the passing of ICNY Board Director **Gordon R. Stanton** on October 29, 2014, at the age of 55, after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. Gordon also joined the ICNY Board of Directors in January 2014. We will miss his expertise in financial matters and issues related to board governance energizing our board meetings. Gordon's connection to ICNY spanned many years. The Very Rev. James Parks Morton officiated his marriage. He helped the Dean move his belongings from St. John the

Divine to ICNY and was a loyal contributor to ICNY attending many of our galas. Our condolences to his wife Kitty, sons Niles and Henry, mother Phoebe, brother Lee, sister Susan Benedict, half-brother Frederik, and cousin and co-chair of ICNY Kusumita Pedersen.

With increased responsibilities as a columnist at Thomson-Reuters and The Atlantic, **David Rohde** has stepped off the ICNY Board but has agreed to serve as an Honorary Board Director maintaining his affiliation with ICNY.

ICNY's staff has remained the same with the exception of the promotion of **Elly Mason-Murray** to Director of Operations. In addition to handling IT, promoting ICNY through social media, and assisting Dean Morton, she is now managing Human Resources and tracking revenues and expenses.

ICNY BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Officers of the Board

The Very Rev. James Parks Morton
Founder & Chair-Emeritus
Dr. Kusumita P. Pedersen
Co-Chair
Barbara Slifka
Co-Chair
Walter Beebe
Secretary
Kevin Oro-Hahn
Treasurer
The Rev. Chloe Breyer
Executive Director

Board Vice-Chairs

Sister Aisha Al-Adawiya
Leonard T. Jordan, Jr.
Dr. Uma Mysorekar
The Rev. Dr. T.K. Nakagaki
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf
The Rev. Dr. Alfonso Wyatt

Board Directors

Preeti D. Bansal
Tonya Gonnella Frichner
Robert Garrett, Jr.
John W. Krysko
Terence Meehan
The Rev. Ted Pardoe, III
Alan Quasha
Denise Rich
Joumana Rizk
Gordon R. Stanton (deceased)
Mary Ann Thomspson-Frenk

Honorary Board Directors

Mary Jane Brock
Raymond M. Brown
John A. Catsimatidis
Carina Courtright
Colin Greer
Helen Lee Henderson
Hans Li
Dena Merriam

Clare M. Pierson
The Rev. William H. Pindar
David Rohde
Shelley Rubin
Alan B. Slifka (deceased)
Martin Tandler

Pro-Bono Counsel

Bruce C. Bennett, *Partner,*
Covington & Burling LLP
Patrick E. Manchester, *Associate,*
Covington & Burling LLP

Staff

The Rev. Chloe Breyer, *Executive Director*
Dr. Henry Goldschmidt, *Director of Educational Programs*
Dr. Sarah Sayeed, *Director of Community Partnerships*
Ellen Greeley, *Director of Development*
Elly Mason-Murray, *Director of Operations*
Theo Harris, *Outreach Coordinator, Reentry Family and Faith Circles of Support*

Interns

Kujegi Camara, Maureen Dean, Maggie Jarry, Megan Miller, Malik Muhammed, Katherine Rofey, Cesar Roman, Anna Rubin, Matthew Vaughn



THE INTERFAITH CENTER OF NEW YORK 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, SUITE 540 NEW YORK, NY 10115
TEL: (212) 870-3510/FAX: (212) 870-3499 WWW.INTERFAITHCENTER.ORG