



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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9/11 Interfaith Peace Walk: 20 Years of NYC Faith Communities Building Peace

The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) is proud to partner with local religious leaders, houses of worship, city agencies including **NYC Commission on Human Rights, NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes, NYC The Center for Faith and Community Partnerships, NYPD Community Affairs, The Salvation Army, The New York Board of Rabbis, New York Disaster Interfaith Services, and 9/11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows** to honor the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Faith leaders, city officials, and hate-crime survivors will walk together to visit diverse houses of worship, to commemorate 20 years of unity and peace building. ICNY is committed to working with diverse faith leaders and religious communities across New York City in overcoming prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by activating the power of the city's grassroots religious and civic leaders and their communities.

On **Thursday, September 9th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm**, the participants will walk to 5 houses of worship in Midtown Manhattan East. They will stop briefly at each of house of worship for prayers and reflections offered by clergy and those directly affected by hate—including 9/11 survivors and those who lost loved ones at the World Trade Center. The

interfaith peace walk will begin at **St. Patrick's Cathedral**, where they will be greeted by **the Archbishop of New York, Timothy Dolan** at **5:00 pm** sharp. Then they will walk to **Central Synagogue, The Islamic Society of Mid-Manhattan, Hope Church Midtown** and finally end their walk at the **Manhattan Sikh Center**.

Sponsoring Organizations:

The **Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY)**, founded in 1997, is a secular educational non-profit organization which seeks to make New York City and the world safe for religious differences by increasing respect and mutual understanding among people of different faiths, ethnic and cultural traditions and by fostering cooperation among religious communities and civic organizations to solve common social problems. Over the course of almost 25 years, the Interfaith Center of New York has built the most religiously diverse and civically engaged network of grassroots and immigrant religious leaders across the five boroughs of Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and The Bronx. Learn more about ICNY's education, organizing, and advocacy efforts at [The Interfaith Center of New York](#).

The **New York City Commission on Human Rights** is charged with the enforcement of the Human Rights Law, Title 8 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, and with educating the public and encouraging positive community relations. The Commission is divided into two major bureaus -- Law Enforcement and Community Relations. [NYC Commission on Human Rights](#)

The **New York City Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes** takes a holistic approach to preventing hate crimes, developing and coordinating community-driven prevention strategies to address biases fueling such crimes, and fostering healing for victims and their communities. The office will coordinate City efforts to prevent and respond to hate crimes through an interagency committee, which includes the NYPD, City Commission on Human Rights, Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, Department of Education, Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, ThriveNYC, and Department of Youth and Community Development. [NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes](#).

The **New York City Center for Faith and Community Partnerships**, which is housed within the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, seeks to transform the way faith communities and mission-based community organizations connect to City services. The Center serves as a direct link, connecting local and citywide coalitions of faith and community leaders to services that increase equity and inspire civic engagement throughout our neighborhoods. [NYC Center for Faith and Community Partnerships](#)

The **New York Police Department of Community Affairs Bureau (CAB)** plays a critical role in the department's refocused approach to achieving and sustaining gains against crime by strengthening community relationships and trust. The bureau partners with community leaders, civic organizations, block associations, and concerned citizens

to educate them on police policies and practices, and to develop solutions to challenges that arise within the city's many diverse communities. CAB also provides young people with enrichment, diversion, and intervention programs, helping to reduce youth crime. Community affairs officers, crime prevention officers, and youth officers are assigned to each police precinct and stay closely connected with the community. [New York Police Department of Community Affairs Bureau](#)

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. [The Salvation Army](#)

The New York Board of Rabbis, established in 1881, serves as the primary forum for rabbis serving congregations, organizations, chaplaincies, communal service agencies, and schools. The Board seeks to enhance and expand the role of the Rabbinat for the betterment of the Jewish people and the world at large by providing its members with a spiritual environment and opportunities to grow professionally, promoting Klal Yisrael, and building bridges across denominations and with other faiths. [The New York Board of Rabbis](#)

New York Disaster Interfaith Services is a faith-based federation of over 60 diverse judicatories, disaster human services providers, and charitable organizations who work in partnership to provide disaster readiness, response, and recovery services to New York City – and, support recovery in disaster-impacted communities with a direct connection to NYC. NYDIS, in partnership with NYC Emergency Management & the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, has lead agency responsibilities for Emotional & Spiritual Care, Evacuee Services, Faith Sector Community Preparedness, Temporary Housing, Unmet Needs, and Volunteer Group Housing. [New York Disaster Interfaith Services](#)

9/11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows is an organization founded by family members of those killed on September 11th who have united to turn our grief into action for peace. By developing and advocating nonviolent options and actions in the pursuit of justice, we hope to break the cycles of violence engendered by war and terrorism. Acknowledging our common experience with all people affected by violence throughout the world, we work to create a safer and more peaceful world for everyone. [Peaceful Tomorrows](#)