



**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**



From left to right: Sapreet Singh, Rabbi Joshua Stanton, HE Mr. Lang Yabou, Secretary General Antonio Gutierrez, Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer, Mr. Ramasamy Mohan, and Rev. Doyeon Parks

Dear Kevin,

On April 14th, 2023, ICNY partnered with the Office of the UN Secretary General to offer a Prayer for Peace at UN headquarters in front the sculpture, "The Knotted Gun". ICNY gathered Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish and Muslim prayer givers together for a short event that you can watch it [here on UN TV](#). This is not the first time that ICNY worked with the UN on creating interfaith vigils and ceremonies. In 2001, our founder, the Very Rev. James Parks Morton joined then-Secretary General Kofi Anan and diverse faith leaders for an interfaith service at St. Bart's Episcopal Church. Objectives outlined in the preamble to the UN Charter include "practicing tolerance and living together in peace with one another as good neighbours" - not so far from the goals of interfaith work as well.

ICNY continues to deepen our work with asylees coming to New York - especially those of diverse faith traditions. In this newsletter you will see an invitation to houses of worship to consider sheltering 19 Asylum Seekers and being reimbursed for doing so by the City of New York. ICNY is proud to be in partnership with New York Interfaith Disaster Network in this project and we will be hiring a Shelter Outreach Workers beginning mid-June. **To learn more and view the job description, [click here](#).**

Finally, we encourage you to join ICNY for our annual James Parks Morton interfaith Center of New York Annual Award Dinner. This year the dinner will be held on June 26th at the Tribeca Rooftop. Please come and help us celebrate our honorees and New York City's Religious Diversity on the Rooftop overlooking the Hudson. There is still time to become a sponsor using this [printable form](#) and to purchase individual tickets online [here](#).

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer  
ICNY Executive Director

P.S. Last but not least, religious leaders across NYC are invited to join [a day-long Climate Justice training in NYC called "Resilience and Resolve"](#) at the Center for Earth Ethics at Union Theological Seminary

**ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS**



**THE DATE**

**JAMES PARKS  
MORTON  
INTERFAITH  
AWARDS**

**Monday, June 26, 2023**



ICNY Gala 2023

**Sponsorships and Tickets now available**

June 26th, 2023

6:30 PM Cocktails, 7:30 PM Dinner

Tribeca Rooftop, Manhattan

We look forward to celebrating with you all in June. Thank you to our early sponsors to date. Table and ticket sponsorships are still available; click the button below by May 5th to have your name listed on the printed invitation .

[Click for Tickets and Sponsorships](#)

DOCUMENTARY FILM

SCREENING

MAY 8TH

NYC  
Department of  
Veterans Services

CINEMA  
1234567

CINEMA  
1234567

**Colonel Kalsi: Beyond The Call**

Created by a highly decorated and Emmy Winning crew, **Beyond The Call** explores the intersection of diversity and religious freedom in the US military.

LOCATION: MCNALLY AMPHITHEATER  
FORDHAM LINCOLN CENTER

TIME: DOORS OPEN AT 4:00 PM

REGISTRATION: [LINKTR.EE/NYCVETERANS](http://LINKTR.EE/NYCVETERANS)



This screening will also include opening remarks from sponsors. Following the screening there will be a Q&A with Dr. Kamal Kalsi.



SPONSORED BY:



Powerful Documentary

## Colonel Kalsi: Beyond the Call

Monday, May 8, 4:00 pm

McNally Amphitheater, Fordham University at Lincoln Center

140 West 62nd Street, Manhattan

Created by a highly decorated and Emmy Winning crew, *Colonel Kalsi: Beyond the Call* explores the intersection of diversity and religious freedom in the US military. The screening will be followed by Q & A with the film's subject, Dr. Kamal Kalsi. Free admission — all are welcome!

Sponsored by: Sikh American Veterans Alliance, NYC Department of Veterans' Services, Fordham University, Interfaith Center of New York, The Sikh Coalition, NYC Office of Faith-Based and Community Partnerships.

[Click Here to Reserve Your Seat](#)



**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York



**Ruth's  
Refuge**

**Welcome Asylum Seekers!**

## Spiritual and Practical Sanctuary for Migrant Families

**Donation Drive with an Amazon Wish List**

As fellows in ICNY's [Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy](#), Rev. Lauren Ahava Jacobs and Rev. Shokuchi Deirdre Carrigan are creating *Welcome Home* baskets for asylum-seeking families relocating to New York City. The baskets will include a collection of homemaking necessities, along with multifaith, multicultural welcome messages.

They need your help to welcome the newest New Yorkers! [Click here to purchase supplies for asylum-seeking families from Rev. Jacobs and Rev. Carrigan's Amazon wish list.](#)

The baskets will be assembled by the Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy, and distributed to families by [Ruth's Refuge](#). Together we will uplift the inherent dignity of these migrant families, and let them know that they can feel safe, comfortable, and welcome in their new home.

[Click Here to Purchase Supplies for Asylum Seekers](#)



## **NYC NEEDS YOUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP TO HELP SHELTER ASYLEES**

### **A Proposed New Program will pay Congregations to Shelter & Feed up to 19 Asylees per Night**

Since last summer, over **44,000 Asylum Seekers** have arrived on their own or been transported to New York City without regard for their wellbeing. Hundreds of asylum seekers continue to arrive each week. The NYC shelter system, hotels and alternative housing sites have been overwhelmed as asylum seekers try to find safe shelter while awaiting immigration court proceedings. While most are single men, single women and families with children are also arriving. Many of these fellow global citizens in crisis have fled unimaginable conditions in their country of origin and then experienced an arduous journey on their way to New York City.

Many arriving asylees have been traumatized by violence, robbery, sexual assault, and trafficking. They are also eager to start new lives. NYC government agencies, nonprofits and grassroots advocates have sought to create spaces and services that offer safe housing, compassionate care, immigration resources and the dignity of being treated with respect and with cultural and religious competence.

The city has been providing hotels, homeless shelters, and other mass care spaces as housing on a temporary basis. We are proposing to fund congregations, of any faith tradition, to provide temporary small group shelter housing to single adult male and female asylees. The program would provide shelter for the next 12-24 months while all of us continue to call on the state and Federal government to help address this need for more permanent housing.

#### **We are seeking houses of worship that:**

- Are located near subway or bus lines.
- Have a 900+ Square Feet space to sleep 19 asylees from approximately 7PM to 7AM - 24/7/365.
- Have space for 19 asylees to be served and sit to eat meals.
- Will hire or have a security guard.
- Will hire or have a volunteer Shelter Coordinator.
- Will provide all guests with a hot dinner and a hot or cold breakfast.
- Provide access to bathrooms and showers (shower installation grants are being considered in the absence of onsite showers).
- Training/Technical Support as well as Cots/Bedding/Towels & Storage Trunks will be provided.
- Adhere to key NYC building and fire safety code requirements.

In exchange for your hospitality, congregations will be paid a monthly fee – to cover all required operating expenses related to meeting each asylees' basic human needs and to offset space use costs

**COMPLETE THIS ONLINE FORM IF YOUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP MAY BE ABLE TO HELP?**

<https://howalert.org/AsyleeShelterSurvey>

*If your congregation and its leadership would like to explore serving as an Asylee Shelter, please follow this link and complete the online form so that we may determine your eligibility for a shelter contract. Completing the form does not commit you to anything other than an exploratory conversation.*



## NYC Needs Your House of Worship

### Support the Newest New Yorkers by Sheltering Asylees

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We are seeking houses of worship in all faith traditions that can meet the practical requirements outlined in the flyer above. In exchange for your hospitality, congregations will be paid a monthly fee -- to cover all required operating expenses related to meeting each asylees' basic human needs and to offset space use costs.

[Click here](#) or the button below if your house of worship can help.

Click Here if Your House of Worship Can Help

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## OTHER EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS





## **Solidarity Strollers: Donate a Stroller for Asylum Seekers**

**Today, May 1, and Monday, May 8 for local delivery**

**10 am - 2 pm**

**Judson Memorial Church (or Remotely through [GoFundMe](#))**

Since the Spring of 2022, New York City has received an influx of asylum seekers. The Mutual Aid Center at Judson Memorial Church serves as a central hub for asylum-seeking individuals and families in all 5 boroughs. Here asylum seekers are centered and lead, resource one another, share skills, and are offered emotional support, connected to long-term free mental health resources, signed up for medical insurance, are assisted with school enrollment, attend legal workshops, receive basic necessities, and commune with food and activity.

However, there is an ongoing outstanding need for strollers.

If you're in the New York area and have access to parenting/caregiver/Buy Nothing/Mom groups and/or have a stroller you're ready to part with, click here for details on getting that stroller to the right place. If you're outside New York and/or cannot access excess strollers, you are welcome to support this effort by donating here.

Thank you for your support for Solidarity Strollers - feel free to share so together we can get these babies on wheels!

Click to donate a stroller

# RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN COMMUNITIES OF FAITH



2- Day Training for Religious Leaders, Spiritual Activists and People of Faith

**Tuesday, May 16 & Thursday, May 18, 2023**

**9:30AM - 4:30PM at FPWA**

**40 Broad St, New York, NY**

*FACILITATED BY FORMER CONNECT CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REV. DR. SALLY MACNICOL AND CONNECT COMMUNITY EDUCATOR DANIELLE WILLIAMS, M.DIV.*

**Gain a basic understanding of the complex dynamics of intimate partner abuse and its impact, and the role faith communities can have in helping to break the silence and prevent domestic violence**

**REGISTER AT**  
**[bit.ly/dvinfaith2023](https://bit.ly/dvinfaith2023)**

Essential Training for Religious Leaders

**Responding to Domestic Violence in Communities of Faith**

May 16 & 18, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies

## 40 Broad Street, Manhattan

Religious leaders, spiritual activists, and people of faith from all traditions are invited to participate in this two-day in-person training, to gain a basic understanding of the complex dynamics of intimate partner abuse, intervention strategies, and the role of the faith community in preventing domestic violence. Training will be facilitated by **Rev. Dr. Sally MacNichol** and **Danielle Williams, M.Div**, and will also explore theological, pastoral, and spiritual issues raised in responding to domestic violence.

Training is free for participants, but space is limited. [Click here](#) or the button below to register.

[Click Here for DV Response Training](#)

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*The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) works to overcome prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by activating the power of the city's grassroots religious and civic leaders and their communities.*

[DONATE](#)

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