



**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Dr. Henry Goldschmidt speaking on the steps of City Hall after ICNY and partners helped pass New York City Council Resolution 0095 for religious diversity education in New York City Public Schools.

Dear Friend,

In this month of holiday giving, the Interfaith Center of New York is asking for your support.

We want you to know what a difference your donations make in our ongoing work against hate. Our civics education for diverse faith leaders, interfaith advocacy for migrant New Yorkers, and religious diversity training for city officials year-round offer antidotes to Islamophobia, antisemitism, and other forms of hatred.

What we do at ICNY strengthens New York City's civil society. [Please make a donation to our work](#) as, together, we face an uncertain future that asks commitment to the daily practice of democracy for all of us.

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With your support, ICNY seeks to strengthen existing local rapid response networks that support immigrants in and around New York City. To participate, [we encourage you to fill out this form](#), which will connect you to existing networks and also help us to identify neighborhoods still in need of rapid response assistance. To learn more, including how to register for the **Immigrant Justice Network's** Dec. 4 webinar on building rapid response networks, contact ICNY's Associate Director for Migrant Outreach, **Brennan Brink** at [brennan@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:brennan@interfaithcenter.org).

In ICNY's most recent [Advocacy Blog](#), **Mahnoor Fatima** of **Bricks and Mortals** calls on advocates for new New Yorkers to urge their City Council Representatives to vote for **Mayor Adams's "City of Yes"** initiative on Thursday, December 5. More affordable housing helps all New Yorkers including immigrants.

And, if you missed it, ICNY's new Board Co-Chair **Ruth Messinger** offers her thoughts [in an op ed](#) in **The Forward**, where she reminds us that "despair is not a strategy" and gives those mourning the election results 4 steps to take right now.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer  
ICNY Executive Director

Donate

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## ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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# Faith & Democracy

## Educating Communities for a Better Future

### ICNY's 42nd Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat

December 4, 9am–3pm  
475 Riverside Drive, NYC

SPONSORED BY:



Conference for Religious and Civic Leaders

## Faith and Democracy: Educating Communities for a Better Future

Wednesday, December 4, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

In person at 475 Riverside Drive – All Are Welcome

Religious and civic leaders are invited to attend the [Faith & Democracy: Educating Communities for a Better Future](#) conference — a critical gathering addressing the intersections of faith, democracy, and civic participation in New York City and beyond.

With the 2024 presidential election upon us, and the 2025 NYC mayoral campaign heating up, the stakes in the democratic process are higher than ever. The upcoming elections will have profound implications for social justice, immigration, healthcare, climate policy, affordable housing, and much more — issues that directly impact the communities we serve. Faith leaders are uniquely positioned to guide and inspire our

communities through the challenging decisions that lie ahead. By empowering our communities for full participation in their democracy, we can help build a just and equitable future for all.

This conference will give participants the tools they need to engage their communities in the democratic process, promote voter education and registration, and foster constructive dialogue on social justice, equity, and the role of faith in public life. The program will include:

- **Keynote Address by Dr. Sarah Sayeed**, Chair and Executive Director of the NYC Civic Engagement Commission
- **Multifaith Panel Discussion** featuring thought leaders and activists from diverse religious traditions and civic organizations
- **Hands-On Workshops** on voter mobilization, democracy education, participatory budgeting, advocacy strategies, and more
- **Networking and Community-Building** with diverse faith leaders, civic officials, and grass-roots activists

Your leadership is crucial in this moment. Together, we can ensure that the values of compassion, justice, and dignity are reflected in our nation's and our city's future. [Click here to learn more and reserve your spot](#) at this transformative event!

Finally, please share this invitation with your colleagues and community members — all are welcome! Click the following links for easy-to-share posts on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

[Click Here to Learn More and Register](#)

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## ICNY COSPONSORED EVENTS

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COME & JOIN US FOR

# PEOPLE, POWER, CHANGE

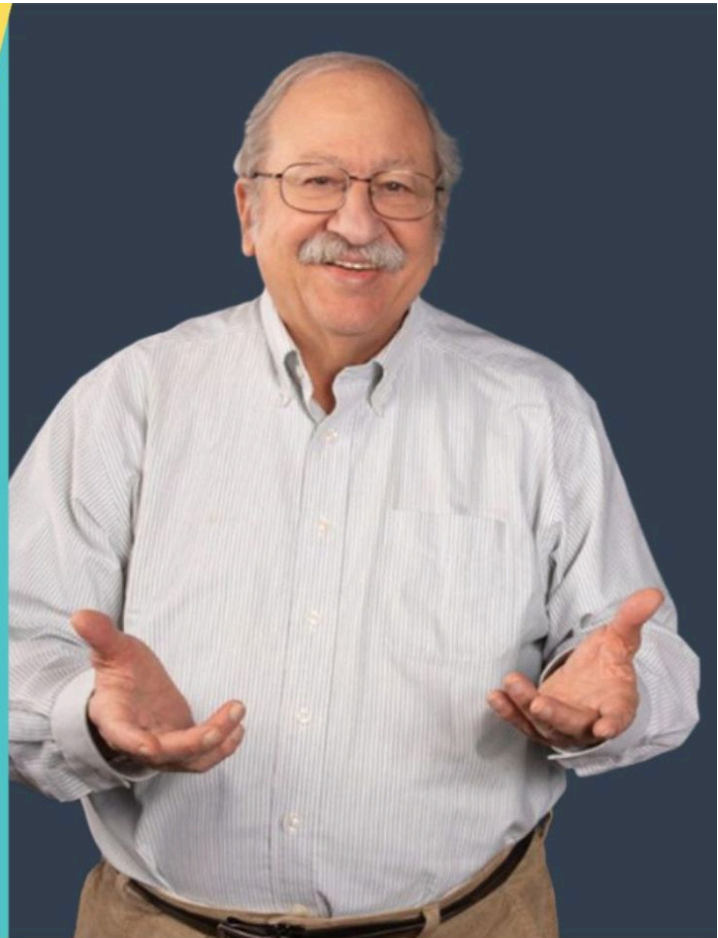
A CONVERSATION ABOUT  
POWERFUL FAITH-  
BASED ORGANIZING

Author **Marshall Ganz**  
in conversation with  
Dr. Sarah Sayeed, Chair  
of the NYC Civic  
Engagement Commission

Saturday, December 14th  
@5:30 pm

49 Elizabeth Street, New  
York NY 10013

RSVP HERE: <http://bit.ly/3ZycDr4>



# PEOPLE POWER CHANGE



MUSLIMS FOR  
PROGRESSIVE VALUES



IFNOTNOW  
NEW YORK CITY



JFREJ  
Jews For  
Racial &  
Economic  
Justice

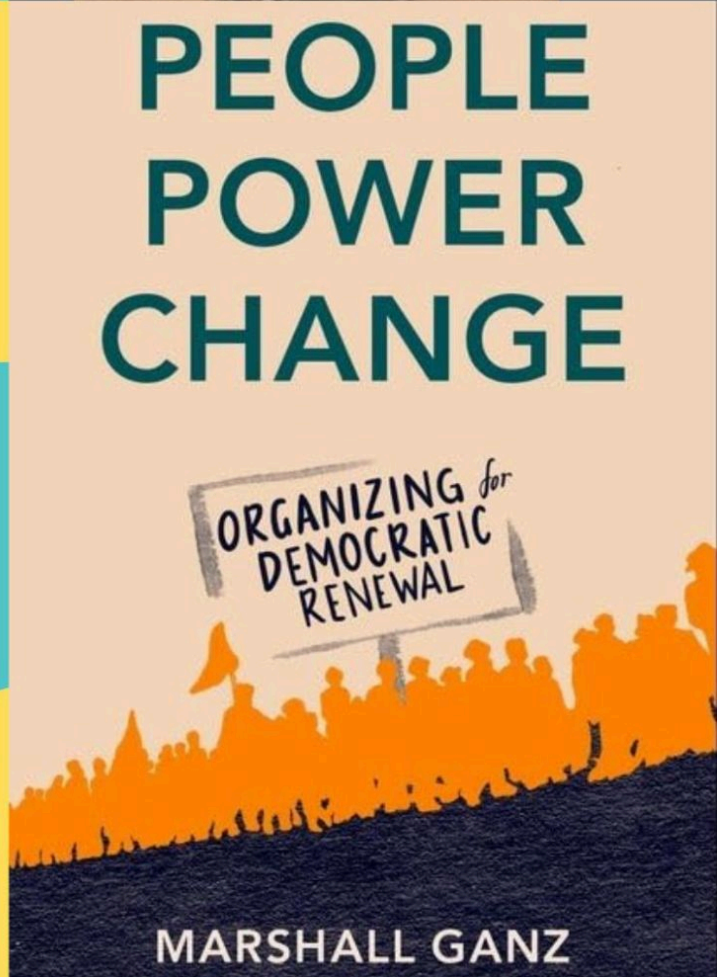
Hindus  
for Human Rights



Churches United  
CUFFH  
For Fair Housing



ICNY  
Interfaith Center of New York



MARSHALL GANZ

Community Conversation and Book Discussion

# People Power Change: A Conversation about Powerful Faith-based Organizing, with Scholar and Activist Marshall Ganz

Saturday, December 14, 5:30 pm

49 Elizabeth Street, New York, NY

Join the Interfaith Center of New York and our partners for an evening with Marshall Ganz, one of the world's leading authorities on democratic organizing, in conversation with Dr. Sarah Sayeed, Chair of the NYC Civic Engagement Commission.

Professor Ganz's new book *People, Power, Change: Organizing for Democratic Renewal* is the culmination of his decades of teaching, research, and social activism. In *People, Power, Change*, Ganz distills for students and practitioners the principles he has gleaned over the last half-century about the practice and craft of creating collective action. At a moment when our democratic abilities seem to have eroded, and political, economic, and technological forces have weakened the capacity for collective action, *People, Power, Change* is a once-in-a-generation book for anyone who wants to create real and lasting change.

Don't miss your chance to learn from Marshall Ganz and your diverse neighbors. Space is limited, and RSVP is required.

[Click Here to Register](#)

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## OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

*Listing does not imply endorsement by the Interfaith Center of New York*



# It's a Gas!: Gas Stoves and Health

Public Health Webinar

## Don't Get Gaslit: Gas Stoves and Your Health

Online, Free, and Open to all

Thursday, December 5, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

The Center for Earth Ethics is partnering with Tim Guinee of the Climate Reality Project to host a **free webinar** on the issue of gas stove emissions. These emissions have serious health consequences that are little known to the general public. Join us to learn about the health risks, environmental justice impacts and upcoming legislation in New York State to address the problem.

[Click Here to Register](#)

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**FOUNDRAISING**  
**DAY: DEC 08 2024 / JAN 03 2025**  
**16H00-22H00**  
**IMAME CHEIKH OMAR NIASS**

**IMAME CHEIKH MAHI CISSE**  
**(SENEGAL)**

 **ST. STEPHEN METHODIST CHURCH**  
**2145 FREDERICK DOUGLASS BLVD, NEW YORK, NY 10026**  
**HARLEM: 8TH AVE BETWEEN 115 & 116 STREETS**

Fundraiser for Faith Community Responding to the Migrant Crisis

## Fundraiser for Jahmiyatu Ansaru-Deen

Sunday, December 8, 4:00 - 10:00 pm

St. Stephen Methodist Church (2145 Frederick Douglass Blvd. New York, NY 10026)

Join one of ICNY's 2023 Faith Justice Heros, Imam Omar Niass, for a fundraiser to support the work of his mosque. They have been providing essential resources to the newest New Yorkers and have been at the forefront of helping West African asylum seekers adapt to life in New York City.





# HUMAN RIGHTS DAY RALLY TO CLOSE RIKERS

Join us on International Human Rights Day to deliver over 2,027 postcards to the mayor calling for him to take action now to decarcerate and Close Rikers.

**REGISTER**

**WHEN:**  
DECEMBER 10, 2024  
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**LOCATION:**  
STEPS OF CITY HALL  
ENTER FROM BROADWAY OR PARK ROW  
NEW YORK, NY 10007



[bit.ly/1210closrikers](https://bit.ly/1210closrikers)

Public Jail-Reform Rally

## Human Rights Day Rally to Close Rikers

Tuesday, December 10, 10:30 - 11:30 am

Steps of City Hall: Enter from Broadway or Park Row

While City Officials are making dangerous plans to condemn more people to the life-threatening conditions on Rikers, we've been talking to New Yorkers all over the City who want to see Torture Island closed.

Thousands of our neighbors in every borough have signed postcards to Mayor Adams, demanding that he follow the law, and take action now to decarcerate and Close Rikers.

On International Human Rights Day, Freedom Agenda and others are taking this message to the steps of City Hall, where they will deliver over 2,027 postcards to the Mayor in person.

[Click Here to Register](#)

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# RESPONDING TO DOMESTIC



# VIOLENCE IN COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

2- DAY TRAINING FOR RELIGIOUS LEADERS,  
SPIRITUAL ACTIVISTS AND PEOPLE OF FAITH

**TUES. DEC. 17 & THURS. DEC. 19, 2024**  
**10AM-12PM & 2-4PM via Zoom**

**This course will deepen your understanding of:**

- The **complex dynamics** of intimate partner abuse and its impact
- **Intervention strategies** to keep victim/survivors safe and abusers accountable
- **Approaches to the challenging faith-related issues** that abuse and violence in the family raise
- **Strategies for faith communities** to help break the silence and prevent domestic abuse

**REGISTER**

<https://bit.ly/faithtraining-dec2024>

Email [Dwilliams@connectnyc.org](mailto:Dwilliams@connectnyc.org) for more information

Domestic Violence Response Training

## Responding to Domestic Violence in Faith Communities

Tuesday, December 17 and Thursday, December 19: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm and 2:00 - 4:00 pm

## Held over Zoom

Registration is open for "Responding to Domestic Violence in Faith Communities" on Tuesday Dec. 17 and Thursday, Dec. 19th, from 10am-noon and 2pm-4pm each day on Zoom. This is a two-day training for religious leaders, spiritual activists and people of faith 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 also explore theology, spiritual care and spiritual issues that come up when responding to domestic violence. This is free training. For more information or questions, email Danielle Williams at [dwilliams@connectnyc.org](mailto:dwilliams@connectnyc.org). Feel free to share with those you feel may be interested including but not limited to your congregational leaders and clergy peers.

[Click Here to Register](#)

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# NYDIS' FREE FALL 2024 TRAININGS FOR NYC RELIGIOUS LEADERS HOW READY ARE YOU?

## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (MHFA)

THURS, SEPT. 26 @ NYDIS, 4W 43RD STREET, 9:00AM  
THURS, OCT. 10 @ NYDIS, 4W 43RD STREET, 9:00AM  
THURS, DEC. 05 @ NYDIS, 4W 43RD STREET, 9:00AM

**In-person** 1-day MHFA-certification training for community & faith leaders to learn how to help someone who may be experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge.

## WRITING AN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN FOR YOUR CONGREGATION

TUE, NOV. 19 @ VIRTUAL, 10:30AM-12:30PM

**Virtual** training for clergy & lay leaders to learn how to effectively communicate with staff, congregation members, and clients in an emergency setting and share critical information immediately after a crisis when lives & safety are at risk.

## WRITING A CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN FOR YOUR CONGREGATION

WED, SEPT. 25 @ VIRTUAL, 12:00PM-2:00PM

**Virtual** Continuity Of Operations Planning (COOP) training for clergy & lay leaders. This interactive training will guide participants in writing a plan to ensure their congregation can continue to fulfill its vital community role post disaster.

## DISASTER CHAPLAIN CERTIFICATION & RELIGIOUS LITERACY TRAINING

TUES-THURS, OCT. 29-31  
@ NYDIS, 4W 43RD STREET 9:00AM

**In-person** 3-day training includes Religious Literacy and Competency in Crisis Settings & 2-days of chaplaincy training to prepare faith leaders or institutional chaplains to volunteer as disaster chaplains in mass-care settings.

HOW READY ARE YOU?



## HOW PREPAREDNESS TRAINING FOR AN ACTIVE SHOOTER OR ARMED INTRUDER

WED, NOV. 06, 5:30PM-7:00PM  
@ UJA FEDERATION OF NY, 130E 59TH STREET

**In-person** training for congregations and faith-based organizations to enhance awareness of and response to an active shooter event in a house of worship.

**FREE Registration:** <http://nydisnet.eventbrite.com>  
QUESTIONS? [LCUMMINGS@NYDIS.ORG](mailto:LCUMMINGS@NYDIS.ORG)



## Training for Faith Leaders

### House of Worship Ready

Free and Open to All

Various Dates and Locations

New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS) is offering a series of free trainings for faith leaders, through its Faith Sector Community Preparedness Program, a program created in partnership with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and Office of Emergency Preparedness & Response.

The Faith Sector Community Preparedness Program hosts citywide trainings and risk communication exercises for House of Worship (HOWs) and faith-based organizations, to increase community resilience and build the Sector's capacity to prepare for and respond to emergencies through planning and the provision of relief and recovery support. HOWready Partners are New York City congregations, faith-based organizations, and religious judicatories located in all five boroughs. Join NYDIS at this fall's free trainings to learn more.

[Click Here to Register](#)

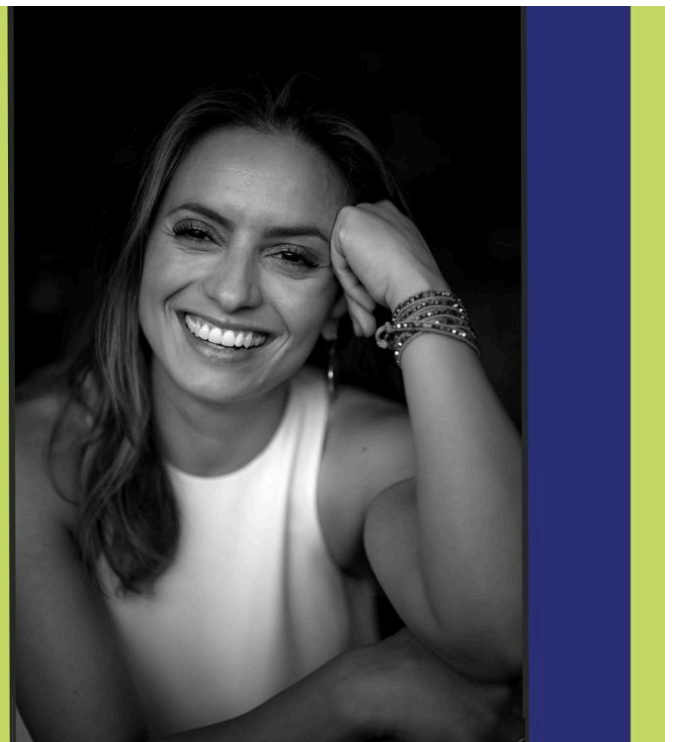
**PSI** CONTINUING  
EDUCATION 

## Breathwork Course for Clinicians

*with Rebeca Brau Martinez*

**6-Week VIRTUAL Workshop (via Zoom)**  
**7.5 CECs Available**

*Saturdays, 10:00 am - 11:15 am ET*  
*November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd*  
*December 7th, 14th*



## Training for Mental Health Professionals

### Breathwork Course for Clinicians

**Online**

**Saturdays, Dec. 7th and 14th**

**10:00 am - 11:15 am ET**

Registration is now open for the Psychotherapy & Spirituality Institute's Autumn Breathwork Course for Clinicians. Join us on a transformative journey of self-discovery and healing through the power of breath. Whether you're new to breathwork or looking to deepen your practice, this course will help you unlock balance, clarity, and inner peace.

**Key Benefits:** Reduce stress, Enhance emotional regulation, Improve cognitive function

**75-minute sessions cover:** Breathwork mechanics & science, Effective stress-reducing techniques; The breathwork & Polyvagal Theory connection

7.5 CE's available to NYSED certified LMSWs, LCSWs, LMFTs, LMHCs, & LCATs

Register now to secure your spot.

Early bird price (deadline: 10/18/24): \$199

Regular tuition price: \$250

[Click Here to Register](#)

*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.*

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