

Partner-Provided Resources to Support You in Countering Antisemitism, Islamophobia & All Forms of Religious Discrimination

AmeriCorps Grantees & Subgrantees

Center for Interfaith Cooperation based in Indiana, was created in 2011 out of the International Interfaith Initiative. CIC provides safe environments, resources, and opportunities for service to increase religious literacy, build empathy between faiths, and facilitate interfaith encounters. CIC recognizes, respects, and celebrates the fact that each of the world's faith traditions is unique and that many of the differences between those traditions are irreconcilable. CIC's News & Events Blog provides reflections from AmeriCorps members, civic, and faith leaders as they share their stories about interfaith relationship building and the capacity for service to unite people across common purpose and values.

Team Up Project

The <u>Team Up Project</u>, a recipient of an AmeriCorps Volunteer Generation Fund Grant, is a bridgebuilding Initiative that identifies shared values to achieve shared goal. This collaborative effort between Interfaith America, Habitat for Humanity, Catholic Charities, and YMCA advances unity work at the local level. The effort has resulted in 30 unique projects and stories, shaped by local needs and input, that help engage people and organizations across deep differences for the common good.

Interfaith America, formerly known as Interfaith Youth Core, was founded in 2002 based on the idea that religious differences should serve as a bridge of cooperation rather than a barrier of division. Interfaith America's mission is to inspire, equip, and connect leaders and institutions to unlock the potential of America's religious diversity. Those from different religious *and* ethical perspectives often disagree over important issues. Interfaith cooperation relies on people of diverse perspectives identifying and holding up values that are shared across traditions.

We Can Build Bridges is an interactive 45-60-minute online course that demonstrates bridgebuilding in action, defines the goals of bridgebuilding, and considers where you might take steps to build bridges in your own life. The course is free and can completed at your own pace.

We Commemorate, We Commit Toolkit

The toolkit, released on the 20th anniversary of 9/11, offers resources and tools to mobilize your own civic, religious, and educational institutions and communities to continue to build an Interfaith America. Importantly, it acknowledges that the growth in anti-Muslim, anti-Sikh, and anti-Asian violence, is an affront to us all. Reducing bias and hate for one group, makes it possible for all marginalized communities to feel a sense of support and belonging.

Shared Values Facilitation Guide

Shared values are at the heart of interfaith cooperation. Such values—like a dedication to serving others, caring for the environment, and offering hospitality—are important because they allow those who might disagree profoundly on certain issues to find common ground for dialogue and action. The tool includes facilitation guidelines, texts focused on specific shared values, and a guide to developing your own shared values dialogue.



Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity builds strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter in El Paso County, Colorado. In 2024, they won second place in the HM King Abdullah II UN World Interfaith Harmony Week prize competition for their Interfaith Build for Unity initiative, which included daily activities as well as an Interfaith Dialogue entitled, Who is Your Neighbor? Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity is one story of many Habitat for Humanity International affiliates building homes and trusted relationships through hope, human connection, and hard work.

The **YMCA** is committed to strengthening community by empowering young people, improving the health and well-being of people of all ages and inspiring action in and across more than 10,000 communities in the United States and 119 countries worldwide. The U.S. YMCA Movement began in 1851 and is present in all 50 States, DC and Puerto Rico – with nearly 800 independent YMCA Associations serving nearly 25 million nationally. At the core of its mission, the YMCA aspires to strengthen the foundations of community – including through community bridgebuilding and inclusion efforts that advance equity and access for all.

Strengthening Inclusion, Engaging Communities of Diverse Faiths & Beliefs

Y-USA, the National resource office to the U.S. YMCA Movement, focuses on providing the capacity-building, coordination, communication, and networking and collaboration necessary to support local-based solutions across the country. This tool was created to help prepare local YMCAs to work more effectively across diverse faith and belief traditions. It is one resource among several that support local YMCAs as they seek to better engage and serve diverse communities.

Research & Academia

Dialogue Institute, Home of the Journal of Ecumenical Studies

The Dialogue Institute engages religious, civic, and academic leaders in practicing the skills of respectful dialogue and critical thinking, building and sustaining transformative relationships across lines of religion and culture. Dialogue in the interreligious, interideological sense is a conversation on a common subject between people with differing views undertaken so that they can learn from one another and grow. The Dialogue principles formulated by Professor Swidler sets forth fundamental ground rules for dialogue.

Institute for Social Policy and Understanding

ISPU provides objective research and education about American Muslims to support well-informed dialogue and decision-making. ISPU collaborates with various academic institutions and scholars, offering extensive data, research and publications like the 9-part *Guide to Countering Islamophobia*. A growing number of American Muslims encounter prejudice in their daily lives. Not surprisingly, they also increasingly make self-reports of emotional stress. The Mental Health Toolkit includes resources for individuals and mental health professionals to effectively address the unique mental health challenges that Muslim adults and children experience.

The **Bard Center for the Study of Hate** works to increase the serious study of human hatred and ways to combat it nationally and internationally. Founded in 2018, the center brings scholars from diverse disciplines together to study and address the human capacity to hate and demonize others. It also places, mentors, and supports students working at internships



with organizations that combat hate, funds student-led senior projects related to the study of hate and provides additional resources for research.

A Community Guide for Opposing Hate is a toolkit released by BCSH in partnership with Western States Center and Montana Human Rights Network. It provides those who want to "do something" about hate the resources they need not only for the immediate aftermath of a hateful act, but for years to come to improve their community. While some of the strategies are reactive, the most important ones are proactive.

The Pluralism Project

The Pluralism Project at Harvard University examines the religious diversity of the United States. *Interfaith Infrastructure* is a survey of interfaith efforts taking place across the U.S. offering links to state interfaith centers, key organizational leaders, promising practices and a library of select resources. Many of these efforts are local, whether born out of crisis, context, or civic purpose; some focus on dialogue, activism, or education. This project offers a glimpse of an emerging interfaith movement, documenting a range of organizations working to foster engagement across lines of difference.

Nonprofit Organizations

A global leader in combating antisemitism, countering extremism and battling bigotry, the **Anti-Defamation League** works to protect democracy and ensure a just and inclusive society for all. Founded in 1913, the organization's timeless mission is "to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all."

On Demand Learning Center

The On Demand Learning Center offers educators short, self-guided learning modules to help familiarize educators with ADL's anti-bias framework, core themes, and topics. A starting place can be this resource, <u>Slurs and Biased Language</u> (available in Spanish and English).

American Jewish Committee works to advance the safety and security of Jewish communities across the U.S. and the world. AJC's library of resources helps individuals understand, respond to, and prevent antisemitism.

AJC's <u>Short Guide to Jewish Religion & Culture</u> is intended to help foster a more inclusive workplace that offers you and your team useful tools for communicating with Jewish employees and/or students, and scheduling events in and around Jewish holidays.

Hillel International is the world's largest Jewish campus organization, serving more than 160,000 college students annually. Founded in 1923, the Hillel movement's mission is to enrich the lives of Jewish students so they can, in turn, enrich the Jewish people, and the world. Hillel welcomes students of all backgrounds and identities, builds relationships that promote understanding among diverse groups, and builds vibrant Jewish campus communities while advocating for safe and supportive atmospheres on campus for all students.

Understanding Antisemitism

The three-part video guide discusses how antisemitism impacts Jewish students on college campuses today. It introduces students, faculty, and staff to the origins of



antisemitism, how it manifests today, and how they can confront antisemitism when they encounter it. These videos were designed to be viewed within the context of a larger educational curriculum. Hillel also offers consultations with educational institutions or organizations interested in the curriculum.

Islamic Networks Group

Islamic Networks Group is a peace-building organization providing face-to-face education and engagement opportunities that foster understanding of Muslims and other misunderstood groups to promote harmony among all people. Founded in 1993, ING, and its affiliates around the country, reach millions of individuals and hundreds of groups a year at the grassroots level by building relationships, understanding, and peaceful communities of all types and backgrounds.

Multi-Faith Neighbors Network

MFNN builds mutual trust and respect among faith leaders through civic engagement, authentic relationships, and honest dialogue leading to resilient, compassionate, and flourishing communities. The Peacemaker's Toolkit equips faith leaders with the tools they need to foster peace and resilience within their congregations and beyond. This free resource brings together the best in evidence from global peacebuilding, multifaith reconciliation, and academic research.

Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign

The Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign: Standing with American Muslims, Advancing American Ideals is a national multifaith coalition of religious denominations and faith-based organizations who are committed to ending anti-Muslim hatred, discrimination, and violence in the United States of America.

Tanenbaum promotes justice and builds respect for religious difference by transforming individuals and institutions to reduce prejudice, hatred, and violence. As a secular and non-sectarian non-profit, Tanenbaum works to promote religious peacebuilders who help counter extremism and violence in armed conflicts, and tackles religious bullying of students, harassment in workplaces, and disparate health treatment for people based on their beliefs.

The <u>Tanenbaum Resource Library</u> offers numerous resources that help change the way people treat one another and to celebrate the richness of humanity's diversity. The vast online library includes materials created by experts for educators, faith leaders, health care practitioners, and employers.

The Arab American National Museum

The Arab American National Museum is the first and only museum in the United States devoted to documenting and sharing Arab American contributions that shaped the economic, political, and cultural landscapes of American life. The Museum also brings to light the shared experiences of immigrants and ethnic groups, paying tribute to the diversity of the United States. The Arab American story is told through the voices and experiences of Arab Americans. There are <u>four core galleries</u> with virtual tour options including lesson plans and other school-based learning tools, such as a middle and high school level <u>Civil Rights Lesson Plan</u>.



The Sikh Coalition

The Sikh Coalition provides comprehensive multi-lingual resources, including educational materials, legal guidance, and advocacy tools, to combat hate crimes and discrimination against Sikh Americans. While numerous resources exist in the Coalition library, *Who are Sikhs? What is Sikhism?*, is an extremely helpful starting point to learn more about the world's fifth largest religion.

Federal Government Resources

The U.S. **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission** is responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and related conditions, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. EEOC works to prevent discrimination before it occurs through outreach, education, and technical assistance programs.

The <u>Best Practices for Eradicating Religious Discrimination in the Workplace</u> offers best practices for employers and employees on rights and responsibilities with respect to religious discrimination, including employment decisions, harassment, accommodation, and retaliation.

If you recommend a resource that is not currently listed, please share it with us at engagement@americorps.gov.