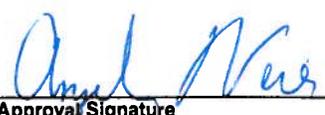
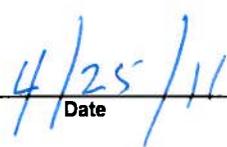


**U.S. PROGRAMS**  
**National Security and Human Rights Campaign**  
**Summary of Recommended Grants**  
**April 25, 2011**

**Program Area/Organization**

Organization	Grant Code	Recommended	Term	2011	2012
<b>Challenge Profiling and Discrimination</b>		<b>T1: 21132</b>			
Active Voice (Community initiatives is the fiscal sponsor) <sup>1</sup>	T1: 21132 T1: 24449	50,000 50,000	1 year	50,000 50,000	
Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services <sup>2</sup>	T1: 21132 T1: 24448	250,000 100,000	2 years	125,000 50,000	125,000 50,000
Asian Law Caucus	T1: 21132	250,000	2 years	125,000	125,000
Muslim Advocates	T1: 21132	445,000	2.5 years	235,000	210,000
Shomrey Mishpat Rabbis for Human Rights / North America	T1: 21132	150,000	2 years	75,000	75,000
Sikh Coalition	T1: 21132	300,000	2 years	150,000	150,000
South Asian Americans Leading Together <sup>3</sup>	T1: 21132 T1: 24448	250,000 100,000	2 years	125,000 50,000	125,000 50,000
Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding	T1: 21132	100,000	1 year	100,000	
<b>Build the Capacity of Core Organizations for Policy Reform</b>		<b>T1: 21135</b>			
National Religious Campaign Against Torture <sup>4</sup>	T1: 21135	450,000	2 years	225,000	225,000 C
<b>Limit Secrecy and Expand Oversight and Accountability</b>		<b>T1: 21133</b>			
Center for Victims of Torture <sup>5</sup>	T1: 21133	200,000	2 years	100,000	100,000 C
<b>Total Recommended:</b>		<b>\$ 2,695,000</b>		<b>\$ 1,460,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,235,000</b>
<b>GRANTMAKING TOTAL THIS DOCKET:</b>		<b>\$ 2,695,000</b>			

  
Approval Signature

  
Date

<sup>1</sup> This grant of \$100,000 to Active Voice (Community Initiatives, fiscal sponsor) is co-funded by the NSHR Campaign, T1: 21132 (\$50,000), and the Equality and Opportunity Fund, T1: 24449 (\$50,000).

<sup>2</sup> This grant of \$350,000 to Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services (ACCESS) is co-funded by the NSHR Campaign, T1: 21132 (\$250,000), and the Equality and Opportunity Fund, T1: 24448 (\$100,000).

<sup>3</sup> This grant of \$350,000 to South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT) is co-funded by the NSHR Campaign, T1: 21132(\$250,000), and the Equality and Opportunity Fund, T1: 24448 (\$100,000).

**Acknowledgement of Disclosure:** Archana Sahgal, the EOF program officer responsible for the immigrant rights, racial justice, and anti-violence advocacy portfolios, currently serves as a board member for South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow. The recommended grant to South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow falls under the Equality and Opportunity Fund portfolio area which Archana Sahgal manages and will, therefore, work closely with.

<sup>4</sup> This grant of \$450,000 to the National Religious Campaign Against Torture is a contingent Grant. The NSHR Campaign, T1: 21135, will provide \$225,000 in 2011, and \$225,000 in 2012.

<sup>5</sup> This grant of \$200,000 to Center for Victims of Torture is a contingent Grant. The NSHR Campaign, T1: 21133, will provide \$100,000 in 2011, and \$100,000 in 2012.

**National Security and Human Rights Campaign**

**Docket I of 2011**

**Table of Contents**

Financial Summary of Grant Recommendations ..... i

NSHR Campaign Grant Recommendations

    Active Voice (Community Initiatives, Fiscal Sponsor)..... 2

    Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services..... 7

    Asian Law Caucus ..... 12

    Center for Victims of Torture..... 16

    Muslim Advocates ..... 20

    National Religious Campaign Against Torture ..... 25

    Shomrey Mishpat Rabbis for Human Rights-North America..... 30

    Sikh Coalition ..... 34

    South Asian Americans Leading Together ..... 39

    Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding ..... 44

**Grant ID:** 20032173

**Legal Organization Name:** Active Voice

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** Community Initiatives

**Purpose of Grant:** To support Active Voice's Hawo's Dinner Party Project

**Grant Description:** This grant will support Active Voice as it completes and implements the Hawo's Dinner Party Project, a public education campaign that will be centered on viewings by community audiences of a 20-minute video module derived from footage taken during the filming of a PBS documentary, *Welcome to Shelbyville*. The viewings will be followed by facilitated dialogues designed to foster bridge-building between Muslim, immigrant, and receiving communities in the U.S. Created in collaboration with experts on both discussion facilitation and on Muslim and immigrant-directed xenophobia in America today, the project will deploy three powerful interlocking tools: storytelling, dialogue, and food. Based in San Francisco, Active Voice uses film, television, and multimedia to spark social change from the grassroots to the grasstops, and is well known for its development and promotion of bridge building tools that incorporate the showing of films to spur productive community-based discussions. Community Initiatives is the fiscal sponsor to Active Voice. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: supporting the use of arts and culture to advance progressive national security policies; and developing communications tools that advocates can utilize to counter anti-Muslim bigotry and promote the acceptance of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities in American society. It will also advance the Equality and Opportunity Fund's mission of lifting barriers that prevent people from participating fully in economic, social, and political life, and its goal of stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$100,000  
\$50,000 from NSHR Campaign (2008)  
\$50,000 from USP Immigrant Rights (2008)

**Organization Budget:** \$1,109,479

**Project Budget:** \$125,000

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Andrus Family Fund \$15,000; Ford Foundation \$10,000

**Amount Requested:** \$100,000 over one year

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$100,000  
\$50,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132) and \$50,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund (Immigrant Rights, T1: 24449)

**Term:** One year (April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Based in San Francisco, Active Voice uses film, television, and multimedia to spark social change from the grassroots to the grasstops. Its team of strategic communications specialists works with media makers, advocates, and thought leaders to put a human face on the issues of our times. In the decade since it was established, Active Voice has built a diverse portfolio of story-based campaigns focused on immigrant integration, criminal justice, healthcare, and sustainability. Active Voice's fiscal sponsor, Community Initiatives, serves as a fiscal sponsor for nonprofit projects in California that work in the areas of arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services, and public affairs.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

Active Voices seeks support to complete and implement its Hawo's Dinner Party Project, a public education campaign that will promote viewings by community audiences in locations across the U.S. of a 20-minute video module derived from footage taken during the filming of an independent documentary, *Welcome to Shelbyville*. This documentary, scheduled to air as part of the PBS series *Independent Lens* on May 24, 2011, follows a handful of people – native-born white and African American residents, Mexican immigrants, and recently arrived Muslim Somali refugees – as they struggle to navigate the changing demographic landscape in Shelbyville, Tennessee, an economically distressed rural town of 16,000. Against the backdrop of tight competition for largely low-wage jobs, tensions mount between the town's long-term residents and most recent arrivals following national news outlet reports that young Somali men from the Twin Cities were discovered to have left the U.S. to join an extremist organization in Somalia. Shelbyville's long-term residents accuse their own Somali neighbors of being terrorists, and Welcoming America – an OSF-funded umbrella organization that works at the grassroots level to promote mutual respect and cooperation between foreign-born and U.S.-born Americans – steps in to offer support and defuse tensions.

The video module will draw on scenes featuring Hawo – a former nurse who has suffered through the hardships of Somalia's civil wars and refugee camps and is determined to make a

permanent home in Shelbyville, where she works on a Tyson Food poultry processing line. Hawo will be shown engaging with local community leaders as they work together to repair frayed relationships, and hosting a home-cooked dinner for friends formed through her work with Welcoming America.

Viewings of the video module will be followed by facilitated discussions – generally with small groups but sometimes in large groups and sometimes over shared meals – that are designed to foster bridge-building between Muslim, immigrant, and receiving communities in the U.S.

Created in collaboration with experts on discussion facilitation and experts on the challenge of Muslim and immigrant-directed xenophobia in America today, the project will deploy three powerful interlocking tools: storytelling, dialogue, and food. The video will be accompanied by a wealth of resources, including: the “Hawo’s Dinner Party: Recipes and Discussion Guide,” which will feature recipes from, and interviews with, people in the documentary; facilitators’ guides; discussion guides; an interactive website; and pre- and post-screening assessment surveys for participants to complete. In addition, project staff will train partner organizations and facilitators on how to create safe spaces for communities to explore the questions raised by town residents during the filming of *Welcome to Shelbyville*, which include:

- What conditions compelled refugees and immigrants to leave their homes and come to the U.S., and in some cases seek citizenship?
- Are immigrants and refugees undercutting American workers in the labor market?
- What is Islam? What explains Islamic customs and cultural practices?
- Are people from Muslim-majority countries here to hurt America? Do they hate us? Are we safe?

Active Voice hopes to recruit individuals from “beyond the choir” – clergy, community leaders, service providers, educators, public officials, and mainstream Americans – to both facilitate and participate in Hawo’s Dinner Party discussions. These discussions will aim to: (1) encourage alliance building through shared values; (2) increase cultural competency; (3) decrease the isolation of immigrants and refugees, especially those who hail from Muslim-majority countries; and (4) promote respect for the civil liberties and human rights of immigrant, refugee, and Muslim communities. Active Voice plans to pilot the use of its resources this summer in 12 communities that have large Somali, Muslim, and/or immigrant populations. Four of the 12 communities will be sites where Welcoming America has an active presence. Among the locations currently under review are Minneapolis, San Jose, New York City, Newark, Grand Forks, and Detroit. In addition, Active Voice will seek out civic minded campus organizations and groups with large constituencies, such as the League of Women Voters in Minnesota, Faith in Public Life, the Public Conversations Project, the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, and the Rights Working Group, to serve as community partners on this project.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: supporting the use of arts and culture to advance progressive national security policies; and

developing communications tools that advocates can utilize to counter anti-Muslim bigotry and promote the acceptance of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities in American society. It will also advance the Equality and Opportunity Fund's mission of lifting barriers that prevent people from participating fully in economic, social, and political life. Further, Active Voice's long-term community building efforts and engagement with film to counter growing hate, xenophobia, and intolerance are aligned with EOF's goal of stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants.

Strategies that reach the hearts and minds of mainstream Americans are critical to efforts to turn back the alarming rise in anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant bigotry. The national public education campaign proposed by Active Voice, through its inclusion of arts, culture, and the power of personal stories, can move us toward this goal by drawing in far wider audiences than can be reached through more staid policy debates.

The documentary film, *Welcome to Shelbyville*, and the 20-minute video module that will ground Active Voice's Hawo's Dinner Party Project, will offer viewing audiences a nuanced and unvarnished portrayal of the fear, anxieties, and anger felt by Shelbyville's American-born whites and African Americans, Mexican immigrants, and Somali refugees alike. Of special note is the film and module's portrayal of the town's white residents, some of whom are deeply religious, low-wage workers who have been hit hard by the recession and are susceptible to hateful rhetoric that assigns blame for America's economic woes on immigrants and that broadly paints Muslims with the brush of "violent extremism." As discussed at OSF's January 2011 convening on xenophobia at Wilton Park, advocates in the U.S. have not yet directed their attention toward persuading this critical constituency to reject bigotry.

The success of the project will be enhanced by Active Voice's diverse following of grassroots, faith-based, policy-focused, and mainstream organizations that are eager to partner with it and use its materials in their own coalition building and policy advocacy work. Key to its vision of a strong grassroots movement for social justice, Active Voice takes the lead from its partners and works in close collaboration with them to customize programs with their objectives, stakeholders, and audiences in mind. Active Voice will be consulting with experts to address the emotionally fraught subjects and points of contention that are likely to arise during Hawo's Dinner Party discussions and help facilitators use these as "teachable moments."

Through its Global Lives initiative, Active Voice has gained wide recognition for its ability to develop and promote bridge building tools that incorporate the showing of films to spur productive community-based discussions. One of Active Voice's past public education projects was centered on the feature film, *The Visitor*, and received funding in 2008 from U.S. Programs' Equality & Opportunity Fund and the NSHR Campaign. Other public education projects have centered on *The New Americans*, *Farmingville*, and *Made in L.A.*

OSF's funding will leverage a considerable investment of money, time, and expertise that has gone into the production and distribution of the documentary, *Welcome to Shelbyville*, as well as the on-the-ground work of Welcoming America in Shelbyville and around the nation.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a grant of \$100,000 over one year to Active Voice, through its fiscal sponsor Community Initiatives, to support the Hawo's Dinner Party Project.

**Grant ID:** 20032128

**Legal Organization Name:** Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide core support to the National Network for Arab American Communities

**Grant Description:** The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS), founded in 1971 and based in Dearborn, Michigan, is a human services and advocacy organization committed to the development of the Arab American community in all aspects of its economic, social, and cultural life. With eight locations and over 90 programs, ACCESS advocates for and provides an array of social, mental health, educational, cultural, employment, legal, and medical services to members of the community and others in Michigan and elsewhere in the U.S. This grant will provide renewed core support to ACCESS' National Network for Arab American Communities, which works to strengthen member grassroots institutions serving Arab Americans in order to deepen civic participation, promote economic empowerment, and enhance the ability of communities to advocate on issues of concern to them, particularly in the areas of civil liberties, human rights, and immigrant rights. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward, and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in, American society. It will also advance the Equality and Opportunity Fund's mission to prohibit arbitrary and discriminatory government action and lift barriers that prevent people from participating fully in economic, social, and political life, and its goal of stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$875,000

- \$200,000 from the NSHR Campaign (2009)
- \$100,000 from Equality & Opportunity (2009)
- \$200,000 from Civil Liberties (2006)
- \$150,000 from Immigrant Rights (2004)
- \$75,000 from U.S. Programs (2003)

\$50,000 from Emma Lazarus Fund (1998)

**Organization Budget:** \$16,235,106

**Project Budget:** \$1,697,447

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Government grants \$941,288; Ford Foundation \$255,000; Carnegie Corporation of New York \$187,500; Program fees \$59,160; Proteus Fund \$37,500; Tides / State Voices \$33,750; Four Freedoms Fund \$23,250

**Amount Requested:** \$400,000 over two years

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$350,000  
\$250,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132) and \$100,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund (Racial Justice, T1: 24448)

**Term:** Two years (October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) was founded in 1971 in Dearborn, Michigan. ACCESS is a human services and advocacy organization committed to the development of the Arab-American community in all aspects of its economic, social, and cultural life. ACCESS also operates national initiatives, such as the National Outreach Department, the Community Health and Research Program, and the Arab American National Museum. With a staff of over 200, the organization provides an array of direct services, including social, mental health, educational, cultural, employment, legal, and medical services to members of the Arab American community and others in Michigan and across the U.S.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

ACCESS seeks renewed support for a project of its National Outreach Department, the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC). Established in November 2004, NNAAC is a national network of 22 independent Arab American community-based organizations that provide direct services in 11 states and the District of Columbia<sup>1</sup>. Its primary mission is to develop the capacity of grassroots institutions to meet the needs and represent the concerns of Arab Americans at the local level, and to advocate for policy reforms impacting Arab Americans. NNAAC provides its member organizations with advice and assistance on capacity-

---

<sup>1</sup> NNAAC member organizations are located in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Illinois, Michigan, California, Texas, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C.

building, a forum for knowledge-sharing and collaboration, and a platform for speaking out on issues of concern to Arab American communities. In return, the local organizations inform and advance NNAAC's national advocacy priorities in the areas of immigrants' rights, national security and civil liberties, human services, and civic engagement.

Over the proposed two-year grant period, NNAAC will:

**Strengthen its core program functions and governance.** NNAAC will continue to provide capacity building trainings, webinars, and workshops for its member organizations on core skills such as engaging in effective policy advocacy as 501(c)3 organizations, building and working in local and national coalitions, effectively communicating with the media, utilizing the internet and new technologies to advance advocacy goals, and accessing local funding sources. NNAAC will also continue to host annual conferences for its members to discuss these issues, policy developments, and other concerns, and to offer training scholarships and capacity-building grants to its members.

**Enhance its Advocacy and Civic Engagement Program.** NNAAC will continue to both engage in directly, and encourage network members around the country to engage in, advocacy on post-9/11 issues affecting Arab and Muslim Americans<sup>2</sup> with a focus on: (1) racial and religious profiling of Arab and Muslim travelers at border crossings; (2) intrusive surveillance and profiling by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and state and local police; and (3) the need for an effective process for challenging wrongful inclusion on watch lists. NNAAC serves on the Steering Committee of the Rights Working Group and is actively involved in its national campaign to end racial profiling and its push to require the collection of data by race and ethnicity on all stops by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) within 100 miles of a border crossing. With the Bill of Rights Defense Committee, NNAAC plans to introduce local ordinances prohibiting racial profiling – drafted with input from the Brennan Center and CUNY Law School – in several cities with large Arab American populations. NNAAC will also continue to fight anti-immigrant legislation and promote pro-immigrant policies at the state and local level, and will continue to provide community education to increase Arab Americans' understanding of their rights in encounters with law enforcement agents. NNAAC currently produces English and Arabic language Know Your Rights materials, and sponsors community trainings on interactions with local police, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, CBP, and the FBI. To inform its advocacy, NNAAC documents incidents of border profiling and in 2008 it launched a Border Profiling Hotline with the ACLU of Michigan, although much of what was collected was anecdotal. NNAAC is now developing, in conjunction with the Alliance for Immigrant Rights and Reform, procedures to improve its data collection.

NNAAC will continue to host an annual Arab American Advocacy Week in Washington, D.C., in collaboration with the Arab American Institute, to bring together community leaders from across the U.S. for advocacy meetings and policy briefings with Administration officials, Members of Congress, Hill staff, and the White House, in addition to strategy meetings with civil society allies. For its third annual Advocacy Week in May 2011, ACCESS will bring together 30 Arab American community leaders and focus their advocacy efforts on post-9/11 racial

---

<sup>2</sup> NNAAC has submitted a bifurcated project budget.

profiling and anti-Muslim hate. For the first time, NNAAC will open the event up to allies from other Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) communities.

In addition, NNAAC will work with its members to prepare for the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 at the community level, and will provide members with trainings on how to deal with negative discourse in the media, hate speech, and violence directed at Arab Americans. NNAAC also plans to work with StoryCorps to collect stories in English and Arabic about the impact of 9/11 on these communities and launch an online interactive report.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of AMEMSA individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society. It will also advance the Equality and Opportunity Fund's overall mission of prohibiting arbitrary and discriminatory government action, and lifting barriers that prevent people from participating fully in economic, social, and political life. The Network's long-term community building efforts are also aligned with EOF's goal of stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants.

This organization is part of a cohort of six progressive AMEMSA grantees funded by the NSHR Campaign, each of which is committed to restoring respect for civil rights and civil liberties in the post-9/11 world. A set of high profile terrorist attempts directed at the U.S. over the past 18 months has fueled concerns over "homegrown terrorism," and anti-Muslim bigotry and religious and ethnic profiling have escalated. All six grantees have been strategic and effective in addressing these challenges, and renewal grants are being recommended to the full cohort in this docket.

After nearly four decades as a leading Arab American service organization, ACCESS has gained wide respect as an advocacy organization. Through NNAAC, it has made tremendous strides in presenting a strong national voice for Arab American communities and in providing them with training and resources as they work to promote economic empowerment, foster civil participation, and engage in policy advocacy. NNAAC benefits from the on-the-ground experiences of its network members and collects relevant data to inform national advocacy on behalf of Arab Americans.

As an illustration of NNAAC's ability to harness the power of its network, NNAAC and its members actively engaged in advocacy at both the local and national levels to oppose Representative Peter King's decision to hold a highly controversial House Homeland Security Committee hearing on March 10, 2011, "The Extent of Radicalization in the American Muslim Community and That Community's Response." In an indication of NNAAC's growing profile, Representative John Dingell (D-MI) reached out to NNAAC for help drafting the statement he presented at the hearing. In May, NNAAC met with DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano regarding its concerns about the profiling of the Arab American community, and last December NNAAC participated in a Rights Working Group meeting with the Department of Justice on revising the

DOJ racial profiling guidelines. NNAAC's members participate in monthly "local table" meetings in three cities across the country that are hosted by DHS and include ICE, the FBI, and local police to discuss and provide input into how law enforcement policies and practices are impacting AMEMSA communities.

NNAAC has engaged in public education in support of comprehensive immigration reform and the DREAM Act and has involved network members from across the U.S. in marches, rallies, town hall meetings, sign-on letters, and meetings with elected officials. With the Reform Immigration for America Coalition and other allies, NNAAC formed the Alliance for Immigrant Rights and Reform Michigan, a permanent, state-wide immigrant organizing coalition that brings together faith, labor, ethnic, and community organizations to organize for immigrants' rights.

In 2009, NNAAC underwent a leadership transition with the departure of its longtime Director Taleb Salhab, who joined ACCESS soon after NNAAC's founding. It is now lead by Nadia Tonova, who has been with NNAAC since 2006. In 2010, it also hired its first staff member based outside of Dearborn, Michigan, Advocacy Director and Civic Engagement Coordinator Linda Sarsour of New York City.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a renewal grant of \$350,000 over two years to support ACCESS' National Network for Arab American Communities. Given NNAAC's recent staffing transitions, the project would benefit from a firm funding commitment of two years from OSF. OSF staff therefore does not recommend contingency funding.

**Grant ID:** 20032129

**Legal Organization Name:** Asian Law Caucus

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the National Security and Civil Rights Program

**Grant Description:** The Asian Law Caucus, founded in 1972 and based in San Francisco, is the oldest Asian Pacific Islander (API) civil rights organization in the country. The Caucus is committed to the pursuit of equality and justice for all sectors of society with a specific focus on addressing the needs of low-income APIs. This grant will provide renewed support for the Asian Law Caucus's National Security and Civil Rights Program, which engages in policy advocacy, provides direct legal services, conducts know-your-rights trainings, and builds broad multiracial alliances to defend the civil rights and civil liberties of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) individuals and communities. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of AMEMSA individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$350,000  
\$200,000 from NSHR Campaign (2009)  
\$150,000 from ELF Direct Services (1997)

**Organization Budget:** \$1,800,000

**Project Budget:** \$225,148

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Proteus Fund \$75,000; Individual donors and special events \$25,148

**Amount Requested:** \$250,000 over two years

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$250,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132)

**Term:** Two years (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 1972 and based in San Francisco, the Asian Law Caucus is the nation's oldest Asian Pacific Islander (API) civil rights organization. The Caucus is committed to the pursuit of equality and justice for all sectors of society with a focus on addressing the needs of low-income APIs and building pan-Asian alliances with other communities to challenge the ways in which national security concerns have been used to justify violations of the civil rights of API and other communities of color. Through programs focused on employment and labor rights, housing advocacy and community development, immigrants' rights, juvenile justice, education, and national security and civil rights, the Caucus provides community legal services, engages in policy advocacy, and conducts grassroots outreach and public education. The Caucus works primarily in Northern and Central California and has a staff of 20. The Caucus is also an affiliate of the newly formed Asian American Center for Advancing Justice.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

The Asian Law Caucus seeks renewed support for its National Security and Civil Rights Project as it engages in policy advocacy,<sup>3</sup> provides direct legal services, and mobilizes communities to stop racial, ethnic, religious, and national origin profiling and intrusive searches of Arab, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and Muslim (AMEMSA) individuals and communities by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and local law enforcement. Over the proposed two-year grant period, the Caucus plans to focus its work on the following areas:

**Challenging profiling and intrusive searches and questioning at border crossings by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.** The Caucus plans to update and republish its 2009 report, *Returning Home: How U.S. Government Practices Undermine Civil Rights at Our Nation's Doorstep*, to capture significant changes in law and policy since the report was released and tell stories of more recent border stops and searches. The Caucus will also train individuals featured in the report to become effective spokespersons as they relate the harms they endured as a result of being profiled. On the belief that immigration officials sometimes resort to using national origin as a proxy for race and religion, the Caucus will continue to pursue a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request it filed in late 2009 along with the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund seeking information on how countries of origin are classified as being of "special interest" for the purpose of border interrogation. In addition, the Caucus will continue to help aggrieved individuals file complaints with the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, seek the removal of their names

---

<sup>3</sup> The Asian Law Caucus has submitted a bifurcated project budget.

from “no fly lists” with DHS’ Travel Request Inquiry Program, and request records on their stops and searches from CBP under FOIA.

**Challenging FBI and local law enforcement profiling and surveillance.** The Caucus will continue to pursue the FOIA request it filed along with the ACLU of Northern California and the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* seeking information about FBI investigative practices in Muslim communities in Northern California, and will likely file a FOIA lawsuit challenging the FBI’s refusal to release documents. The Caucus plans to release a report next year on the degree and scope of FBI surveillance in Northern California and disseminate it to government actors and community leaders, hold a hearing in Washington, D.C. to discuss the report’s findings, and use the report as a platform for seeking legislative and administrative policy reform.

In addition, the Caucus will continue to document local law enforcement profiling of AMEMSA communities, challenge the participation of local law enforcement in the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) where civil liberties and open government concerns are raised, and advocate for stronger local<sup>4</sup> and state privacy and First Amendment protections. The Caucus will pursue and litigate if necessary two Public Records Act requests it filed in December 2010 with the city of Oakland and city and county of San Francisco seeking information on internal policies that guide the behavior of police officers assigned to the JTTF, the Memorandum of Understanding between the police departments and the FBI, the number of officers assigned to the JTTF, and the compliance of officers assigned to the JTTF with federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.

**Represent, educate, and engage AMEMSA communities on profiling and surveillance.** The Caucus will continue to provide direct legal services to AMEMSA individuals sought out by the FBI for interviews, placed on no-fly lists, and targeted for surveillance and profiling. The Caucus intends to conduct 15 know your rights trainings per year to educate community members in Northern and Central California on their legal rights with respect to law enforcement and work to build broad multiracial alliances that challenge national security policies that violate civil rights and civil liberties. Having led the formation of the Coalition for a Safe San Francisco to address San Francisco Police Department harassment in AMEMSA communities, the Caucus will also develop a toolkit for activists in other cities to develop similar coalitions. In addition, through its Korematsu Institute, the Caucus will organize two pan-ethnic “Rightsfest” civil rights film festivals to foster dialogue and help build multi-racial alliances to challenge problematic measures taken in the name of national security.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of AMEMSA individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society.

---

<sup>4</sup> As an example, San Francisco General Order 8.10, the San Francisco Police Department’s Guidelines for First Amendment Activities, mandates that police officers not engage in intelligence gathering in the absence of criminal suspicion.

This organization is part of a cohort of six progressive AMEMSA grantees funded by the NSHR Campaign, each of which is committed to restoring respect for civil rights and civil liberties in the post-9/11 world. A set of high profile terrorist attempts directed at the U.S. over the past 18 months has fueled concerns over “homegrown terrorism,” and anti-Muslim bigotry and religious and ethnic profiling have escalated. All six grantees have been strategic and effective in addressing these challenges, and renewal grants are being recommended to the full cohort in this docket.

The Asian Law Caucus’s decades-long association with the late Fred Korematsu and other Japanese Americans who suffered as a result of America’s World War II policy of interning Japanese Americans has sensitized the organization to the dangers of viewing entire ethnic communities as national security threats. Since 9/11, the Caucus has called repeatedly for an end to the targeting of AMEMSA individuals and communities and has made impressive progress in forging ties with a diverse set of AMEMSA communities in Northern and Central California that include Arab, Pakistani, and Somali communities.

The Caucus, through the example of its Executive Director Titi Liu, approaches all of its work with the values of inclusion and collaboration. Its well-attended know your rights trainings on encounters with law enforcement agents and legal clinics that it offers to AMEMSA communities and its lively town hall meetings on intrusive FBI surveillance of Muslim communities position the Caucus to monitor law enforcement abuses of privacy and First Amendment rights in these communities, and to act upon the knowledge it acquires through targeted policy advocacy and litigation. In 2010, the Caucus led the formation of the Coalition for a Safe San Francisco to address complaints that the San Francisco Police Department was harassing AMEMSA individuals, and it launched the Civil Rights Outreach Project, which facilitates coordination between bar associations and AMEMSA law student organizations in offering free legal clinics at locations throughout Northern California and increasing awareness about, and providing legal recourse for, civil rights abuses by private and public actors against AMEMSA individuals and communities.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a renewal grant of \$250,000 over two years to support the National Security and Civil Rights Project of the Asian Law Caucus. Staff does not recommend contingency funding as the organization would benefit from a firm two-year funding commitment from OSF. This project will require the organization to commit to tasks that will extend beyond one year, including the provision of legal representation.

**Grant ID:** 20032130

**Legal Organization Name:** Center for Victims of Torture

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the Progress Toward a Durable Consensus Against Torture Project

**Grant Description:** Founded in 1985, the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) is based in Minnesota and has additional staff located in Washington, D.C., Jordan, and Africa. The group works to heal the wounds of politically motivated torture on individuals, their families, and their communities by providing comprehensive care to torture survivors and advocating for an end to torture. This grant will renew project support to CVT's Progress Toward a Durable Consensus Against Torture Project as it works to coordinate advocacy efforts to secure accountability for post-9/11 U.S.-sponsored torture and create just and humane policies on detention and interrogation. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy; restoring an absolute prohibition against torture; and holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$391,557  
\$341,557 from NSHR Campaign (2008-2010)  
\$50,000 from Emma Lazarus Fund (1998)

**Organization Budget:** \$10,263,183

**Project Budget:** \$262,142

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Anonymous Donor Advised Fund \$100,000; CVT Unrestricted Funds \$15,826

**Amount Requested:** \$200,000 over two years

**Is this a contingent grant?:** Yes

**Amount Recommended:** \$200,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Limit Secrecy & Expand Oversight & Accountability, T1: 21133)

**Term:** Two years (January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2012)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 1985, the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) was the first organization in the U.S. and the third organization in the world to provide multidisciplinary care and rehabilitative services to survivors of politically motivated torture, and the organization has to date extended care to more than 20,000 torture survivors. CVT's mission is to heal the wounds of torture on individuals, their families, and their communities, and to stop torture worldwide by: training health care professionals to provide comprehensive care to torture survivors; researching and publicizing the effects of torture; and conducting public education on the importance of ending the use of torture. Headquartered in Minnesota, CVT has launched healing and training centers in Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as in Jordan, where its clients include Iraqi victims of the Saddam Hussein regime, the Sunni/Shia conflict, and torture perpetrated by U.S. personnel. In the U.S., the organization provides technical assistance and training to 38 colleague organizations that comprise the National Consortium of Torture Treatment Programs. CVT has 50 staff members in Minnesota, 2 in Washington, D.C., 50 in Jordan, and 125 in Africa, and several hundred volunteers.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

The Center for Victims of Torture seeks renewed support for its Progress Toward a Durable Consensus Against Torture Project. Over the proposed two-year grant period, CVT will work to:

**Build a national consensus that those responsible for U.S.-sponsored torture committed post-9/11 must be held to account.** In September 2010, CVT convened 40 individuals engaged in accountability efforts, many of whom had never before collaborated, for a two-day meeting to map out tactics for advancing common goals. The convened group, which represented 25 organizations, included grassroots activists working at the local and state level, policy advocates from the nation's leading human rights organizations, litigators and medical professionals pushing for the denial of state professional licenses to physicians and psychologists who were complicit in torture, academics, media experts, a former Army interrogator, and advocates engaged in accountability efforts in the UK and Canada. Following the convening, CVT has continued to encourage participants to share information and to engage in joint activities, including an advocacy and media campaign to secure the public release of the long delayed Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) report on its investigation of Central Intelligence Agency detention and interrogation policies. Twenty one of the convened organizations signed a letter CVT drafted and sent to the SSCI calling for an independent commission to investigate the use of torture.<sup>5</sup>

CVT plans to hold a second tactical mapping convening in 2012 timed around the release of a report by the high level Task Force on Detainee Treatment that the Constitution Project launched

---

<sup>5</sup> CVT has submitted a bifurcated project budget.

last December, so that advocates can identify ways to collaborate in promoting the report's findings and recommendations and leverage them into opportunities for policy reform.

In addition, CVT will continue to engage the National Coalition of Torture Treatment Providers (NCTTP), which includes 38 torture treatment programs in the U.S., in public and policymaker education. CVT will assist NCTTP members in writing and placing letters to the editor and op-ed pieces, as professionals associated with torture treatment programs are especially well placed to build community support and constituency pressure for accountability for torture.

**Mobilize validators to advocate for just and humane policies on interrogation and detention.** CVT will take a lead role in advocating, in coordination with Physicians for Human Rights, Human Rights First, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International USA, and OSI-DC, for the elimination of portions of Appendix M of the Army Field Manual on Human Collector Intelligence Operations that permit the use of prolonged sleep deprivation and social isolation of detainees. At CVT's instigation, advocates from these organizations met last December with William Lietzau, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Defense (DOD), and Scott Busby, Director of Human Rights at the National Security Council's Office of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, to propose changes that DOD can implement administratively. Both Lietzau and Busby seemed receptive to these proposals, and CVT is now seeking a meeting with Charles Allen, DOD Deputy General Counsel.

In January 2011, CVT and Human Rights First convened ten of their most active military, national security, and foreign policy validators for an off the record discussion to analyze the progress made toward – and challenges to – a national consensus against torture. CVT and Human Rights First will host a series of follow up meetings and prepare recommendations for actions in which the validator community can engage. One such action is a sign-on document modeled on CVT's January 2008 "Declaration of Principles for a Presidential Executive Order on Prisoner Treatment, Torture and Cruelty," that reaffirms America's rejection of torture.

Following President Obama's March 7, 2011 Executive Order on the Periodic Review of Individuals Detained at Guantánamo Bay Naval Station Pursuant to the Authorization for Use of Military Force, CVT will oppose the institutionalization of indefinite detention without charge on the grounds that such detention amounts to torture and cruel and inhuman treatment because of the severe and longstanding psychological and physiological damage it can inflict. In addition, CVT will join Guantanamo defense counsel in calling for the release of the identities of those on the indefinite detention list for Guantanamo.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy; restoring an absolute prohibition against torture; and holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law.

In a challenging political climate, CVT stands out as one in a handful of organizations that has committed itself over the long haul to building a national consensus that those responsible for

U.S.-sponsored torture committed post-9/11 must be held to account, and to the mobilization of validators to advocate for just and humane policies on interrogation and detention. CVT understands that achieving these objectives will require collaboration between national and local advocates employing multiple strategies, and over the past year, CVT has raised its profile as a trusted convener and a savvy connector of communities that are demanding accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture of terrorism suspects.

CVT remains on the alert for opportunities to advance its goals in ways that are both strategic and innovative. In 2008, with OSF funding, CVT played a lead role in obtaining endorsements from more than 100 prominent leaders from the national security, military, foreign policy, intelligence, and religious communities for the “Declaration of Principles for a Presidential Executive Order on Prisoner Treatment, Torture and Cruelty” that bore a striking resemblance to President Barack Obama’s January 22, 2009 executive order to end torture. Though the expectations that an official inquiry on U.S.-sponsored torture would be opened in the near future were put to rest when President Obama admonished the nation in the spring of 2009 to look forward, not backward, on this issue, with OSF funding, the Constitution Project’s Task Force on Detainee Treatment will conduct an in-depth investigation and release a major report next year that will present findings and recommendations. CVT, while maintaining its independence from the Task Force, will be well positioned to coordinate civil society voices to promote the Task Force’s recommendations.

Through its years of advocacy on the Hill against torture by foreign governments, CVT has built the trust and respect of senior leaders from the military, national security, intelligence, and foreign policy sectors, and has earned a reputation for bipartisanship. CVT will continue to tap the experts it has cultivated and feature them in policymaker briefings and public events where they can persuasively present the case that the use of torture fails to yield useful intelligence and provides terrorists with a recruitment tool, and that America’s broader national security interests lie in renouncing, repudiating, and seeking accountability for, the use of torture.

Since bringing on a new Communications Director last year, CVT has stepped up its efforts to engage the National Coalition of Torture Treatment Providers in its work against U.S.-sponsored torture – and the results show promise. Increasingly, with CVT’s encouragement and guidance, the physicians, psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, and community leaders who work directly with survivors who suffered political torture outside the U.S. at NCTTP’s 38 centers in 19 states are committing to appear on local and national broadcast media outlets, writing op-ed pieces and letters to the editor, and speaking to their representatives in Congress to urge that the U.S. stand firm against torture. CVT has succeeded in placing op-eds by NCTTP members, as well as intelligence and national security experts, in outlets ranging from the *Washington Post* and *New York Times*, to the *Salt Lake Tribune* and *The San Jose Mercury News*.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a contingent grant of \$200,000 over two years to support the Progress Toward a Durable Consensus Against Torture Project of the Center for Victims of Torture.

**Grant ID:** 20032131

**Legal Organization Name:** Muslim Advocates

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide core support

**Grant Description:** Founded in 2005 and based in San Francisco, Muslim Advocates' mission is to promote freedom, justice, and equality for all, regardless of faith, through legal advocacy, policy engagement, and civic education, as it promotes the full and meaningful participation of Muslims in American public life. This grant will provide renewed core operating support for Muslim Advocates. The organization will work to end racial, religious, and national origin profiling and discriminatory law enforcement policies and practices, and protect the First Amendment freedoms of association, expression, and exercise of religion. It will also work to strengthen Muslim charitable institutions and foster the civic engagement of Muslim Americans. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$520,000  
\$520,000 from NSHR Campaign (2008, 2009)

**Organization Budget:** \$1,326,130

**Project Budget:** N/A

**Major Sources of Support:** Organization: Individual donors \$280,000; Atlantic Philanthropies \$200,000; Ford Foundation \$100,000; San Francisco Foundation \$20,000

**Amount Requested:** \$445,000 over 30 months

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$445,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132)

**Term:** 30 months (January 1, 2011 – June 30, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 2005, Muslim Advocates is an advocacy and education organization that promotes freedom, justice, and equality for all, regardless of faith, through litigation, policy engagement, and civic education, as it promotes the full and meaningful participation of Muslims in American public life. The organization is based in San Francisco and has six full-time staff members and a volunteer legal fellow.

Muslim Advocates was created as a 501(c)(3) organization by the National Association of Muslim Lawyers (NAML), which was formed in 1996. NAML is the only national professional association for the Muslim American legal community, and has grown to include over 500 members and 12 local Muslim lawyer affiliate groups in many areas of the country, including Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Florida, and Washington, D.C. Farhana Khera serves as the Executive Director of both NAML and Muslim Advocates.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

Muslim Advocates seeks renewed core operating support. Over the proposed 30 month grant period, Muslim Advocates plans to:

**Oppose racial and religious profiling against Muslim Americans by law enforcement.**

Muslim Advocates engages in community education and policy and legal advocacy to combat racial and religious profiling of Muslim Americans by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Following its release in 2009 of its report, *Unreasonable Intrusions: Investigating the Policies, Faith & Finances of Americans Returning Home*, Muslim Advocates has been actively advocating before key policymakers and in the media for the implementation of the report's recommendations. Muslim Advocates and the American Civil Liberties Union are currently awaiting a response on a formal complaint they filed in December 2010 with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Inspector General demanding an investigation into CBP questioning of Muslims at the border. Muslim travelers have reported detentions lasting five hours, seizures of their cell phones and laptops, and questioning on religious practices including where they worship, how many times a day they pray, which charities they donate to, and whether and if so why they enroll their children in Islamic schools.

Muslim Advocates succeeded in securing, under a Freedom of Information Act request filed with the FBI and Department of Justice (DOJ), the release in redacted form of the Attorney General's revised surveillance guidelines and the FBI's Domestic Investigations and Operations Guide

(DIOG) that provides operational guidance to FBI agents on how to implement the surveillance guidelines. Muslim Advocates is now seeking the disclosure of portions of the DIOG that pertain to the surveillance and use of informants in places of worship, including mosques, and it is exploring the filing of a lawsuit charging the FBI with targeting individuals for surveillance solely on the basis of their First Amendment-protected activities and beliefs. The organization will continue to serve as an active member of the OSF-funded Rights Working Group campaign to end racial profiling, work to eliminate the national security exemption in the DOJ guidelines barring racial profiling, and support the End Racial Profiling Act and other efforts that would roll back discriminatory post-9/11 policies.<sup>6</sup>

In addition, Muslim Advocates will continue to monitor and collect reports on law enforcement profiling of American Muslim communities. It operates a toll-free legal hotline to take in complaints and make referrals to qualified *pro bono* lawyers, and it trains volunteer lawyers to represent individuals who have been contacted by the FBI for questioning. Muslim Advocates continues to educate American Muslims on their legal rights in encounters with the FBI and DHS and to encourage them to become advocates for reform. The organization's 2008 educational video, *Got Rights? Protecting Yourself and Your Family At Home and the Airport*, has been released in five languages (English, Arabic, Farsi, Somali, and Urdu) and has been viewed by more than 50,000 people.

In response to increases in FBI monitoring of mosques and opposition to the building of mosques in many communities across the U.S., Muslim Advocates is launching a "Free to Pray" campaign to educate mosque and nonprofit leadership about their rights to expand and build mosques, the importance of seeking legal counsel before being questioned by law enforcement, and providing the boards of mosques with model policies that govern contacts with law enforcement, maintain the privacy of membership and donor lists, and address disruptive and suspicious behavior. Increased support from this grant will allow Muslim Advocates to hire on a full time basis a highly capable legal fellow who is currently staffing this work on a volunteer basis.

**Counter Anti-Muslim Hate.** Muslim Advocates played a leading role galvanizing broad public opposition to Representative Peter King's highly controversial March 2010 Congressional hearing, "The Extent of Radicalization in the American Muslim Community and That Community's Response." In the days leading up to the hearing, Muslim Advocates launched a coalition website, [www.WhatUnitesUs](http://www.WhatUnitesUs), as a vehicle for Americans of all religious, racial, and ethnic backgrounds and from all walks of life to speak out against anti-Muslim rhetoric and the targeting of Muslims. The website features content from faith voices, human rights advocates, AMEMSA communities, and law enforcement. As this national debate continues to unfold, Muslim Advocates will – as part of its ongoing efforts to counter anti-Muslim bigotry – continue to play a leadership role in developing a strategic coalition approach to this issue and will build the website into a central resource for allied organizations, the media, policymakers, and members of the public.

**Strengthen Muslim Charities.** To address the post-9/11 targeting of Muslim charities for prosecution on the grounds of violating the vague criminal bar on providing "material support" to terrorists, Muslim Advocates launched the Muslim Charities Accreditation Program in 2008

---

<sup>6</sup> Muslim Advocates has submitted a bifurcated organizational budget.

with the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance. Muslim Advocates will continue to provide leaders of charities and mosques with legal advice, technical training, and professional evaluation of legal and financial records through this program. Muslim Advocates plans to develop educational videos and training materials, expand its use of webinars, hold live seminars in cities across the U.S., and introduce advanced level seminars in cities they previously visited. Muslim Advocates aims to reach 180 attendees per year through its webinars and seminars, and to certify 60 new charities by 2013.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of AMEMSA individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society.

This organization is part of a cohort of six progressive AMEMSA grantees funded by the NSHR Campaign, each of which is committed to restoring respect for civil rights and civil liberties in the post-9/11 world. A set of high profile terrorist attempts directed at the U.S. over the past 18 months has fueled concerns over “homegrown terrorism,” and anti-Muslim bigotry and religious and ethnic profiling have escalated. All six grantees have been strategic and effective in addressing these challenges, and renewal grants are being recommended to the full cohort in this docket.

Muslim Advocates stands out as the pre-eminent progressive legal, advocacy, and educational organization with a national reach that focuses on serving the American Muslim community, and it plays a crucial leadership role both within the universe of AMEMSA organizations that are fighting for civil liberties in the post-9/11 world and within the broader civil rights, civil liberties, and human rights advocacy community. The organization’s founders and leaders are American Muslim lawyers and policy experts with experience in Congress, the Department of Justice and other government agencies, and NGOs such as the ACLU and Amnesty International, and they understand the importance of having targeted communities in the room as policies that impact them are debated.

Muslim Advocates has proved itself to be an effective advocate on the national stage. On March 29, 2011, Farhana Khera, the Executive Director of Muslim Advocates, was the key witness at the Senate Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Human Rights hearing, “Protecting the Civil Rights of American Muslims.” Ms. Khera has been invited to testify as an issue expert before other Congressional committees, and she and her staff are regularly sought out by the press for the group’s views on the religious and racial profiling of Muslims and religious freedom. In early 2010, Muslim Advocates helped lead the ultimately successful effort to secure reversal of a Transportation Security Administration directive that targeted travelers from 14 primarily Muslim countries for enhanced security measures.

Last summer, during the height of the firestorm over plans to construct an Islamic community center in lower Manhattan and a Florida pastor’s plans to burn copies of the Koran in protest,

Muslim Advocates pulled together an impressive coalition of faith leaders that included J. Brent Walker of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy of the Interfaith Alliance, and Rabbi David Saperstein of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Ms. Khera and these allies for religious tolerance met with top Department of Justice officials and asked that DOJ use its enforcement powers to protect the safety of American Muslims and their right – and the right of all Americans – to religious freedom. Immediately after the meeting, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder spoke to the press about the rising anti-Muslim hate as “the civil rights issue of our time.” In December, Holder spoke at Muslim Advocates’ first annual dinner and addressed an audience that included more than 300 American Muslim community leaders.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a renewal grant of \$445,000 over 30 months to support the core operating costs of Muslim Advocates. Given Muslim Advocates’ relatively small size and the high value that a firm commitment of two years of support will provide, OSF staff recommends accruing the full grant amount in 2011 rather than making this a contingent grant.

**Grant ID:** 20031861

**Legal Organization Name:** National Religious Campaign Against Torture

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the National Religious Campaign Against Torture and, through a regrant, the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good, as they continue to build support in communities of faith for: (1) accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture since 9/11; and (2) an end to anti-Muslim bigotry.

**Grant Description:** The National Religious Campaign Against Torture was established in January 2006 in Washington, D.C. to bring a permanent end to the use of torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment in the detention of terrorism suspects by the U.S. government, and to build a moral consensus that torture is never acceptable. This grant will support the National Religious Campaign Against Torture and, through a regrant of \$150,000, the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good, as they continue to work in close alignment in building support in communities of faith for accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture. In addition, the grant will also allow both groups to intensify their efforts since the controversy over the “Ground Zero Mosque” arose in the summer of 2010 to mobilize religious communities to call for tolerance and an end to anti-Muslim bigotry. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of restoring an absolute prohibition against torture; holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law; supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy; and combating racial and religious profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities and individuals in the name of national security.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$830,000  
\$75,000 from Presidents Grants (2010)  
\$570,000 from NSHR Campaign (2007-2010)  
\$10,000 from Criminal Justice Fund (2009-2010)  
\$50,000 from Civil Liberties (2007-2008)  
\$125,000 from USJF General Grantmaking (2007)

**Organization Budget:** \$810,857

**Project Budget:** \$318,750

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Ford Foundation \$100,000; Vanguard \$75,000

**Amount Requested:** \$450,000

**Is this a contingent grant:** Yes

**Amount Recommended:** \$450,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Build the Capacity of Core Organizations to Advance Policy Reform, T1: 21135)

**Term:** 2 years (April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

The National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) was established in January 2006 to bring a permanent end to the use of torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment in the detention of terrorism suspects by the U.S. government, and to build a moral consensus that torture is never acceptable. NRCAT now has over 300 religious member organizations, and more than 57,000 people of faith have signed its three statements of conscience: “Torture is a Moral Issue;” “Declaration of Principles for a Presidential Executive Order on Prisoner Treatment, Torture and Cruelty;” and “Call for a Commission of Inquiry.” Based in Washington, D.C., NRCAT maintains close working relationships with partner organizations in 23 states representing Roman Catholic, Evangelical Christian, Protestant, Unitarian Universalist, Quaker, Orthodox Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Baha’i, and Sikh communities. In December 2009, NRCAT broadened its work to include, in addition to supporting accountability for detainee mistreatment, two new areas: (1) ending harsh treatment in U.S. prisons; and (2) advocating for U.S. policies and practices that will end the use of torture by other governments. Since the summer of 2010, NRCAT has played a strategic role in organizing the religious community to speak out against anti-Muslim bigotry. NRCAT currently has 12 staff members.

Between 2006 and 2009, NRCAT housed, as a project, Evangelicals for Human Rights (EHR), a group of evangelicals that were committed to ending U.S.-sponsored torture. Around a year ago, EHR spun off from NRCAT to become a part of the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good (NEP). Located in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, NEP is currently seeking 501(c)(3) tax status. NEP will be dedicating much of its time during the proposed grant period to advancing a policy agenda led by NRCAT, and the two organizations plan to maintain their close working relationship.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

NRCAT requests a two-year project support grant of \$450,000, of which \$300,000 will support NRCAT’s work, and the remaining \$150,000 will be regrant by NRCAT to NEP so that the two organizations can continue to work in close alignment on the two following goals:

**Ending and obtaining accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture.** NRCAT and NEP will work to end, and obtain accountability for, U.S.-sponsored torture by mobilizing support at the congregational level; educating the broader public, the media, and policymakers on the issues; and amplifying the voices of the faith community through collaborations with faith groups and multi-faith alliances. NRCAT and NEP have called for a governmental Commission of Inquiry to investigate the torture of detainees and recommend safeguards to prevent future acts of torture. They are also offering their support to the private Task Force on Detainee Treatment launched by the Constitution Project in December 2010 as the task force engages in fact-finding over the coming year and disseminates a major report and promotes its recommendations in 2012.<sup>7</sup>

In 2010, NRCAT launched the 300 in 30 Project, through which it aspired to recruit 300 congregations in 30 states to hold adult education classes at which NRCAT's video, "Ending U.S.-Sponsored Torture Forever," was shown and congregants were then engaged in a dialogue based on one of seven guides that NRCAT has tailored for specific faith groups. To date, 250 congregations in 41 states and the District of Columbia have fulfilled these steps, and surveys of participants conducted before and after these classes showed that in a large percentage of cases opposition to torture had deepened. NRCAT plans to expand its efforts to recruit congregants across the U.S.

NRCAT also launched in 2010 its Letters to the Editor Project, which aims to influence public opinion on torture, one community at a time. NRCAT has recruited 67 supporters of faith in 36 states who have committed to submitting three letters on torture-related issues per year to the editors of their local newspapers. To date, 35 letters have been published in 21 states. And at the policy level, NRCAT has been advocating, in coordination with other NSHR grantees and OSI-DC, and before the Department of Defense, for eliminating the portions of Appendix M of the Army Field Manual on Human Collector Intelligence Operations that permit detainees to be subjected to sleep and sensory deprivation.

NEP is playing a leadership role in organizing a conference at the Duke Divinity School this spring, "Toward a Moral Consensus Against Torture." NEP's two most persuasive opponents of torture, its president and a former OSI fellow, Reverend Richard Cizik, and Dave Gushee, a professor of Christian Ethics at Mercer University, will host conference events aimed at recruiting and educating evangelicals to engage on this issue.

**Ending anti-Muslim bigotry.** Last summer, as the nation witnessed an outbreak of anti-Muslim xenophobia and media attention was riveted by an Evangelical pastor of a small church in Florida who threatened to burn copies of the Koran if plans to build an Islamic community center a few blocks from Ground Zero proceeded, NRCAT and NEP collaborated with the Islamic Society of North America and other faith-based organizations in sponsoring an emergency interfaith summit on September 7, 2010, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., "Standing with American Muslims; Upholding American Values." A highlight of the event, which was attended by White House staff and covered by C-SPAN, was Richard Cizik's

---

<sup>7</sup> NRCAT will allocate \$300,000 evenly between these two issue areas and has submitted a bifurcated project budget. Of the \$150,000 that will be regranted to NEP, NEP will allocate 80% to work against torture and 20% to work against bigotry and has submitted a non-lobbying project budget.

shaming of his fellow Evangelicals who would burn another religion's sacred texts and "bring dishonor to the name of Jesus Christ."

Based on the relationships they built with multi-faith religious leaders last summer, NRCAT and NEP are now playing leadership roles in the new Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign that was launched by the Islamic Society of North America earlier this year with support from the NSHR Campaign. This inclusive and collaborative effort joins diverse religious and faith-based organizations that are committed to ending bigotry against American Muslims through media, advocacy, and grassroots strategies. Thus far, 24 religious organizations have joined the campaign's steering committee. On March 10, the Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign held an extensively covered press conference immediately following a controversial House Homeland Security Committee hearing chaired by Representative Peter King on radicalization that targeted American Muslims. At the Shoulder to Shoulder press conference, which received extensive coverage by the mainstream and religious media, religious leaders of many faiths and denominations criticized the hearing and called for tolerance and respect for all faiths.

Afterward, the leaders were greeted by National Security Council and other White House staff.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: supporting core organizations working to challenge human rights abuses committed in the name of national security; restoring an absolute prohibition against torture; holding government officials and private actors accountable for past abuses and violations of the law; supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy; and combating racial and religious profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities and individuals in the name of national security.

Despite long odds, NRCAT and NEP continue to hold firm to their conviction that torture is a moral issue and that the religious community has a powerful role to play in pressing for an official commission of inquiry that will lead to the holding of those responsible for U.S.-sponsored torture to account. With passion and commitment, these groups have found innovative ways to broaden their reach through grassroots education campaigns directed at the congregational and community levels, including NRCAT's 300 in 30 Project and Letters to the Editor Project. They have also been skillful in elevating the voices of religious leaders from multiple faiths who, by standing united, capture the attention of key policymakers, including White House staff, the media, and the public.

OSF and OSPC have supported NRCAT and NEP since their inception in 2006. In the intervening five years, these groups have gained an impressive degree of sophistication. When intolerance of Islam reared its ugly head last summer, these groups were quick to parlay the lessons learned, resources acquired, and networks built from the years they had spent fighting U.S.-sponsored torture into an impactful multi-faith campaign against anti-Muslim bigotry.

NRCAT, as a D.C.-based organization that provides timely policy updates and strategic guidance to its members, serves as an inspiration and vital resource to dozens of smaller religious groups including Rabbis for Human Rights, also recommended on this docket, that are eager to play a

role with limited resources. NRCAT has also been successful in its communications outreach and has increased its media coverage from 287 news stories and web mentions of NRCAT in 2009, to 431 in 2010.

Led by a charismatic evangelical reverend, Richard Cizik, NEP is making important inroads in its efforts to change the attitudes of Evangelicals, who are generally identified with the Republican Party, the Tea Party movement, and the policies that NRCAT and NEP oppose.

For the above reasons, OSI staff recommends a grant of \$450,000 over two years to support the National Religious Campaign Against Torture and, through a regrant of \$150,000, the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good, as the groups collaborate in seeking accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture and in ending anti-Muslim bigotry.

**Grant ID:** 20032132

**Legal Organization Name:** Shomrey Mishpat<sup>8</sup> Rabbis for Human Rights-North America

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the project, Honor the Image of God: A Return to Jewish and American Values on National Security

**Grant Description:** Founded in 2002 and based in New York City, Shomrey Mishpat Rabbis for Human Rights-North America (RHR-NA) has a staff of three and half and a following of many thousands of rabbis who are dedicated to: (1) the human rights advocacy of Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel, and (2) education and advocacy on human rights issues in North America. This grant will renew support for RHR-NA's project, Honor the Image of God: A Return to Jewish and American Values on National Security. This project mobilizes rabbis and rabbinical students from all regions of the U.S. and from all the movements of Judaism to educate congregations and broader Jewish communities on the moral imperative of seeking accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture, ending the indefinite and arbitrary detention of terrorism suspects, and promoting tolerance and acceptance of Islam. The project also engages rabbis in interfaith efforts to promote these goals. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: holding government officials and private actors accountable for torture and other abuses and violations of the law; ending arbitrary and indefinite detention of terrorism suspects; countering anti-Muslim bigotry and promoting the acceptance of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities in American society; and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$140,000 from NSHR Campaign (2008-2009)

**Organization Budget:** \$578,000

**Project Budget:** \$164,875

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Vivian and Paul Olum Charitable Foundation \$15,000; Rita Poretsky Foundation \$10,000; Individual donors \$10,000; Samuel Rubin Foundation \$5,000

---

<sup>8</sup> Shomrey Mishpat means guardians of the law, and is taken from a verse in Psalms which reads: "Happy are the guardians of the law, those who preserve justice at all times."

**Amount Requested:** \$150,000

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$150,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132)

**Term:** Two years (April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 2002 and based in New York City, Shomrey Mishpat Rabbis for Human Rights-North America (RHR-NA) is an organization of rabbis dedicated to supporting the human rights work of Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel as well as human rights work in North America. RHR-NA has a 25-member Board of Directors and a 14-member Advisory Council composed of prominent rabbis from all of the Jewish denominations, three and a half full-time staff members, and a number of rabbinical student interns and volunteers. In April 2011, Rabbi Jill Jacobs, an advocate for social justice who serves as a panelist for the *Washington Post*'s "On Faith" blog and blogs at the *Huffington Post*, was announced as the new Executive Director of the organization.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

RHR-NA seeks renewed support for its project, Honor the Image of God: A Return to Jewish and American Values on National Security. Through this project, RHR-NA mobilizes its following of many thousands of rabbis to educate their congregations and the broader Jewish communities they address, to promote the moral imperatives of: (1) seeking accountability for torture and ending indefinite detention; and (2) combating anti-Muslim bigotry.

**Seeking accountability for torture and ending indefinite detention.** In January 2005, dismayed by the revelations of abuse at Abu Ghraib, as well as by the silence in the Jewish community, RHR-NA launched the project, Honor the Image of God: Stop Torture Now. The project will continue to create educational materials and resources on torture based on Jewish values, and to inspire and support rabbis and Jewish lay people to work in partnership with each other and with their counterparts from other faiths, as well as with human rights activists, to end the use of torture by the U.S. government, call for accountability for torture, and end indefinite detention.

RHR-NA's closest partner in this effort is the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT), also recommended on this docket. RHR-NA is active in NRCAT's Letters to the Editor Project, which calls on people of faith to write letters to their local newspaper editors on the issues of torture and accountability. In 2011, RHR-NA plans to recruit and train around a

dozen rabbis to join the Letters to the Editor Project to ensure that the Jewish voice is heard on these issues.

**Combating anti-Muslim bigotry.** Following last summer's rise of Islamophobia, RHR-NA has been calling for tolerance and acceptance of Islam. RHR-NA has joined the new multi-faith Shoulder-to-Shoulder Campaign to end anti-Muslim bigotry convened by the Islamic Society of North America earlier this year with support from the NSHR Campaign. On March 10, 2011, RHR-NA's co-chair, Rabbi Charles Feinberg, joined prominent religious leaders from a number of faiths at a press conference sponsored by the Shoulder-to-Shoulder Campaign immediately after Representative Peter King closed his controversial House Homeland Security Committee hearing on American Muslim radicalization. Rabbi Feinberg criticized King's decision to target a single religion for investigation for radicalization and spoke of the critical role that people of faith play in the effort to overcome bigotry and hatred.

The day before the King hearing, RHR-NA launched a video campaign on its website, Stand Together: Rabbis Speak Out Against Islamophobia, that highlights 25 short video clips of male and female rabbis of all ages and denominations explaining in their own words why bigotry violates the core tenets of Jewish beliefs and values. Shared on RHR-NA's blog, via email, and over social networking sites, this viral campaign has spread a message of unity and shared purpose beyond the Jewish community to many other faith and interfaith groups. RHR-NA also co-sponsored the well-attended "Today I Am a Muslim, Too" rally held in Times Square the Sunday before the King hearing.

During the proposed grant period, RHR-NA will increase its output of educational resources – talking points, liturgies, discussion questions, and opportunities for community and individual action based on Jewish traditions – that rabbis can draw upon in preparing sermons. Each January, these resources will concern the anniversaries of the opening of the Guantanamo detention center and the unfulfilled promise of President Obama's 2009 Executive Order ordering Guantanamo's closure within one year. Each June, these resources will center on Torture Awareness Month and the need to seek accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture. On the Jewish High Holidays, the anniversary of 9/11, and RHR-NA's Human Rights Shabbat, which is held the weekend following International Human Rights Day on December 10th, these resources will highlight the need for the Jewish community to combat anti-Muslim bigotry. RHR-NA will also provide, on a rapid response basis, educational resources and talking points that will translate headlines into sermons and synagogue discussion guides.

In addition, RHR-NA will expand its presence on rabbinic seminary campuses and work to engage the next generation of rabbis in the cause of human rights. RHR-NA will offer speakers and events on campuses to educate students on its work and develop student chapters that will both promote RHR-NA's core issues and develop human rights campaigns of their own. The RHR-NA board will soon begin the process of including rabbinic students in the leadership of the organization.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: holding government officials and private actors accountable for torture and other abuses and violations of the law; ending arbitrary and indefinite detention of terrorism suspects; countering anti-Muslim bigotry and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society, and supporting credible voices in the movement for a progressive national security policy.

RHR-NA presents a critically important moral voice in support of accountability for torture, ending indefinite detention, and combating anti-Muslim bigotry. Its large following of rabbis are positioned to reach large numbers of Jews of all denominations in settings that range from synagogues and cultural centers, to schools and college campuses. RHR-NA is committed to interfaith collaboration and will encourage rabbis to reach out to imams and clergy of other faiths in their localities in speaking out against anti-Muslim bigotry.

RHR-NA's partnership with the National Religious Campaign Against Torture serves as a model for interfaith collaboration. RHR-NA continues to be the most active Jewish organization within NRCAT and acts as a bridge between NRCAT and Jewish communities by providing NRCAT with access to rabbis to participate in events and campaigns, producing Jewish educational resources and talking points, and recruiting major Jewish leaders to sign NRCAT letters to Congressional leaders.<sup>9</sup>

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a grant of \$150,000 over two years to support the Honor the Image of God: A Return to Jewish and American Values on National Security Project of Rabbis for Human Rights-North America. Contingency funding is not recommended because this is a small organization that would benefit from a firm two-year funding commitment from OSF.

---

<sup>9</sup> RHR-NA has submitted a bifurcated project budget.

**Grant ID:** 20032134

**Legal Organization Name:** Sikh Coalition

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To support its national security and human rights programs

**Grant Description:** The Sikh Coalition was founded in 2001 in New York City to combat the violence and discrimination against Sikhs that followed the terrorist attacks of 9/11. This grant will provide expanded project support for the Sikh Coalition’s public education, policy advocacy, grassroots mobilization, and litigation in the areas of national security and human rights. This will include support for its efforts to: combat racial, religious, and national origin profiling by law enforcement and national security agencies; work with policymakers and advocates to take preparatory steps to protect civil rights and civil liberties in the event of another terrorist attack in the U.S.; combat rising xenophobia by advocating for measures that protect students from bullying and bias-based harassment; and build the capacity of Sikh leaders to advocate on these issues. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$200,000  
\$200,000 from NSHR Campaign (2009)

**Organization Budget:** \$979,410

**Project Budget:** \$266,240

**Major Sources of Support:** Project: Proteus Fund \$75,000; Sikh Coalition general funds

**Amount Requested:** \$300,000 over two years

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$300,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132)

**Term:** Two years (June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

The Sikh Coalition was founded in 2001 in New York City to combat the violence and discrimination against Sikhs that followed the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The Coalition advocates for laws and policies respectful of fundamental rights, promotes appreciation of diversity through education, fosters civic participation to further community empowerment, and provides direct legal services to protect the Sikh community's civil rights. The Coalition has offices in New York City, Fremont, California, and Washington, D.C., and has nine full-time and one part-time staff members.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

The Sikh Coalition seeks renewed support for its public education, policy advocacy, grassroots mobilization, and litigation in the areas of national security and human rights. Over the proposed two-year grant period, the Sikh Coalition plans to:

**Combat profiling by law enforcement and national security agencies.** The Coalition launched its campaign against profiling by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in August 2007, following the TSA's alteration of its headwear search policy, which provided security screeners with new authority to order public removal of religious headdress<sup>10</sup> at airports. The TSA made significant improvements to its policy in October 2007, but profiling has continued and the Coalition has remained a leading advocate in this arena. The Coalition will continue to make policy recommendations to combat TSA profiling, raise public awareness, push Members of Congress to raise the issue, and file administrative complaints of profiling with the TSA and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to document abuses and seek redress for individual cases of discrimination. The Coalition will also continue to serve as an active member of the Rights Working Group's campaign to end racial profiling, work to eliminate the national security exemption in the Department of Justice (DOJ) guidelines barring racial profiling, and support the End Racial Profiling Act and other efforts to roll back discriminatory post-9/11 policies.<sup>11</sup>

The Sikh Coalition has been working closely with NSHR grantee South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT), also recommended in this docket, to organize regular conference calls and meetings of organizations representing AMEMSA communities and allies, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Center for National Security Studies, and the Center for

---

<sup>10</sup> For Sikhs, the turban is a religious article and a deep symbol of Sikh identity. Sikhs consider the hair sacred and are expected to keep it uncut and covered. It is considered a great dishonor for others to touch or remove one's turban, and it is time-consuming to re-tie and often requires the use of a small, pointed tool.

<sup>11</sup> The Sikh Coalition has provided a bifurcated project budget.

Constitutional Rights, to develop more effective and more collaborative strategies for combating profiling and discrimination. The Sikh Coalition and SAALT held a convening of these groups in April 2010 at OSI-DC and are planning a second convening that is scheduled for May 2011.

The Coalition is also working with SAALT and other South Asian community members and organizations to document, through video clips and written narratives, their experience of profiling, special registration requirements that target non-citizen nationals of Muslim-majority nations, and pretextual detentions in the aftermath of 9/11, and it plans to release a report assessing the continuing impacts of discriminatory policies and practices in advance of the tenth anniversary of 9/11.

**Prepare for the event of another terrorist attack in the U.S.** The Sikh Coalition began as a volunteer effort on the night of September 11, 2001, following violent “reprisal” attacks on an elderly Sikh and two teenage Sikhs in Queens. The group conducted media outreach, called on police to better protect Sikh neighborhoods, created press kits for local use around the country, and established a website to document occurrences of hate crimes. The Coalition will continue its work to promote the adoption of backlash mitigation plans to preempt bigoted violence against AMEMSA communities in the event of another terrorist attack in the U.S. The Coalition has interviewed dozens of stakeholder organizations and is strategizing with these groups to develop a plan of action. The Coalition will also continue to participate in DHS-convened Incident Community Coordination Team calls in response to terrorist threats, such as it did following the Fort Hood incident and attempted Christmas Day bombing in 2009, as well as last summer during the time of increased tensions surrounding the Park51 controversy.

**Combat rising xenophobia by advocating for measures that protect students from bullying and bias-based harassment.** The Coalition will continue to engage in advocacy at the federal and local levels to combat xenophobia directed at Sikh and AMEMSA children in schools throughout the U.S., and to create better systems for combating bias-based bullying of children. In 2008, the Coalition helped to secure the adoption of a New York City Chancellor’s Regulation that defines, tracks, and aims to prevent bias-based bullying and harassment in public schools. This February, the Coalition issued a report with the New York Civil Liberties Union and Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, *Bullying in New York City Schools: Educators Speak Out*, and the Coalition plans to meet regularly with the New York City Department of Education to identify and rectify gaps in compliance. At the federal level, the Coalition will file complaints regarding bias-based bullying with the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Education and the Education Opportunities Section of the DOJ, and it will decide whether it will file lawsuits against schools that fail to protect children from bullying. It is also engaged in discussions with top DOJ officials on how DOJ might target the use of its enforcement powers to stop bullying. In addition, the Coalition is working with the Texas and New Jersey boards of education to teach students about the Sikh religion as part of a strategy for reducing bullying and increasing tolerance in America.

**Build the capacity of Sikh leaders to advocate on these issues.** The Coalition has recently launched the Sikh American Advocacy Training Institute to train and engage a corps of grassroots and online advocates. The Coalition has developed written curricular modules on

government relations, media relations, and community relations, and will hold a week-long advocacy training in Washington, D.C. later this year.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of AMEMSA individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society.

This organization is part of a cohort of six progressive AMEMSA grantees funded by the NSHR Campaign, each of which is committed to restoring respect for civil rights and civil liberties in the post-9/11 world. A set of high profile terrorist attempts directed at the U.S. over the past 18 months has fueled concerns over “homegrown terrorism,” and anti-Muslim bigotry and religious and ethnic profiling have escalated. All six grantees have been strategic and effective in addressing these challenges, and renewal grants are being recommended to the full cohort in this docket.

The Sikh Coalition is recognized as the leading civil rights and civil liberties organization representing the American Sikh perspective in the arena of national security and human rights policy debates. Last year, the Coalition expanded its staff to include a Washington, D.C.-based Director of Law and Policy, a move that has increased its ability to engage with the Obama administration and Congress in policy meetings on racial profiling, immigration reform, xenophobic rhetoric, and workplace discrimination.

Within weeks of the attempted Christmas Day 2009 airplane bombing, the Coalition, along with Muslim Advocates and SAALT, participated in a closed, two-day meeting with DHS officials that included discussions with DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano. In coordination with other grantees, the Coalition was successful in advocating for the reversal of a directive the Transportation Security Administration had issued following that bombing attempt that targeted travelers from 14 primarily Muslim countries for enhanced security measures. On June 17, 2010, the Coalition and Muslim Advocates broke new ground by being the first AMEMSA organizations to present testimony at the invitation of a House Judiciary Subcommittee at a hearing on racial profiling and the use of suspect classifications in law enforcement policy.

The Coalition is respected for – in addition to its expertise on TSA profiling – its provision of high caliber diversity trainings for schools and law enforcement agencies and its responsiveness to the legal needs of the American Sikh community. In 2010, with assistance from eight pro-bono attorneys, the Coalition addressed 171 requests for legal assistance, many of which concerned hate crimes, bias, and discrimination against Sikhs. The organization has been quoted in media outlets including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Associated Press*, and has appeared on ABC, NBC, CBS, and CNN.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a renewal grant of \$300,000 over two years to support the national security and human rights work of the Sikh Coalition. Given the Coalition’s

relatively small size and the security that committed support for two years will provide, OSF staff recommends accruing the full grant amount upfront rather than making this a contingent grant.

**Grant ID:** 20032133

**Legal Organization Name:** South Asian Americans Leading Together

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide core support

**Grant Description:** South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT), founded in 2000 and staffed since 2004, is based in Washington, D.C. It brings together South Asian community-based groups and advocates that address national security and immigration issues affecting South Asians, builds alliances with communities of color and immigrant rights coalitions, and fosters the civic and political engagement of South Asians in America. This grant will provide SAALT with renewed core support to challenge racial, religious, and national origin profiling by law enforcement and national security agencies and advance immigration reform through policy advocacy, community mobilization, media advocacy, alliance-building, and documentation. This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society. It will also advance the Equality and Opportunity Fund's mission to prohibit arbitrary and discriminatory government action and lift barriers that prevent people from participating fully in economic, social, and political life, and its goal of stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$200,000  
\$100,000 from NSHR Campaign (2009)  
\$100,000 from Equality & Opportunity (2009)

**Organization Budget:** \$888,414

**Project Budget:** N/A

**Major Sources of Support:** Organization: Ford Foundation \$100,000; Proteus Fund \$75,000; Four Freedoms Fund \$60,000; Individual donors \$50,000; Fund for New Jersey \$20,000

**Amount Requested:** \$350,000 over two years

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$350,000  
\$250,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132) and \$100,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund (Racial Justice, T1: 24448)

**Term:** Two years (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2013)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT) was founded in 2000 to foster civic and political engagement by South Asians and strengthen broader progressive movements in America, and has been staffed since 2004. The organization focuses on two policy goals: addressing the impact of post-9/11 national security and immigration policies that target Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) communities and individuals, and advocating for enforcement of civil rights laws and immigration reform. To advance these goals, SAALT engages in policy analysis and advocacy, community and public education, documentation, community organization capacity-building, and leadership development. The organization is based in Washington, D.C., and has eight full-time and one part-time staff members and two regional consultants.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

SAALT seeks renewed support for its core operations, as well as to deepen and strengthen its programmatic work against profiling and discrimination and for immigration reform. Over the proposed two-year grant period, SAALT plans to:

**Engage in policy analysis and advocacy.** SAALT focuses its policy advocacy at the intersection of immigration, profiling, and post-9/11 national security policies. SAALT will continue to seek the elimination of the national security exemption in the Department of Justice's guidelines barring racial profiling, and anticipates that over the next two years its legislative advocacy at the federal level will focus on immigration reform, advocating against federal anti-immigrant measures such as ongoing challenges to birthright citizenship, supporting the End Racial Profiling Act and other efforts to roll back discriminatory post-9/11 policies.<sup>12</sup> At the state level, SAALT will advocate against legislation targeting communities based on race, religion, or ethnicity, and Arizona SB1070-style anti-immigrant legislation, and will track how

---

<sup>12</sup> SAALT has submitted a bifurcated organizational budget.

these policies are affecting South Asians with an geographic focus on Georgia, New Jersey, and Maryland. It is currently working with South Asian community members and organizations to document, through video clips and written narratives, their experience of profiling, special registration of non-citizen nationals of Muslim-majority nations, and pretextual detention in the aftermath of 9/11. SAALT plans to release a report assessing the continuing impacts of discriminatory policies and practices prior to the tenth anniversary of 9/11.

**Strengthen civic participation and the engagement of South Asian communities in national security and immigration advocacy.** To expand its base, SAALT will continue to provide trainings and social justice workshops for South Asian students and youth, organize an annual national day of service, and expand its pool of “SAALT Circles.”<sup>13</sup> In addition, SAALT will continue to coordinate the National Coalition of South Asian Organizations (NCSO), a network of 42 grassroots organizations from 10 states and the District of Columbia that engage in direct service provision, advocacy, and organizing within South Asian communities.<sup>14</sup> By the end of 2011, SAALT plans to provide capacity-building, training, and re grants for an initial cohort of four targeted “anchor” NCSO members in geographic areas threatened by xenophobia and anti-immigrant policies.

**Collaborate with civil and immigrants rights organizations on national campaigns.** SAALT will continue to bring issue expertise and incorporate the perspectives of NCSO partners in its work with national allies. SAALT serves on the Steering Committee of OSF grantee the Rights Working Group and is heavily involved in its campaign to end racial profiling, is an active member of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement, joined the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and participates in its racial profiling task force, and is an executive committee member and co-chair of the civil rights committee of the National Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans. SAALT has been working closely with NSHR grantee the Sikh Coalition, also recommended in this docket, to organize regular conference calls and meetings of organizations representing AMEMSA communities and allies such as the American Civil Liberties Union, the Center for National Security Studies, and the Center for Constitutional Rights to develop more effective and collaborative policy strategies for addressing profiling and discrimination. SAALT and the Sikh Coalition held a convening of these groups in April 2010 at OSI-DC and are planning a second convening that is scheduled for May 2011.

**Develop its organizational infrastructure and sustainability.** SAALT has grown rapidly over the past few years, and is working now to: diversify and expand its funder base with an emphasis on individual donors; improve its financial management; expand its Board of Directors and broaden and deepen its Council of Advisors; and institute a Business Advisory Council to foster connections with the South Asian business community.

---

<sup>13</sup> SAALT Circles are now active in New Jersey and Washington, D.C., and are being cultivated in Philadelphia and New York City. SAALT seeks to establish six additional Circles by the end of 2012.

<sup>14</sup> Launched in 2008 under SAALT’s fiscal sponsorship, the NSCO was created to ensure that local communities are heard and involved in local, state, and national arenas; to facilitate peer exchange and training; and to develop and disseminate shared materials and advance a common and progressive advocacy agenda. The NCSO includes organizations that address post-9/11 and immigration issues, health equity, gender violence, and youth empowerment. NSCO members are located in California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Washington, Texas, and Washington, D.C., and work with individuals from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, and of many faiths, including Muslims, Christians, Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: ending the profiling of AMEMSA individuals and communities; building the voice and capacity of AMEMSA organizations to fight abusive national security policies; supporting the provision of direct services in conjunction with policy advocacy; and countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of AMEMSA communities in American society. It will also advance the overall mission of the Equality and Opportunity Fund (EOF) to prohibit arbitrary and discriminatory government action, and lift barriers that prevent people from participating fully in economic, social, and political life. The organization's long-term community building efforts are also aligned with EOF's goal of stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants.

This organization is part of a cohort of six progressive AMEMSA grantees funded by the NSHR Campaign, each of which is committed to restoring respect for civil rights and civil liberties in the post-9/11 world. A set of high profile terrorist attempts directed at the U.S. over the past 18 months has fueled concerns over "homegrown terrorism," and anti-Muslim bigotry and religious and ethnic profiling have escalated. All six grantees have been strategic and effective in addressing these challenges, and renewal grants are being recommended to the full cohort in this docket.

SAALT has played a leading role in bringing AMEMSA voices into national security and immigrant rights policy debates and field campaigns, and in broadening South Asian civic engagement. SAALT encourages groups that address only immigrant rights or only national security issues to work in coalition on areas of intersection, including the use of the immigration laws to investigate, detain, and deport South Asians that is driven by national security considerations, the emergence of anti-Sharia and anti-immigrant legislation, and xenophobia directed at immigrants and Muslims.

Over the past two years, SAALT has vocalized its concern over racial and religious profiling in numerous meetings with officials from the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Commerce, and Education. In March 2010, SAALT released a set of issue briefs on the impact of profiling on South Asian communities that focused on intrusive government surveillance, stops of travelers at the U.S. border, and immigration policy. In November 2010, SAALT released *From Macacas to Turban Toppers: The Rise in Xenophobic and Racist Rhetoric in American Political Discourse*, a report that analyzes post-9/11 rhetoric by elected and public officials aimed at AMEMSA communities. SAALT also played a critical role increasing South Asian participation in the 2010 U.S. Census.

SAALT has been highly responsible in its approach to its organizational growth, which has witnessed a doubling of its staff size in the past year and a half. The organization retained the services of a strategic organizational development consultant, conducted financial audits, and established an Audit and Financial Committee on its Board of Directors. SAALT has also raised its mainstream and ethnic media profile, receiving coverage in outlets from the *India Post*, *India Abroad*, *Darshan TV*, *Hindustan Times*, *Taragana Legal News*, *Dawn.com*, and *New America*

*Media*, to *The Atlantic*, *NPR's Morning Edition*, the *Wall Street Journal* blog, and *Huffington Post*.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a renewal grant of \$350,000 over two years to support SAALT's core operating costs. Given SAALT's relatively small size and the financial security that committed two-year support will provide, OSF staff recommends accruing the full grant amount upfront rather than making this a contingent grant.

**Grant ID:** 20032319

**Legal Organization Name:** Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Name of Fiscal Sponsor:** N/A

**Purpose of Grant:** To support the project, Prepare New York: Working for Tolerance During the Tenth Anniversary of 9/11 and Beyond

**Grant Description:** This grant will support the New York City-based Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding as it participates in a multi-faith grassroots coalition, Prepare New York: Working for Tolerance During the Tenth Anniversary of 9/11 and Beyond Project. The Tanenbaum Center will regrant portions of the grant to three coalition partners: Intersections International, Auburn Seminary's Center for Multi-faith Education, and the Interfaith Center of New York. This collaborative effort will reframe the public debate around the tenth anniversary of 9/11 by lifting up the voices of faith-based and secular New Yorkers who promote the values of cultural and religious diversity, religious freedom, and tolerance; encourage civil engagement and compassion over anger, hate, bigotry, and fear; and embrace their Muslim neighbors.

**Previous OSI Support:** \$30,000  
\$30,000 from ECP Small Grants Fund (2000)

**Organization Budget:** \$1,922,170

**Project Budget:** \$717,000

**Major Sources of Support:** Leir Charitable Trust \$150,000; Stavros Niarchos Foundation \$150,000; Henry Luce Foundation \$100,000; Edmond de Rothschild Foundation \$78,000; Russell Berrie Foundation \$25,000; David Berg Foundation \$25,000

**Amount Requested:** \$100,000 over one year

**Is this a contingent grant?:** No

**Amount Recommended:** \$100,000 from the NSHR Campaign (Challenge Profiling & Discrimination, T1: 21132)

**Term:** One year (April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012)

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Based in New York and founded in 1992, the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding (Tanenbaum) is a secular, nonsectarian organization whose mission is to reduce and prevent hatred and violence that is perpetrated in the name of religion. Tanenbaum overcomes religious intolerance in religiously-diverse workplaces, health care settings, and schools, and supports religious peacemakers who struggle in areas of armed conflict. Tanenbaum has developed tailored education and training programs focused on conflict resolution solutions and religious diversity that have reached tens of thousands of workers, and more than 100,000 students. For more than a decade, Tanenbaum has been pushing the boundaries of cultural competency in education by creating curricular and training materials to cultivate global citizenship, and by establishing inclusive learning environments that address bullying and violence. Tanenbaum has a staff of 16 full-time and five part-time employees.

**Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought:**

Tanenbaum seeks a one-year project support grant to engage in a multi-faith coalition, Prepare New York: Working for Tolerance During the Tenth Anniversary of 9/11 and Beyond (Prepare New York). Launched in January 2010, this coalition will reframe the public debate leading up to, during, and following the tenth anniversary of 9/11 by lifting the voices of faith-based and secular New Yorkers who promote the values of cultural and religious diversity, religious freedom, and tolerance; encourage civil engagement and compassion over anger, hate, bigotry, and fear; and embrace their Muslim neighbors. During the grant period, Prepare New York will work to shift the public narrative by promoting a number of strategically timed events and facilitated community conversations. On May 10, the coalition will host an all-day conference entitled, “Having the Conversation We Never Had Post-9/11”, which will feature leaders from the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim faiths, including Bishop Yvette Flunder of The Fellowship, Rabbi David Saperstein of the Religious Action Center, and Eboo Patel of the Interfaith Youth Corps. On Memorial Day, Prepare New York will release its viral video strategy and will launch events aimed toward secular and patriotic audiences on the Fourth of July. Following commemorative events and an interfaith service on the weekend of the tenth anniversary of 9/11, Prepare New York will continue to sponsor public dialogues and interactive theatre pieces on its core issues.

The Tanenbaum Center will regrant portions of the grant to three of its partners in this coalition: Intersections International, the Auburn Seminary’s Center for Multi-faith Education, and the Interfaith Center of New York. The coalition – which also includes Quest, and Odyssey Networks – is working in coordination with the NYC Mayor’s Office, the New York Public Library, the YMCA, the Tribute WTC Visitor Center, Facing History and Ourselves, 9/11 Communities for Common Ground, New York Neighbors for American Values, and the September 11<sup>th</sup> Families for Peaceful Tomorrows. The latter two are current NSHR Campaign grantees.

Prepare New York's three-pronged approach to promoting the goals of its campaign are: (1) curriculum development, (2) 500 coffee hour conversations and public dialogues, and (3) media and arts educational programming. In April, Prepare New York will develop and disseminate curricula for conversations addressing the rise of Islamophobia and, more broadly, fear of "the other". The curricula will be complemented by video resources that will be made available to the public on Prepare New York's website (<http://prepareny.com>) and will incorporate proven methods for group facilitation and conflict resolution strategies that focus on the issues of discrimination toward Muslims and the rich diversity within Islam and Muslim communities in New York and around the nation.

Prepare New York's website will also serve as a resource repository and a coordination center for community dialogues and events. It will offer a comprehensive calendar of events, conversations, public dialogues, interactive features for user-generated videos, photographs, and stories on relevant topics, resources to spread the message through social media, information for the press, and feedback mechanisms for dialogue participants to share experiences and enable Prepare New York to track and respond rapidly to challenges and successes as they arise.

The NSHR Campaign will support the following aspects of Prepare New York's work:

**1. Develop, produce, and disseminate curricula and leaders' guides for facilitated conversations regarding Islam and anti-Muslim bigotry.** In May 2011, Prepare New York will develop customized curricula using conflict resolution strategies tailored to three priority audiences: (a) youth and educators in schools; (b) adults in their places of work and in public gatherings; and (c) congregants in faith-based settings. Tailored curricula, including sample agendas, ground rules for establishing and maintaining a respectful environment, facilitator notes, discussion questions aimed at processing complex questions non-judgmentally, and targeted fact sheets, will be posted on-line in July 2011 and disseminated and evaluated throughout the grant period.

**2. Coordinate 500 public conversations that dispel misconceptions and stereotypes of Muslim Americans and other minority faith communities.** During the grant period, Prepare New York will coordinate 500 facilitated public dialogues regarding tolerance, inclusion and Islamophobia estimated to reach approximately 10,000 individuals in settings ranging from classrooms and offices to cafes and cultural events to churches, synagogues, and mosques. It will initiate outreach, prepare, and train facilitators, as well as strive to achieve geographic, social, and religious diversity among participants of these public dialogues.

**3. Create and implement a media and public education strategy that promotes religious understanding.** Drawing upon lessons learned from the experience of the controversy surrounding the Park51 Cultural Center in lower Manhattan during the summer of 2010, the interfaith organizations of Prepare New York will develop a proactive media and public education strategy to respond to the conflict and prejudices that persist around religious differences. Prepare New York will launch a media campaign including website conversations, viral messaging and social marketing. In addition, under the auspices of coalition partner Intersections International, TE'A (Theatre, Engagement and Action) Project will present community performances of a play on being Muslim in post-9/11 America, *Under the Veil*.

Performances will be followed by facilitated dialogues to promote religious pluralism and understanding, and are expected to reach approximately 650 people via schools, community centers, and theatre venues.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will advance the National Security and Human Rights Campaign priorities of: countering bigotry toward and promoting the acceptance of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities in American society; and supporting the use of arts and culture and multi-faith coalitions to advance progressive national security policies.

On the ninth anniversary of 9/11, New Yorkers and the nation witnessed displays of anti-Muslim bigotry that threatened to overshadow the commemorative events planned to honor those who lost their lives on 9/11. Recognizing the lingering tensions and divisions in American society that had yet to be resolved, New York City religious and civic leaders reached out to one another to reframe the public debate in advance of the tenth anniversary. Putting aside their institutional interests, six organizations, Tanenbaum, Intersections International, Auburn Seminary's Center for Multi-faith Education, the Interfaith Center of New York, Quest and Odyssey Networks, vowed to work together to counter anti-Muslim bigotry through public educational and media events, as well as facilitated community conversations, on the emotionally charged issues that are expected in anticipation of, during, and after the tenth anniversary of 9/11, and that can be expected to surface as wedge issues during the upcoming presidential election.

The six organizations of the Prepare New York coalition have not collaborated together before, and they have created a sound infrastructure consisting of executive and steering committees designed to leverage their strengths, multiply their outreach, and respond in a strategic manner to an opposition that has been known to use underhanded tactics. It was the intention of these religious leaders that this unique collaboration would be a "social first responder" and create a replicable model for other moments when fears over national security threaten our social fabric. As a multi-faith grassroots coalition, Prepare New York is positioned to amplify the positive, constructive, and compelling perspectives of faith leaders, public officials, 9/11 families, and community groups to inspire New Yorkers and the country to move toward healing, tolerance and the avoidance of stereotypes. Though focused on New York City, the thoughtfully constructed and user-friendly public education materials and dialogue components developed by Prepare New York will promote public engagement on inclusiveness far after the tenth anniversary of 9/11, and far beyond the geographical confines of New York City.

For the above reasons, OSF staff recommends a project support grant of \$100,000 over one year to the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding to support Prepare New York: Working for Tolerance During the Tenth Anniversary of 9/11 and Beyond, of which a portion will be regranted to Intersections International, Auburn Seminary's Center for Multi-faith Education, and the Interfaith Center of New York.