

Imagine...a more peaceful world that respects difference.
We are committed to making that vision a reality.

TANENBAUM
Center for Interreligious Understanding

254 West 31st Street
7th Floor
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212.967.7707
Fax: 212.967.9001
Email: info@tanenbaum.org

Visit our website, www.tanenbaum.org,
to join our email list and receive
monthly news and event updates!

PREPARE NEW YORK

for the *tenth* anniversary of 9/11

around the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Along with Tanenbaum, founding organizations include Auburn Seminary, The Interfaith Center of New York, Intersections International, Odyssey Networks and Quest. These organizations came together with the common goal of fostering constructive conversations by shifting the atmosphere around 9/11 from one of fear to one of shared understandings.

Each PNY partner has contributed uniquely to frame the 10th Anniversary of 9/11 as a time for protecting the religious freedom of all (including nonbelievers). For Tanenbaum's primary contribution, we drew on our years of experience and created practical resources, including guidelines for conversation, questions-to-explore and Fact Sheets that can be used in CoffeeHour Conversations. CoffeeHour Conversations, an initiative of PNY, explore our shared humanity in all areas of our dynamic society, including workplaces, homes, houses

Prepare New York (PNY) is a groundbreaking coalition of interfaith organizations working together to encourage peaceful conversations and activities

of worship, classrooms (among educators and with students) and community centers.

If you are interested in holding a CoffeeHour Conversation, the conversation guides, questions and Fact Sheets are located at www.tanenbaum.org/preparenny. Information on finding or registering a CoffeeHour Conversation and other 9/11 related projects can be found at www.preparenny.com.

We invite you to join us in building peace and combating prejudice on the tenth anniversary of 9/11 and beyond, and to keep our conversation guidelines in mind as religion-related rhetoric builds in the weeks and months before the presidential election. We also invite you to share how these materials and conversations impact your own exploration about unfamiliar cultures in the time around the 10th anniversary of 9/11, and also whenever tensions threaten religious pluralism and respect for all.

IN COALITION WITH:



Peacemakers Create Formal Network for Cross-Border Collaboration Continued from other side

To facilitate their coordination, the *Peacemakers* selected five *Network* leaders: **Jamila Afghani** from Afghanistan, **Chencho Alas** from El Salvador, **Reverend Dr. William Lowrey** who works in Sudan, **Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge** from South Africa and **Friar Ivo Markovic** from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The *Peacemakers* started their ongoing collaborations with three Working Groups in Education, Interreligious Understanding, and Gender & Human Rights. They've already identified activities for the year ahead, such as pooling their educational resources, translating materials for local populations, and looking at mainstreaming women into the community of peacebuilders. As their first official act, the *Peacemakers Network* issued a joint statement on the Arab Spring.

The *Peacemakers* do extraordinary work on their own, often in isolation and with limited resources. Just think of what they will do together – and Tanenbaum is committed to helping them do all they can!



Imam Ashafa and Yehezkel Landau confer during a working session.

PEACEMAKERS CREATE FORMAL NETWORK FOR CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION

This August, two of Tanenbaum's heroines – *Peacemakers in Action* from Afghanistan – met for the first time. Both live with great risk to ensure education is available for women and girls. They come from different Islamic traditions but one country. And they discovered a deep caring that now nurtures both.

These women met at Drew University, when Tanenbaum convened our fourth *Peacemakers' Working Retreat*. It was a week of learning, sharing, camaraderie and growth. Working sessions included an exploration of women's roles in peace-building, a look at how sacred stories can be tools for peace work and practical training in technology and social media.

But the most important part of the Working Retreat was the focus on what the *Peacemakers* could do together between Retreats. After multiple sessions on how to structure an ongoing effort, the *Peacemakers* formally created a network that Tanenbaum will facilitate so that they can work together across borders.

The *Peacemakers in Action Network* will contribute toward conflict transformation and reconciliation to build a more peaceful, just and sustainable world. Specifically, the *Network* is committed to:

1. Continual personal growth and mutual support as religiously motivated *Peacemakers*.
2. Sharing wisdom, experiences and practices with one another to strengthen each other's work.
3. Sharing beyond the *Network* to influence a wider community of peacebuilders, including both state and non-state actors.
4. Expressing solidarity with one another and speaking out with a collective voice, responding to contemporary issues that affect peace and human security.

Continued on other side >



The *Peacemakers* do extraordinary work on their own, often in isolation and with limited resources. Just think of what they will do together – and Tanenbaum is committed to helping them do all they can!



Clockwise, from far left: Tanenbaum CEO Joyce Dubensky with Najeeba Sirhan; Friar Ivo Markovic and José "Chencho" Alas share a moment; Jamila Afghani prepares to read from the Qur'an; Tanenbaum staff train *Peacemakers* in technology and social media.