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- \$250 can provide one inner-city school with a consultation on a religious or multicultural issue.

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Contact Rebeca Izquierdo, Manager of Development at 212.967.7707 x 117 or rizquierdo@tanenbaum.org with any questions or for further information.

2010 AWARD CEREMONY AND MEMORIAL LECTURE

Thursday, June 17, 2010 – The Pierre Cocktails and Dinner – Black Tie

HONORING

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I want to support Tanenbaum’s practical programs and create lasting change in our communities.

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PEACEMAKERS IN ACTION NETWORK GROWS

Tanenbaum welcomes Jamila Afghani and Bishop Ntambo Ntamba to the *Peacemakers* Family

After months of research and evaluation, Tanenbaum’s *Religion and Conflict Resolution* team is thrilled to announce that the Program Advisory Council selected two individuals to join our *Peacemakers in Action* family: Jamila Afghani from Afghanistan and Bishop Ntambo Ntamba from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Both are remarkable individuals – true heroes. But so were many of the international, multi-faith candidates, including:

- An Indian priest who risks his life to confront Hindu-Muslim violence in Gujarat and founded a human rights organization that protects marginalized Indians of all religions.
- A Palestinian teacher-trainer whose conflict transformation curricula is based on principles inspired by Prophet Muhammad and who works with her Jewish counterpart to impart peacebuilding skills in both communities.
- A Filipino Catholic laywoman who paved the way for the 1999 Referendum in East Timor. She drafted a peace accord in the Philippines and trains everyone from military officials to village residents in conflict transformation skills.
- A rabbi who, working with ordinary Israelis, stands with Palestinian farmers who resist settlement buildups, even acting as a human shield in front of the bulldozers.

Our two winners are exceptional human beings and dedicated peacebuilders.

Jamila Afghani is a Muslim activist, social worker and advocate for women, who grew up in Afghanistan during the Soviet invasion. After years of providing Qur’anic-based literacy classes to women in refugee camps in Pakistan, she returned home to Afghanistan. Jamila is not only the founder of the Noor Education Centre but a leader who provides resources to hundreds of young women and children, including some who live amidst the heaviest fighting.



Bishop Ntambo Ntamba leads sustainable development and reconciliation efforts for his people in war-torn DRC. His building programs and ministries for street children enabled citizens to maintain their homes rather than flee approaching rebels. Bishop Ntambo overcame taboos and risked his life to engage a militia group that practices cannibalism. His vision and peace conference led to cessation of hostilities and complete disarmament of the militia. Still a Bishop, he is now also a Senator in the Congolese Parliament.



Our new *Peacemaker*-practitioners receive a cash award to reinforce their work, expert training from fellow *Peacemakers* and international leaders, increased recognition, an in-depth case study about their religious peacemaking and the opportunity to participate in a worldwide practitioners’ network.

Yet again, the *Peacemaker* selection process reaffirmed the Tanenbaum thesis: There are countless unknown individuals around the globe using religion to battle violent conflict and promote peace. We look forward to learning from the newest members of our network and spreading the word about their innovative methods.

TANENBAUM / Center for Interreligious Understanding is the leader in providing urgently needed, practical programs to prevent the verbal and physical conflict perpetrated in the name of religion. We are a non-sectarian organization that helps address tensions by changing behaviors in religiously diverse workplaces, schools, health care settings and in areas of armed conflict. Edited by Caity Goodman. Please send all queries to: cgoodman@tanenbaum.org.



THE GOLDEN RULE: MORE THAN JUST WORDS

Dear Friends,

At Tanenbaum, we talk about the universality of the Golden Rule – how treating others as you would like to be treated is a value espoused by nearly every world religion.

Happily, many people, from all traditions, truly try to live their lives according to this powerful maxim. What's ironic, therefore, is that large numbers of people do not feel that they are well-treated. And that's especially true when you're talking about religion.

Tanenbaum regularly asks training participants whether people of other religions treat them with respect. *Always*, the answer is the same. Large numbers respond with a resounding "No!"

Because Tanenbaum's work is about making the Golden Rule a lived reality, we focus on how to put it into practice. And we've concluded that there is a way to do this – ask and listen respectfully to what the other person says.

Respectful communication is a foundation for all of our work – our institutional pedagogy, if you will – whether we're talking to a student, doctor, corporate manager or *Peacemaker*. It's a skill that requires practice and one that provides the information we need to practice the Golden Rule.

We've seen first-hand how this works. In a *Religious Diversity in Health Care* training, a doctor described a patient who

wanted to abstain from his medications to fast for the Jewish holiday Yom Kippur. The doctor said "No," because of potential negative health consequences. During our training, the doctor realized that he hadn't truly been listening. Fasting was important to his patient. Now, when a patient announces that his religious fast precludes taking medication, the doctor focuses on minimizing any resulting harm.

When you practice asking respectful questions and listening, you can live the Golden Rule – treating others as you would like them to treat you. And when you do that, you grant your Mormon employee time off to participate in a religious conference. Instead of letting your class wonder why some students aren't eating lunch during Ramadan, you teach about the holiday, demystifying the religious practice. You accept a Buddhist patient's refusal of medicine at the end of life, even knowing that this means he will suffer. And you listen openly to all parties in a conflict, making concessions for lasting peace.

May others always ask what is important to you, and treat you with respect,

Georgette Bennett
Executive Vice President & CEO

And Mr. Goodwin works hard for peace. In addition to working with Tanenbaum, he's dedicated the past 25 years to making peace a reality in the Middle East. Through the Middle East Peace Dialogue Network, Inc. (MEPDN), he sponsors over 75 Jewish-Muslim-Christian dialogue groups in Israel and underwrites activities that have united over 27,000 Israeli Arab and Jewish children. He notes that although "these children would otherwise never meet...they fear each other."

“It's easy to start a war, just push a button. Try stopping it! Peace is labor intensive.”

Through MEPDN, Mr. Goodwin also sponsored the Middle East Regional Peace Plan, a detailed roadmap for lasting peace, which is now in the hands of prominent political and diplomatic figures. Next is a public relations campaign to support the plan and encourage everyone in the region "that their only hope for future security and economic viability is to have peace with their neighbors."

Tanenbaum is proud to count Mr. Goodwin among our loyal supporters. His sponsorship takes us one step closer to a world where the Golden Rule is put into practice.

Donor Profile: Richard Goodwin



"I learned, quite accidentally but very importantly, that the more money you give away, the more money you make." Richard Goodwin's maxim is good for peace and justice organizations – like Tanenbaum. Mr. Goodwin is among Tanenbaum's long-time supporters.

His dedication to peace and coexistence "stemmed from [his] experience as an adolescent and a college student," and became the focus of his philanthropy. Mr. Goodwin says, "Contributing to Tanenbaum allows me to contribute to two very important parts of my life: one is to contribute to an interreligious group that is creating tolerance...And then, you're also creating peace, and what could be more important in the world than peace?" He continues, "It's easy to start a war, just push a button. Try stopping it! Peace is labor intensive."



Tanenbaum President in Oman

A Q&A with Georgette Bennett

Why was Tanenbaum asked to visit Oman?

Board member Richard Aborn and I were there at the invitation of the Advisor to the Sultan on Cultural Affairs. He wanted to investigate how Tanenbaum programs might be employed in Oman.



Georgette Bennett and Richard Aborn on the ground in Oman.

You met with H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Saedi, the Under Secretary of Health Affairs for the Ministry of Health. What did you learn about Oman's health care industry?

Oman provides high quality medical care for free to its population, even as its health care field faces some interesting challenges. Roughly 85% of Omanis are Muslim, and the remaining 15% is comprised of Hindus, Buddhists, Christians and Jews, among others. And although Oman has an indigenous pool of nurses, 70% of its doctors are ex-pats.

Therefore, there is a diverse group of doctors interacting with a diverse group of nurses and patients, resulting in potential provider-patient and provider-provider issues. Include the fact that a provider and patient of the same religion can understand their traditions differently, and you get an idea of the importance of having providers who are well-versed in the religious dimension of patient care.

In the conversation, did you see any places where Tanenbaum could add value?

Dr. Al-Saedi mentioned an example that illustrates the need for our work: among Muslims there are different interpretations of the Qur'anic injunction against the "taking of blood." Some say this refers only to killing, while others believe it applies to blood transfusions.

Religion influences our medical decisions in a multitude of ways, and this demonstrates the nuances even within a single faith. If a patient were upset with the idea of a blood transfusion, the doctor could have an open dialogue with the patient to understand his or her resistance; understanding the nature of the refusal might provide clues to a next step, like having the patient consult with his or her spiritual leader. Tanenbaum's training and resources could help Oman's provider population learn to have these conversations.

A SHARED VISION: JUSTICE

Shared Visions is an ongoing project at Tanenbaum that reminds us how the world's belief systems share many core values. Below, we take a look at the theme of Justice and its many incarnations – fairness, lawfulness, righteousness.

BAHA'I

"The light of men is justice. Quench it not with the contrary winds of oppression and tyranny. The purpose of justice is the appearance of unity among men."
—*Tablets of Baha'u'llah*

BUDDHISM

"I believe in justice and truth, without which there would be no basis for human hope."
—*Tenzin Gyatso, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama*

CHRISTIANITY

"Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."
—*Romans 12:17-18*

CONFUCIANISM

"The man of honor thinks of his character, the inferior man of his position. The man of honor desires justice, the inferior man favor."
—*The Analects Chapter XI*

HINDUISM

"I am justice: clear, impartial, favouring no one, hating no one. But in those who have cured themselves of selfishness, I shine with brilliance."
—*The Bhagavad Gita*

HUMANISM

"Justice denied anywhere diminishes justice everywhere."
—*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

ISLAM

"Allah commands justice, the doing of good, and liberality to kith and kin, and He forbids all shameful deeds, and injustice and rebellion: He instructs you, that ye may receive admonition."
—*Qur'an 16:90*

JUDAISM

"Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you."
—*Deuteronomy 16:20*

SIKHISM

"Each must be judged for the deeds he [she] performs by a faultless judge in a perfect court. Those who are justified stand radiant in glory, bearing upon them the mark of grace."
—*Guru Nanak, Japji*

ZOROASTRIANISM

"To see justice and fail to do it is an act of cowardice."
—*Zoroaster*

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ New Resources

Religion at Work: A (Human) Resource, our tool for HR and diversity professionals, is now available. *Cultivating Global Citizenship*, a professional development course for educators, returns in July.

■ Around the U.S.

Religious Diversity in the Workplace provided training nationwide at **SHRM/HRNY, Merck, Sodexo's Diversity Business and Leadership Summit** and the **Multicultural Forum on Workplace Diversity**.

Religious Diversity in Health Care conducted two successful trainings for **Lutheran Medical Center** and the **Association of Jewish Aging Services**.

Religion and Diversity Education presented nationwide at the **National School Board Association, University of North Carolina, United Federation of Teachers** and **ASCD** (formerly the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development).