

Sikh House Hosts InterFaith Works of Central New York's

Strategic Planning Retreat

A strategic planning retreat for InterFaith Works of Central New York was held Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016 at the home of Dr. Baljinder and Mrs. Gurvinder Dhillon, in Cortland, NY.

InterFaith Works is a not-for-profit human services agency that seeks to affirm the dignity of all people and all faith traditions through education, service and dialogue. Dr. Dhillon is a dentist who serves on InterFaith Works' Round Table of Leaders, an advisory group to InterFaith Works and the Central New York community. The Round Table is made up of leaders representing more than 30 diverse faith traditions and faith-based organizations in the Central New York area.

"We are grateful for the hospitality of the Dhillons and to experience the beauty and peace of the Sikh House," said Beth A. Broadway, InterFaith Works president/chief executive officer. "They graciously shared their home so that the leadership of InterFaith Works could gather together and work intently on the strategic plan that will guide the agency for the next three years."

As a part of the retreat, nearly 50 members of InterFaith Works' Board of Directors, Round Table of Faith Leaders and senior staff members listened to presentations by Sikh scholar Gurcharanjit Singh Lamba who discussed the meaning of interfaith in the context of one's own faith and in the Sikh religion. Gurdeep Singh Nidosra spoke about the history of the Sikh faith tradition and the Sikhs many social contributions. Both presentations, along with a question-and-answer session by Gurcharanjit Singh Lamba, are available on YouTube by searching for Gurcharanjit Singh Lamba – Interfaith Discourse and Gurdeep Singh Nidosra – Interfaith Discourse.

Founded in 1976 and located in Syracuse, NY, <u>InterFaith Works</u> addresses deeply embedded social divisions leading to community action and policy change. InterFaith Works is committed to the belief that all people are deserving of dignity and respect regardless of ethnicity, faith tradition, social circumstances or age. Key programs include the following: <u>Ahmad & Elizabeth El-Hindi Center for Dialogue</u>, <u>Center for New Americans</u>, <u>Senior Services</u> and <u>Spiritual Care</u>.

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