Seeds of Peace is just one program your sponsorship provides

"National Grid is once again very pleased to be financially supporting the work of the El-Hindi Center for Dialogue at the leadership level, particularly in light of the stresses that the COVID-19 Pandemic is putting on our region. It’s a privilege to be a part of the center’s racial and social equity work."—Alberto Bianchetti, Central New York Regional Director, National Grid

Your sponsorship—like National Grid’s support—provides the foundation for the Center for Dialogue’s work, including Seeds of Peace. Over the past year, your sponsorship has:

**Assisted the Syracuse City School District and its students reapply to and be successful in the Model United Nations.** InterFaith Works supported Syracuse Seeds of Peace students - more than 150 Syracuse high school students - engage in peace-building projects in their school communities. This past year after many years, Syracuse Seeds of Peace students participated in the Model United Nations. InterFaith Works coordinated their application efforts, which were aided by their peers from Manlius Pebble Hill and Jamesville-DeWitt High School.

The 2020 Model UN’S theme was sustainable development and was held on Jan. 10 and 11 at the Syracuse University campus. More than 500 delegates from Central New York high schools, including five students from the InterFaith Works’ Syracuse Seeds of Peace program, participated. Amina Salahou (Nottingham) won “Best New Delegate,” and Anisa Salahou (Nottingham) and Chadani Timsina (Corcoran) won “Best Position Papers.” We are exceptionally proud of these students and their clear impact on the Central New York Model UN.

“There is a connection between Seeds of Peace and the Central New York Model United Nations because a huge part of Seeds of Peace is advocating for human rights and equality for all through dialogue,” says Syracuse Seed Martine Dosa.

Do you have your ducks in a row?
Keep Students Connected. Syracuse Seeds of Peace students continue to meet remotely each week to alleviate the social isolation that they are experiencing, due to the coronavirus and social distancing. Students are planning ways they will connect after social distancing restrictions are lifted. They have discussed:

- Creating a week of activities or a local camp this summer
- Hosting dialogue and fun events
- Having regular meetings and group dialogue
- Hosting Syracuse educator sessions with students
- Meeting at a park and hiking

These meetings bring great value to our students during these times. One hundred percent of the students reported at the beginning feeling "stressed," confused" and "struggling." Afterward, 100 percent reported feeling much better after having the opportunity to connect and plan ways to be together.

They reported:

- "I'm feeling rejuvenated. This is a good way to get interaction with humans and have a mindful discussion."
- "It’s very comforting to know people are feeling similar ways and sharing ideas keeps us connected even though we’re feeling isolated."
- "I feel inspired."
- "I'm feeling uplifted and good. We’re keeping the distance, but connecting and checking in."

Your sponsorship of the 2020 Duck Race to End Racism will help the El-Hindi Center for Dialogue support Central New York high school students. We want our Seeds of Peace students to be “lucky ducks” in 2020. Please get your ducks in a row, and send in your sponsorship registration now!

Sponsorship supports the important work of InterFaith Works of Central New York’s Ahmad & Elizabeth El-Hindi Center for Dialogue.

Programs include:
- Community Wide Dialogue to End Racism
- Seeds of Peace
- “Starting Small” School Exchanges
- Workplace and Community Dialogue Facilitation to build bridges of understanding
- Police/Community Dialogues
- Interfaith Dialogues

Contact the Center for Dialogue for more information on these and other programs: 315-449-3552, ext.102 or email pwillner@ifwcny.org