



OMNIA Institute for Contextual Leadership

Virtual Interfaith Peacemaker Team Training

The purpose of this training is to equip peacemakers with the skills to build Interfaith Peacemaker Teams (IP Teams). During the training period, you will consider how you would build an IP Team, and at the end you will discuss with the group how you plan to do it and make a commitment to follow through.

IP Teams are teams of about 20 religious leaders (clergy and lay, women and men) who collaborate across diversities, build power by organizing people and money and acting strategically on issues that arise from the ground-up in their communities.

Currently, we have 166 IP Teams (94 in Nigeria, 39 in Sri Lanka, 30 in Bangladesh, 2 in Uganda and 1 global virtual team. Despite Covid restrictions they are doing incredible work.

Thank you for participating in this training. Below you will find useful information.



A women's IP Team in Kaltungo, Nigeria, prepares food for Covid patients and families in the local hospital. The miracle is that Muslims and Christians are working together.

Dates

Saturdays, October 16 – November 27, 2021.

(On the first day, we will discuss whether a different day of the week is more desirable. If we can reach consensus, we will shift the day of the week. Attendance at all sessions is mandatory.)

Times

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. (US/Canada Central Daylight Time) [Click here for the corresponding time in your time zone](#). The times are difficult to change, because of the wide range of global participants.

Format

The training will be on Zoom. There are no asynchronous classes at this time, which means everyone should be present in class.

Assignments

Every week there will be an assignment. Most weeks it will be to do one-on-one conversations.

Cost

Even though the course is valuable, it is offered to you free of charge, with the expectation that you will engage in building IP Teams.

What You Will Learn

The IP Team training is about peacebuilding. If we are serious about building peace, we can't be any less disciplined than the militaries who train for months on end, often in boot-camps. We won't do that to you! But we will demand rigorous and disciplined engagement.

Our training combines the best practices and disciplines of two fields: interreligious dialogue and community organizing. The training has three components that you will learn

- Collaborating across diversities
- Building power by organizing people and organizing money
- Acting strategically on issues that arise from the ground in your community.



A young people's IP Team in one of the poorest slums of Dhaka, Bangladesh. These women effectively address issues of child marriage, which is rampant in their society.

At the End of the Training...

We will help you get an IP Team started in your community (if you don't already have one). There is already a Virtual IP Team which includes others who have participated in this training. You are invited to participate in that as well.



These good looking people are Sri Lanka's trained trainers.

OMNIA's Training Stages

You are signing up to participate in OMNIA's basic training. This will prepare you to skillfully participate in an IP Team. There are two other levels of training:

- Advanced Training: for those who lead IP Teams
- Training of Trainers: for those who will provide basic training to others.

Next Steps

If you have any questions, comments, or to register your interest in taking this course, please write to Shanta Premawardhana who will be the trainer. You can reach him at:

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