



May 2, 2017

IDEA GENERATOR'S CONFERENCE FUNDED PROJECTS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Intersection Project

"The mission of the Intersection Project is to foster deep, trusting, faith-centered relationships and creation-focused action between students of Muslim and Christian traditions that will form bridges between their communities, so that they can work together for the common good."

Following the IDEA Generator Conference in Chicago, the [Issachar Fund](#) partnered with the [Duke Divinity School Center for Reconciliation](#) to review the winning teams grant proposals, and map out a successful project from the ideas presented. Taking several key components from Team Purple and Team Blue, Imam, Abdullah Antepi, Duke University, and Abi Riak, Operations Director, Center for Reconciliation, collaborated to create the Intersection Project, which will receive \$94,940 in funding for implementation to be rolled out this summer.

The Intersection Project will be managed by Imam Abdullah Antepi, with support from Abi Riak and the staff of the Center For Reconciliation. Using a core group of Muslim and Christian advisors, the goal of the project is to target the shared theological understanding of creation from the approach of Christian and Muslim traditions, to help develop deeper relationships between the faith communities by focusing on worldview development

The goal of the project will be accomplished in three different phases, beginning with identifying, and then developing, a core group of approximately 10 Muslim and Christian students, who through a facilitated process with knowledgeable advisors, will explore the experience and understanding of creation and stewardship in their own faiths and what implications this has on their own actions.

The core group will then be responsible for recruiting a broader group of students from Duke University who will be formed into teams for a journey of relationship building, capacity development and friendly competition during the academic year. Through different themes of water, food and waste, the teams will be led by a Muslim and Christian leader to learn about the subject in both Muslim and Christian faith traditions. The teams will meet monthly for discussion of the topic, and to plan activities to foster good stewardship and environmental sustainability; earning points for each activity they host or participate in. At the close of the academic year, the team with the most points will win a two-week trip to work on [Marrakesh Organics Farm](#) in Morocco, hosted by Kenza Isnasni

Project Intersection will not simply foster an action over a short period of time, it will change behavior over a lifetime by inspiring and equipping change agents who will have a cascading impact on others.

Feasibility Study for ESCO's for Rhode Island Houses of Worship

“Our goal is to mobilize faith communities to address climate impacts and Creation Care by working on making renewable energy and improving energy efficiency accessibility to mosques, churches and other houses of worship.”

Donna Childs, Founder and CEO, [Prisere](#), partnering with [Rhode Island Interfaith Power & Light](#) and [Brown University](#), was awarded \$5,000 to carry out a feasibility study to determine if ESCO's, energy services companies, would be a viable option to finance energy efficiency improvements to Rhode Island Houses of Worship.

The survey was carried out by several different networks Ms. Childs has connected. Professor Dawn King and the students in Professor King's Environmental Studies course at Brown University designed and developed the survey, and captured the data. Ms. Childs, who has experience in green real estate development projects and raising capital, served as project mentor to the class. Attorney Jerry Elmer of the [Conservation Law Foundation](#) was available to answer questions related to legal and regulatory issues around ESCO's in Rhode Island. RI IPL's Board Members facilitated access to Houses of Worship and leaders among the clergy to motivate participation in the survey, and RI IPL's Executive Director Kristen Ivey Moses, continues to lead the project.

Not only will this project provide a positive experience and academic credit for the students, it will give the broader community a successful example of interfaith collaboration and provide the first-ever report of energy consumption by Houses of Worship.

Partnering with:

