



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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EBOO PATEL SELECTED TO JOIN WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON FAITH-BASED AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS

February 5, 2009, Chicago, IL. Today, Eboo Patel, Executive Director of the Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC), was confirmed as a member of the **White House Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships**. The 25 member council is made up of religious and secular advisors who will guide decisions on both domestic and foreign policy issues.

Last week, Joshua Dubois, who worked on faith outreach for Obama during his campaign, was named Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, where the council will be housed. Other members of the council include progressive Evangelical and founder of *Sojourners*, Jim Wallis and Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Rabbi David Saperstein.

Eboo Patel says "I am very honored to have been asked to serve on the President's Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The organization I founded and lead, Interfaith Youth Core, shares President Obama's goal of using our faith traditions as a bridge to unite us all to work for the benefit of others and for what the President calls "the betterment of our world."

About the Interfaith Youth Core

There are millions of religious young people in the world interacting with greater frequency. Where so many of these interactions tend towards conflict, the Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC) aims to introduce a new relationship, one that is about mutual respect and religious pluralism. Instead of focusing a dialogue on political or theological differences, IFYC builds relationships on the values that we share, such as compassion, and how we can live out those values together to contribute to the betterment of our community. The IFYC is creating these relationships across the world by inspiring, networking, and resourcing young people, who are the leaders of this movement. Among other programming including international youth exchanges and trainings, IFYC coordinates the Fellows Alliance, a network of 20 college students around the country working to promote religious pluralism on their campuses and in their communities.

For more information or to contact Eboo Patel, call Dan Pawlus (dan@ifyc.org) at 312.376.4754
