



The IPCR Initiative
Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization

November 3, 2008

To:

On the homepage of the website of The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative, (at www.ipcri.net), there is reference to a “Ten Point Assessment of the Most Difficult Challenges of Our Times”. Such an assessment indicates that there is a need for problem solving on a scale most of us have never known before. Specifically, this assessment has compelled this writer to the conclusion that there is a profound and critical need for human beings—collectively—to be

- a) much more organized and deliberate about “... bringing to the fore what is often hidden: how many good people there are, how many ways there are to do good, and how much happiness comes to those who extend help, as well as to those who receive it.”
- b) much more multifaceted and participation-friendly in our approaches to peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability
- c) much more resourceful in the use of the accumulated storehouses of wisdom and “embodied energy” which is now accessible to us.

This letter is part of an effort by this writer to contribute what he can to informal discussion and public discourse, with the hope that his contributions will add something to efforts working towards the greater good of the whole. In addition to this letter, there are three other items which are part of this educational materials package:

- 1) an 11” x 17” document titled “The ‘1000Communities²’ Proposal: Creating a Multiplier Effect of a Positive Nature”—a proposal which demonstrates one approach to accomplishing the three goals described above, and which is now available for free at the website of The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative
- 2) three double-sided 8 1/2” x 11” pages excerpted from The IPCR Journal/Newsletter Fall, 2008 issue (pages 1, 2, 6, 13, 23 and 31)
- 3) a file folder with IPCR description cards on it, which can be used as a “display container” for the IPCR Journal/Newsletter excerpts

There are many difficult challenges ahead. Bringing solutions to light at the local community level is going to require critical thinking and significant action from both responsible citizens and young people working hard to become responsible citizens. There is much which leaders *could be* asking from the people who respect their leadership, both as a matter of civic duty, and as a matter of necessity; unfortunately, there are many important initiatives which are critical to resolving the challenges of our times, but which are not quite “coming through the mist as much as they should be”. There are many people who will be very appreciative when they find that they have an important role to play in the work ahead. Leaders should guide citizens so that they can discover how they can do their part to contribute to the greater good of the whole.

If you believe that these educational materials can make an important contribution to informal discussion and public discourse, I respectfully and sincerely ask you to make these educational materials as accessible as possible to people who might be able to make good use of them. [Note: In light of the urgent need to increase collaboration between diverse communities of people, anyone may access all IPCR documents for free, at www.ipcri.net].

With Kind Regards,

Stefan Pasti

Stefan Pasti, Founder and Outreach Coordinator
The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative
P.O. Box 163 Leesburg, VA 20178 USA
stefanpasti@ipcri.net (703) 209-2093 www.ipcri.net