We find ourselves in a moment in which we are deeply polarized as a nation by divides—cultural, religious, political—that impact our communities and even our families. At this critical juncture, we want to advocate a simple model for effecting social change: working at the grassroots level in our neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, houses of worship, and civic organizations to model the civility and respect we want to see upheld by everyone.

This is why Islamic Networks Group is launching the Know Your Neighbor: Multifaith Encounters Campaign with simple tools and resources for reaching out to build mutual understanding and respect. We believe that if enough Americans engage in one or two simple grassroots encounters, we can strengthen our communities, foster relations among all Americans, and live up to our national ideal of pluralism and acceptance.

We invite you to participate in this effort by using the suggestions and resources on the KYN webpage for individual, community, and youth actions.

www.ing.org/kyn-campaign/

Know Your Neighbor: Multifaith Encounters (KYN:ME) is a grassroots project of the Islamic Networks Group (ING), whose mission is the pursuit of peace through education and interfaith engagement while working within the framework of the First Amendment’s protection of religious freedom and pluralism. KYN:ME is a network of ING affiliates and over 50 interfaith organizations with a combined presence in all 50 states. To learn more about ING, visit us at www.ing.org. To join the KYN:ME network, write to Interfaith@ing.org.