



# SIKH COALITION COMMUNITY TRAININGS

## An Overview

As part of the Sikh Coalition's mission to better equip grassroots Sikh community leaders with the tools and resources to impact positive local change, we have organizationally designed and developed a series of trainings and presentations that support government engagement, media engagement, civic engagement, youth empowerment and Know Your Rights.

The purpose of this training overview is to give a preview of the trainings the Sikh Coalition can deliver, so that we can organizationally tailor a training curriculum that meets the individual needs of your local community.

### **SIKH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PRESENTATIONS & TRAININGS**

#### ***Comprehensive Lobbying Training Seminar (1.5 days):***

A comprehensive training course that dedicates one day to detailing how to lobby elected officials, how to make an effective ask of a legislator, and how to maintain dialogue after initial contact. Day two follows the training by putting it directly to use. Community members will join the Sikh Coalition for a half day of lobbying legislative offices on important Sikh civil rights issues on hate crimes, anti-bullying, workplace anti-discrimination, anti-profiling, and Sikh Awareness initiatives.

#### ***Sikh Civic Engagement Seminar (1 full day of training)***

The Sikh Civic Engagement Seminar is designed for community members to comprehensively learn the skills necessary to take their community involvement to the next level. Participants will learn strategies to elevate the Sikh profile in your local community, guidance on strengthening interfaith partnerships, presenting effective Sikh Awareness resources to educators, law enforcement, community centers, lawmakers, and interfaith partners, and pitching successful asks to government officials in solving issues affecting the local Sikh community.

#### ***A Brief History of Sikh American Civil Rights (75 minutes)***

A crash course outlining this historical fight for Sikh civil rights over the past 125 years. With a better understanding of our past successes and failures, we can work together to shape thoughtful narratives that advance the civil rights of Sikhs and other communities for generations to come.



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### ***Introduction to Government Engagement (60 minutes)***

Introduction into the basic functions of federal, state, and local governments and the rulemaking process. This course creates a baseline understanding of the framework within which community members can effectuate change through government institutions. It also highlights key reasons for why Sikh community members need to engage government officials, and highlights success stories.

### ***Alliance building for the Sikh Community (60 minutes)***

Introduction into the importance of allyship with other communities and success stories when the Sikh American community is a solidarity partner. A critical part of building community power stands with building bridges and this presentation highlights the road map for doing so locally and the success stories that come from successfully doing this work.

### ***Building Relationships with Elected Officials (90 minutes)***

A detailed presentation that sheds light on how Sikh community members identify their appropriate elected officials and the best ways to contact them. This interactive course includes mock exercises and break out sessions.

### ***Where & How To Raise Sikh Awareness (45 minutes)***

A presentation that helps community members understand the basics of how, when, and where Sikh awareness can be raised. The course helps community members avoid short-term mistakes in raising Sikh awareness and how to frame narratives and making the ask of influencers and decision makers to participate in raising Sikh Awareness.

### ***How To Pass Sikh Awareness Resolutions & Proclamations (60 minutes)***

A presentation that builds upon the basic introduction to government engagement and where Sikh Awareness & Appreciation resolutions and proclamations can be an effective tool for building government relationships while spreading more Sikh awareness to people.



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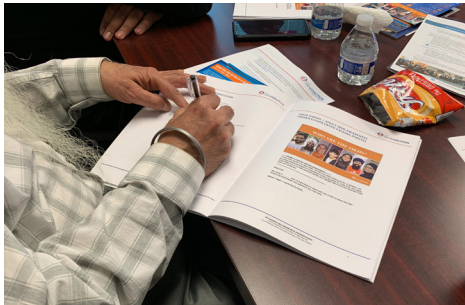
### SIKH AWARENESS TRAININGS & KNOW YOUR RIGHTS PRESENTATIONS

#### ***Comprehensive Know Your Rights Training (90 minutes)***

A presentation that details understanding your Sikh community rights in the core areas of the Sikh Coalition's advocacy: religious rights (including kirpan rights), workplace discrimination, hate crimes, TSA profiling and school bullying. This training details basic facts and legal information about what to do when you encounter a problem and the recourse and remedies in these situations.

#### ***How the Sikh Coalition Responds to Incidents (60 minutes)***

A presentation that details how the Sikh Coalition responds to a crisis, such as a hate crime, bullying case, kirpan accommodation request, employment discrimination issue, TSA profiling incident, etc. This presentation provides a comprehensive overview of the work the Sikh Coalition does and leaves community members with a better understanding of the legal, policy, and media considerations required for each.



#### ***Learn How To Become A Sikh Awareness Presenter (5 hours)***

A comprehensive training that leaves participants with the skills and the knowledge to walk into a classroom, workplace or any other public forum and deliver a Sikh awareness presentation that is accurate, informative and highly engaging.

#### ***How To Raise Sikh Awareness at School (60 minutes)***

An interactive session featuring the Sikh Coalition's Back-to-School Toolkit designed to make it easy for Sikh kids and parents to engage their local educators in every area of Sikh awareness, school bullying and religious rights.

#### ***Youth Anti-Bullying Know Your Rights Workshop (60 minutes)***

The trainings are designed for youth between the ages of 7-10 and 11-14 and give participants the information and tools to identify bullying, the steps that can be taken to address it, as well as the resources to prevent it and speak to adults when it happens.

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### **MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS TRAININGS**

#### ***Building Relationships with Reporters (75 minutes)***

Learn the ins and outs of how to identify local reporters that are interested in learning and covering the Sikh community and the best tips for building lasting relationships that will improve consistent and positive news coverage.

#### ***Understanding News Values (75 minutes)***

In order to successfully engage local news outlets to improve the consistency and quality of news coverage involving the Sikh community, you must first understand what makes news. Learn the news values that every news outlet needs and how to position Sikh stories for future success.



#### ***Op-Ed and Letter to the Editor Training (2 hours)***

Learn how to write and successfully place opinion pieces in your local newspaper through this interactive training that includes writing break out sessions.



#### ***Media Spokesperson Training (2 hours)***

This interactive training takes you through the ins and outs of how to successfully field an interview request and how to position yourself as a media spokesperson within your community.

#### ***Leveraging Social Media On Civil Rights (75 minutes)***

Practical rules and tips for leveraging your personal social media accounts for furthering collaborative civil rights issues.

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### YOUTH EMPOWERMENT TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS

#### *Jyot Curriculum Workshops*

A series of workshops for young community members between ages 14 - 22 that provide tools to engage Sikh youth in workshops around social justice issues, encourages them to participate in community development, and helps them develop crucial leadership skills that will also benefit their academic and professional lives.



#### ***Singh & Kaur Story time (45 minutes)***

This workshop is designed for youth under the age of 7 and focuses on participants being able to understand and identify Singh and Kaur, what those words mean, what they represent, and what some of our values are. The workshop consists of book reading and some activities from this teaching guide.

#### ***Upstander Workshop (60 minutes)***

The Sikh Upstander workshop engages Sikh youth between ages 10-13 on topics of identity, bullying, allyship and fighting for what's right. Through the story of Guru Tegh Bahadur ji and the Kashmiri pandits, participants will learn how to stand up for themselves in cases of injustice, as well as consider what it means to be an ally as a Sikh for other communities

#### ***Learning the Sikhi Elevator pitch (45 minutes)***

The workshop is designed for adults and youth over 8 years old and is designed to encourage participants to build and practice a short elevator pitch on Sikhi.

#### ***CBS Episode Screening and Discussion (60 minutes)***

The CBS screening and workshop is an opportunity for the Sikh sangat to see their stories of bullying, resilience and Chardi Kala told on a major new channel seamlessly with other stories from both the Muslim and Jewish faiths. The discussion is then designed for all ages over 10 years old. After the screening, the sangat will engage with the subject of bullying against Sikh children, how it affects our youth, and will learn about what resources are available to combat bullying both proactively and reactively.



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### EXTERNAL TRAININGS & PRESENTATIONS

Sangat members can reach out to the Sikh Coalition to facilitate these trainings for non-Sikh community members to increase awareness of and foster understanding of the Sikh faith, values and community.

#### ***Sikh Awareness Presentation (60 minutes)***

An informative and engaging presentation on core Sikh values and beliefs and the community that practices the faith.

- High School/Adult
- Middle School
- Elementary School



#### ***Law Enforcement Cultural Competency Training (75 minutes)***



A presentation that builds upon an informative and engaging Sikh Awareness presentation and provides critical information on challenges faced by the Sikh community, recognizing hate triggers and strategies for effective communication with community members.