

MAINTAINING CULTURAL IDENTITY AND PRACTICES OF FAITH

PURPOSE

To share stories and learn from one another about maintaining cultural authenticity

PARTICIPANT OBJECTIVES

To discuss the struggles of maintaining cultural authenticity while living in a diverse society

PROCESS

Welcome by co-leaders and host

Introduction, sharing of good and welfare, purpose is to discuss the significance of interfaith dialogue and religious pluralism

- Explain story telling and how this is the key to full dialogue and communication
- Explain the connections between interfaith dialogue and sharing our stories of religious pluralism. Tied into this story is the belief that dialogue is about listening and speaking. In listening to and taking in the story of another, we are participating in an act of compassion.

DIALOGUE

- How do you, as an individual, or as a parent, take steps to preserve cultural traditions and faith while living in a multicultural, multi-religious society?
- What did your family do, if anything, as you were growing up to help you maintain your cultural and faith practices? What did you find easy or challenging about exploring or maintaining your identity? Did you incorporate anything you learned along the way from others?
- Do you think it has gotten more difficult for youth within your faith community to preserve traditions/identity?
- What is your story as to how you were able to maintain your culture and/or your faith practices while living in a diverse environment?
- What advice would you give to others? Should there be a focus on maintaining cultural practices/faith practices? How can we best guide our children in these areas?