

The IPCR “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire

by Stefan Pasti, Founder and Outreach Coordinator
The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative
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The IPCR “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire

(Note: the following is an introduction provided as an example for actual questionnaires)

Organizations and communities of people often use questionnaires and surveys to identify problems and resources, and to build consensus for collective action. Here are five ways questions like those included in this questionnaire can help build caring communities:

- a) A local community or regional information services provider could publish the questions, receive and organize the responses, and then publish a compilation of the responses
- b) Residents of a local community could discuss the compilation of responses in small group settings
- c) If there was a “Community Journal” at a central location in the community, attributed (or anonymous) responses to the questionnaire could be accumulated in the “journal”, providing a constructive framework for public discourse
- d) Annual questionnaires can become part of a traditional community event which includes evaluating, summarizing, and celebrating successful initiatives in the areas of peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability—and contributions to a “community yearbook”
- e) The use of questionnaires for the specific purpose of helping to build caring communities will surely bring forth comments and suggestions on how to improve such questionnaires, and will thus assist in building a resource base of “most helpful questions” for future use....

Special Note: The IPCR Initiative defines “caring communities” as follows:

“Caring communities” are communities with residents who are aware of the depth and range of the challenges of our times, and therefore do their best to take actions which will have positive repercussions on the fields of activity described by the IPCR Mission Statement goals, and on other related fields of activity (see “105 Related Fields of Activity” at IPCR website).

How to Respond to This Questionnaire

and how to receive a compilation and summary of the results
(provided as an example for actual questionnaires)

The IPCR Initiative would greatly appreciate responses to any of the questions in this questionnaire—especially Question #29... which states: “Please use this space for any comments, questions, suggestions, recommendations, and/or anything else which has been ‘brought forward’ by participating in this questionnaire.” *Special Note: Anyone interested in responding to this “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire can be assured that their responses will remain anonymous by not including any specific references to themselves in the responses they make.* Please direct responses to Stefan Pasti, “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire, at stefanpasti@ipcri.net— or, by post mail, to Stefan Pasti The IPCR Initiative P.O. Box 163 Leesburg, VA 20178 USA. *Special Note: All the responses received will be compiled and organized, a summary and conclusions will be formulated, and the resulting document will be made accessible in 5 months time from _____.* To request this document—“The IPCR “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire: Responses, Summary, and Conclusions”—please use the contact information supplied above.

The IPCR “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire

Introduction

The IPCR Initiative realizes that a questionnaire of this nature will be most useful if administered to as many residents as possible in a specific community, town, city, or region. The offering of this IPCR “Building Caring Communities” Questionnaire is, therefore, mostly for the purpose of seeking, and sharing, information—as part of the process of moving towards that goal. So—in the specific case of this questionnaire, the only general information that respondents will be asked to provide about themselves is as follows.

General Information About the Respondent

Please, if you are willing, and in a way that does not identify you, so that you can remain anonymous—

- a) state your age
- b) describe where you live (rural area, town, suburb, city), the region you live in (Greater Metropolitan Washington D.C.; southwestern part of Virginia; the mountains of North Carolina; etc.), and include the country you live in
(**Example:** I live in a suburban section of a small town on the outer edge of development associated with the Greater Washington D.C. Metropolitan area, in the United States)
- c) describe your occupation, your “way of earning a living”, or what you do during the course of any given month which requires the majority of your time
- d) describe what you do during the course of any given month which you feel is the most important or most fulfilling work you do
- e) share your reasons for responding to this questionnaire

Special Note to Respondents: When responding to questions, please use additional space on other sheets of paper, whenever necessary.

1. *Home Territory*

Please name one—or two—communities/towns/cities/regional areas which you would identify as your “home territory” [i.e. where you have the most significant personal reasons for making your home, and living many years of your life... (even if you are not currently living there)]. Please list your 5 most significant personal reasons for identifying your “home territory”—and rank them as most significant, next most significant, etc., using 1 as most significant, 2 as next most significant, and so on.

2. *Personal Relationships Within Walking Distance of Home*

How many people do you know as more than acquaintances (i.e. as people with whom you have a personal relationship with “defined guidelines, reasonable expectations, reciprocal considerations, and clear plans for the future”) within walking distance of your current home?

3. Preferred Providers of Goods, Services, etc.

Who would you identify as your “preferred provider” in the following areas of life in your community? [Note: To realize the benefits of this question, it will be sufficient to answer with what first comes to mind for as many categories as you can.]

Building Construction	Health Care
Building Supplies	Home Furnishings
Clothes Manufacturer	Home Repair
Communication Services	Information Services
Disaster Relief	Recycling
Education System Development	Religious, Spiritual, and Moral Instruction
Emergency Health Care	Road Building, Maintenance, and Repair
Energy Production and Distribution	Shoemaker
Food Distribution	Teachers/Educators
Food Processing	Transportation
Food Production	Waste Treatment and Disposal
Government	Water Purification and Distribution

a) Considering this group of people as a whole, how well do you know the people who you think of as your “preferred providers” in these areas of your community life? (Please check the appropriate box below to indicate your answer).

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
closely connected-- many personal relationships	closely connected in some ways	only slightly connected-- very few personal relationships	solely as service providers

b) Is the way your “preferred providers” (as a whole) carry out their responsibilities consistent with your idea of “things people can do in the everyday circumstances of their lives” which will contribute to peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts in your community and region—and in other parts of the world?” (Please check the appropriate box below to indicate your answer).

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
most of the time	in some ways	not very often	almost never

4. Most Significant “Investments” of Time, Energy, and Money

Consider keeping a record of all of your “investments” of time, energy, and money for one month. And then, after one month, make a list of what goals receive the most significant “investments” of time, energy, and money—and rank each most significant, next most significant, etc., using 1 as most significant, 2 as next most significant, and so on.

5. *People, Institutions, etc. Which You Personally Place Your Faith In*

During the course of any given day, each of us consciously or unconsciously places our faith in a variety of people, institutions, organizations, businesses, beliefs, principles, practices, commonly agreed upon codes of conduct, etc. Consider carefully the ‘things you do in the everyday circumstances of your life’—and then list 10 people, institutions, etc. which you personally place your faith in.

6. *Arriving at Working Definitions of “Right Livelihood”*

Consider what ways of earning a living you would identify as “right livelihood.”

Now imagine a local community resource guide relating to employment, apprenticeships, training, and volunteer opportunities associated with “right livelihood.”

And further: imagine a committee commissioned to produce such a “right livelihood” resource guide.... And the individuals who make up the committee commissioned to produce such a resource guide....

- a) What background (qualifications, experiences, etc.) would you like such individuals to have?
- b) What local institutions would you consider most appropriate to commission such a resource guide, and oversee its production?

7. *Cultivating Sympathy and Compassion*

Please name 5 people—who you know personally, and/or who you have been influenced by—who have inspired in you the qualities of sympathy for the suffering of others, and willingness to express compassion in ways which might alleviate some of such suffering.

- a) What does your local community do—specifically, as a community—to nurture, encourage, support, and inspire-- to cultivate-- such persons, and thus to attract other such people to move into your local community?

8. *Identifying the Most Important Elements of Community Life and Cultural Traditions*

In the best of times, even the most profound challenges can be overcome; for in the best of times, _____ is/are nurtured, supported, and sustained by family, teachers, mentors, elders, and the everyday influences of community life and cultural traditions.

Please “brainstorm” on the subject of what would best fill in the blank in the above statement. Then choose 5-10 items from the “brainstormed list”, and rank them according to most important, and next most important, using 1 as most important, 2 as next most important, and so on.

9. *Community Visioning Initiatives*

Please consider the following brief description of community visioning initiatives in general, and of Chattanooga “Vision 2000” [Chattanooga, Tennessee (USA)] in particular.

Community visioning initiatives have, in the past, been used most often for the purpose of maximizing citizen participation in the planning and development phases of community revitalization efforts. Community visioning initiatives can be described as a series of community meetings designed to facilitate the process of brainstorming ideas, organizing the ideas into goals, prioritizing the goals, and identifying doable steps. In 1984, the non-profit organization Chattanooga Venture [Chattanooga, Tennessee (USA)] organized a visioning initiative that attracted more than 1,700 participants, and produced 40 community goals—which resulted in the implementation of 223 projects and programs, the creation of 1,300 permanent jobs, and a total financial investment of 793 million dollars. [Note: The statistics are from “Revision 2000: Take Charge Again”, a brochure received from Chattanooga Venture. These statistics are also accessible in a detailed overview of Chattanooga community revitalization efforts titled “Chattanooga: The Sustainable City”, at the website for the James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership.]

Now consider the following statement:

“The mission of a community visioning initiative (in the area where I am a resident) should be to encourage 100% citizen involvement/participation in identifying, creating, and gathering together all ideas for collective effort that

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

and then, further, to organize these ideas into goals, identify doable steps associated with realizing such goals... and then facilitate the development of a coalition of citizens with the necessary faith, resources, patience, and perseverance to work through the steps and realize the goals.”

Please fill in the blanks in the above statement.

10. *Making a Community Visioning Initiative Happen in Your Community*

Consider the elements of preparation, education, funding and organization necessary for a successful “community visioning initiative” in your local community or region.

- a) Describe 3 steps that are practical and doable which would help make a “community visioning initiative” more likely to happen in your local community or region.
- b) Describe 3 obstacles or difficulties which would make a “community visioning initiative” less likely to happen in your local community or region.

11. *Accountability Indicators*

The IPCR Mission Statement (see Section 4) contains goals which can be understood as “accountability indicators”. In other words, one of the basic propositions of The IPCR Initiative is that when groups of people carry out practical applications of The Eight IPCR Concepts, the results will have a positive effect on the goals listed in the Mission Statement (i.e. “increase our collective capacity to encourage and inspire individual spiritual formation,” reduce the incidence of violence,” etc.).

Please “brainstorm” on the subject of what goals you would like your “ideal community” to have, choose the most important 5-10 goals, and then create an “accountability indicator” for each goal (i.e. something which is measurable-- *or can somehow be substantiated by the observations and experiences of a significant number of people*).

12. *Engines of Economic Stability*

Many people seem to be worried that “the economy” will collapse if some form of “consuming less” philosophy becomes more and more accepted... and yet many of the challenges of our times have chronic elements (see Sections 2 and 3), suggesting that it may require decades, generations, or even centuries to overcome such challenges.

- a) Please name as many engines of economic stability and methods of economic conversion as you can which you believe would result in communities that can achieve reduced consumption, ecological sustainability, and a high quality of life—all at the same time.

b) Please check the box below which best corresponds to your view of the following statement:

“It is possible to create, support, and sustain communities that can achieve reduced consumption, ecological sustainability, and a high quality of life—all at the same time.”

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I believe it-- and
there is much evidence
to support it | I believe it-- and
there is sufficient
evidence to
support it | I would like to
believe it, but there
isn't enough evidence
to support it | It is difficult to
believe it, with the
way things are
going now | I don't believe it--
there is no evidence
to support it |

13. *A Visioning Exercise on the Subject of Educational Institutions*

Consider the “List of Related Fields of Activity” in Section 5—and the associated “article” titled “The Potential for a Wide Range of Workshop Offerings”).

a) Please describe the kind of educational institution which could provide such a “wide range of workshop offerings”. (What would it look like? What would it be called? Where might it be located? What would be essential as “structures” and “departments” of such an educational institution? What would be an appropriate “land use layout” for such an institution?)

b) What kind of certification or experience would be required to become an instructor at such an educational institution?

c) What kind of appropriate technology would be in use to reduce the ecological footprint and the carbon footprint of building construction, food production, and special materials acquisition?

d) How would such an institution be funded?

14. The “Towards Higher Common Ground” Survey

Believing that many of the challenges of our times
are far more deeply rooted than most of us understand;

believing that *while the resources we have*
are more than sufficient to overcome the challenges of our times *and*
are now more accessible than at any other time in the course of history
-- such resources are often obscured by the complexity many of us
experience in the everyday circumstances of our lives;

and

believing that well-organized efforts to identify problems and brainstorm solutions
are a universally recognized approach to problem solving
commonly used in family, community, business, and government settings
in every part of the world--

this writer is proposing a project titled “Towards Higher Common Ground: A Survey of
Most Difficult Challenges and Most Valuable Resources”.

The survey would consist of the following four questions:

- a) What are the most difficult challenges of our times?
- b) Do we have the resources necessary to overcome the challenges of our times?
- c) If your answer to Question #2 is yes, please describe the resources you believe
will contribute the most to helping us—collectively—overcome these
difficult challenges.
- d) If your answer to Question #2 is no, please offer any and all sincere,
constructive, relevant, and practical suggestions for what we—
collectively—can do to inspire, encourage, and/or create the resources
you believe *would be necessary* to overcome these difficult challenges.

Please respond to this 4 question survey in as many ways as you believe will be helpful to
people who might read what you have written.

[Note: For more information on the “...Towards Higher Common Ground...” Survey, see the “Core
Documents” section of the IPCR website at www.ipcri.net]

15. For the questions below, please check the box (or boxes) which best corresponds to the way you view the following statements:

a) “As a result of the unprecedented opportunities created by the expansion of the Internet, we have now arrived at a very auspicious moment in time... for at no other time in the course of history has so many people had access to so much in the way of time-tested guidelines, inspiring role models, and service-oriented initiatives relevant to peace, prosperity, and happiness for all humanity.”

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I believe it-- and there is much evidence to support it | I believe it-- and there is sufficient evidence to support it | I would like to believe it, but there isn't enough evidence to support it | It is difficult to believe it, with the way things are going now | I don't believe it-- there is no evidence to support it |

b) “There are countless numbers of ‘things people can do in the everyday circumstances of their lives’ which will contribute to peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts, in their own communities and regions—and in other parts of the world.”

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I believe it-- and there is much evidence to support it | I believe it-- and there is sufficient evidence to support it | I would like to believe it, but there isn't enough evidence to support it | It is difficult to believe it, with the way things are going now | I don't believe it-- there is no evidence to support it |

c) “Even now, as you are reading this, truly inspiring contributions of genuine goodwill are being generated in a variety of ways—and in a variety of circumstances—by countless numbers of people in communities around the world.”

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I believe it-- and there is much evidence to support it | I believe it-- and there is sufficient evidence to support it | I would like to believe it, but there isn't enough evidence to support it | It is difficult to believe it, with the way things are going now | I don't believe it-- there is no evidence to support it |

d) “Everyone is involved when it comes to determining the markets that supply the ‘ways of earning a living.’”

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I believe it-- and there is much evidence to support it | I believe it-- and there is sufficient evidence to support it | I would like to believe it, but there isn't enough evidence to support it | It is difficult to believe it, with the way things are going now | I don't believe it-- there is no evidence to support it |

e) "We are at a critical point in the evolution of spiritual understanding."

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| agree | agree in some ways | have different view--
or different way of
understanding our
present circumstances | disagree in
some ways | disagree |

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

f) "There is a profound and critical need for as many people as possible to be exercising as much love, understanding, and forgiveness as possible—in as many ways as possible."

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| agree | agree in some ways | have different view--
or different way of
understanding our
present circumstances | disagree in
some ways | disagree |

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

g) "A certain degree of physical comfort is necessary, but... the satisfaction of one's physical needs must come at a certain point to a dead stop before it degenerates into physical decadence."¹

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| agree | agree in some ways | have different view--
or different way of
understanding our
present circumstances | disagree in
some ways | disagree |

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

h) “Most people making efforts to realize their spiritual potential need to live in caring communities (see definition of caring communities on p. 1), so that they can find support from association with kindred spirits.”

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| agree | agree in some ways | have different view--
or different way of
understanding our
present circumstances | disagree in
some ways | disagree |

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

i) “Overcoming the challenges of our times will require fully utilizing all the knowledge, tools, and resources accessible to us for the highest good possible in every area of capacity building (physical, ecological, medical, spiritual, educational, social, economic, technical, political, etc).

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| agree | agree in some ways | have different view--
or different way of
understanding our
present circumstances | disagree in
some ways | disagree |

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

j) “The mariner uses his compass to guide him aright amidst the dark storm clouds and raging waves. When Man is overwhelmed by the dark clouds of despair and the raging confusion of irrepressible desires, he too, has a compass which will point to him the direction he has to take.... That compass is a Society that is dedicated to the propagation of Spiritual Discipline.”²

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| agree | agree in some ways | have different view--
or different way of
understanding our
present circumstances | disagree in
some ways | disagree |

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

k) “The most advanced societies are the ones which are successful at integrating spiritual wisdom into the everyday circumstances of community life.”

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I believe it-- and there is much evidence to support it	I believe it-- and there is sufficient evidence to support it	I would like to believe it, but there isn't enough evidence to support it	It is difficult to believe it, with the way things are going now	I don't believe it-- there is no evidence to support it
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
agree	agree in some ways	have different view-- or different way of understanding our present circumstances	disagree in some ways	disagree

Your different view, or different way of understanding our present circumstances: _____

16. *Most Difficult Personal Challenges, and Most Valuable Resources*

What are the most difficult challenges for you, in the following areas?

- Basic Survival
- Work
- Primary Relationships
- Spiritual Development

a) What assistance would be most valuable in helping you to overcome the challenges in those areas of your life?

17. *Difficult World Conflicts, Difficult Personal Conflicts, and Living Harmoniously*

Consider what you believe are the 5 most difficult conflicts in the world today... and then consider the 5 most difficult personal relationships you have (relationships which are ongoing, relationships which somehow require your involvement on a regular basis, etc.)....

a) How could the parties associated with the conflicts ultimately be helped so that they could live harmoniously with each other? (Please offer any and all responses to this question which you believe might be helpful to other people who might read what you have written.)

18. *Global Drugs Trade, Global Arms Trade—and Solutions?*

Consider the following excerpt from the “World Report of Violence and Health: Summary (Recommendations for Action)” (by WHO):

“The global drugs trade and the global arms trade are integral to violence in both developing and industrialized countries. Even modest progress on either front will contribute to reducing the amount and degree of violence suffered by millions of people. To date, however—and despite their high profile in the world arena—no solutions seem to be in sight for these problems.”³

a) Do you believe “no solutions seem to be in sight for these problems?” Why or why not?

b) *Please check the box (or boxes) which best corresponds to the way you view of the following statement.*

How much daily contact with love, understanding, and forgiveness do you feel people in general would need before we would see noticeable progress on the above two problems (drug trade and arms trade)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Y <input type="checkbox"/>
more than is likely to happen	a profound increase from current levels	a lot more	a little more	additional solutions will be essential to make noticeable progress	have different view—or different understanding of our present circumstances

c) If you checked boxes X and/or Y, please describe below any solutions to the above two problems (drugs trade and arms trade) which you feel would be helpful contributions to making noticeable progress on resolving these problems.

19. *Trust Among People From Different Faith Communities and Cultural Traditions*

Please check the boxes which best correspond to the way you view the following statement:

“There will be a noticeable increase in trust among people from different faith communities and cultural traditions (i.e. Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, etc.; American, Asian, African, Hispanic, etc.) in the next 20 years.”

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
would actively contribute to making it happen	with some assistance it could happen	it would take a lot of effort to make it happen	even with a lot of effort it might never happen	it will never happen	would actively prevent it from happening

20. *Your Personal View of “The Good Life”—Challenges, and Most Valuable Assistance*

What is your definition of “the good life?” Please describe your definition of “the good life”—including both those parts of “the good life” which you already have, and those parts of “the good life” which you still hope to attain.

a) What are the most difficult challenges to your efforts to realize your vision of “the good life”? What “resources” provide the most valuable assistance to you in your efforts to realize your vision of “the good life”?

21. *Identifying “Peacebuilders” in Your Community*

Who are the most valuable “peacebuilders” in your local community? Please name 5-10 people you would identify to others as the most valuable “peacebuilders.”

a) Please describe 5 qualities, skills, experiences, knowledge, etc. which you believe are essential to identifying someone as a most valuable “peacebuilder?”

22. *Examples of Peacebuilding, Community Revitalization, and Ecological Sustainability, and Records for Future Generations*

When future generations look back into the past for examples of peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability, what do you hope they will find?

a) What individuals, organizations, or institutions will such future generations rely upon to provide records of peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts of the past—especially peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts at the local community and regional level?

23. *Approximate % You Are Living in Accordance With Beliefs*

Please consider the activities of daily living, the everyday circumstances of your life, and the “investments” of time, energy, and money which altogether make up the way you live your life during the course of any given month.... In your opinion, what % of 100% are you living in accordance with the beliefs, principles, practices, and codes of conduct associated with the religious, spiritual, moral, or cultural tradition you most closely identify with?

24. *Approximate % Majority of People in Your “Home Territory” Living in Accordance With Beliefs*

Consider the communities/towns/cities/regional areas which you would identify as your “home territory” [i.e. where you have the most significant personal reasons for making your home, and living many years of your life... (even if you are not currently living there)]. Please fill in the blank in the following statement with an estimate between 0%--100% which you believe most closely resembles the truth.

“The majority of people in the community/town/city/regional area which I consider my ‘home territory’ live about ____ % in accordance with the beliefs, principles, practices, and codes of conduct associated with the religious, spiritual, moral, or cultural tradition that they most closely identify with.”

25. *If Only There Was A Way To—*

Please complete the following sentence (in as many ways as you believe might be helpful to people who might read what you have written).

“If only there was a way to _____.”

26. *The Person Who Will Help Me The Most--*

Please complete the following sentence (in as many ways as you believe might be helpful to people who might read what you have written).

“The person who will help me the most is the person who _____.”

27. *The Guiding Question of The IPCR Initiative*

How can the good people of different faith communities and cultural traditions work together towards the highest ideals each faith community and cultural tradition has to offer? Please offer as many suggestions as you believe might be helpful to people who might read what you have written.

28. *Any Questions You Would Like To See, But Didn't See?*

Please suggest any questions you believe would help build caring communities (which are different from the questions in this questionnaire).

29. *Any Comments, Suggestions, Recommendations?*

Please use this space for any comments, questions, suggestions, recommendations and/or anything else which has been “brought forward” by participating in this questionnaire.

Sample Closing Comments:

Thank you for participating in this questionnaire. We hope you feel that participating in this questionnaire has been a valuable life experience, and that the time and energy you contributed to making your responses will prove to be a contribution to a “good cause”. If you would like to have a copy of the results that are accumulated after 5 months time please send us an e-mail at any time—and we will send a compilation of the responses, and our summary and conclusions, within 3 weeks after _____.

1. Mahatma Gandhi from “Gandhi’s Swadeshi: The Economics of Permanence” by Satish Kumar at <http://squat.net/caravan/ICC-en/Krrs-en/ghandi-econ-en.htm> (see Paragraph 13 in section “Principles of Swadeshi”) (Accessed August 22, 2007)

2. Sri Sathya Sai Baba from *Sathya Sai Speaks* Vol. 8, Chpt. 21, p. 108 Sri Sathya Sai Books and Publications Trust Prasanthi Nilayam India (Note: Vol. 8 contains discourses delivered by Sri Sathya Sai Baba during 1968)

3. From the “World Report on Violence and Health” (World Health Organization Geneva 2002) in Chapter 9 “The Way Forward: Recommendations for Action” p. 254 (at <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2002/9241545615.pdf>) (Accessed June 16, 2007)

Appendix 1

A list of 105 Fields of Activity which are in some ways—or which are in many ways—related to the goals of The IPCR Mission Statement.... (for Mission Statement, see Appendix 2)

accountability indicators, alleviating hunger, alleviating poverty, alternative gifts, appropriate technology, barter networks, biodynamic agriculture, building civic skills, building community, car-free zones, character education, citizen participation, citizen peacebuilding, co-housing, community banks, community development, community economics, community gardens, community good news networks, community journals, community land trusts, community membership agreements, community revitalization, community revolving loans, community self-awareness, community service work, community supported agriculture, community supported manufacturing, community visioning initiatives, consensus decision making, cottage industries, creative commons, cultural diversity, development assistance, disease control, eco-classifieds, ecological architecture, ecological footprint analysis, ecological tipping points, economic conversion, edible schoolyards, emergency humanitarian aid, emergency medical assistance, energy conservation, energy farms, fair trade, faith-based educational institutions, faith mentoring, farmers markets, food co-ops, green living, green politics, green purchasing, green retrofitting, holistic health care, homesteading, identifying problems and solutions, inclusive decision-making processes, individual spiritual formation, inspiring role models, interfaith dialogue, interfaith peacebuilding, intergenerational projects, local community points of entry, local currency, locally based food processing, locally grown organic food, low impact transport systems, medical assistance, meditation, mentoring, neighborhood revitalization, non-profit human service organizations, non-violent conflict resolution, oil depletion protocol, peace studies programs, peak oil, permaculture, positive news, powerdown projects, preventative health care, questionnaire construction, recycling, relocalization, renewable resources, right livelihood, right livelihood employment listings, rural renaissance, socially engaged spirituality, socially responsible investing, solutions journalism, spiritual discipline, spiritual diversity, spiritual friendships, spiritually responsible investing, sustainable health care, vegetarian nutrition, village design, village industries, violence prevention, voluntary simplicity, water conservation, win-win conflict resolution, world population awareness, yoga, zero waste, etc.

Appendix 2

The IPCR Mission Statement

The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative is an effort to facilitate the practical application of the Eight IPCR Concepts (“Community Good News Networks,” “Community Faith Mentoring Networks,” “Spiritual Friendships,” “Questionnaires That Help Build Caring Communities,” “Community Visioning Initiatives for Peace,” “Spiritually Responsible Investing,” “Ecological Sustainability,” and “IPCR Journal/Newsletters”)—at the community and regional level—as a way of contributing to the following goals:

- 1) “... 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.”
- 2) increasing our collective capacity to encourage and inspire individual spiritual formation—with all the beneficial consequences that follow for individuals, communities, regions. etc.
- 3) building trust among people from different faith communities and cultural traditions
- 4) increasing our capacity to be responsible stewards of our time, energy, and money
- 5) increasing our capacity to access what is necessary for basic human needs and quality of life through principles and practices of ecological sustainability and permaculture, especially in light of the implications of global warming, ecological footprint analysis, and the “peaking” of our finite supplies of oil
- 6) increasing our awareness of the countless number of ‘things people can do in the everyday circumstances of their lives’ which will contribute to peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts, in our own communities and regions—and in other parts of the world
- 7) reducing the incidence of violence—and all the costs associated with war
- 8) increasing emergency assistance to people with basic human needs
- 9) reflecting an understanding of the value of silence
- 10) creating local community and regional publications that provide a format for sharing the good news which would be identified, encouraged, supported, and sustained by contributions to the first 9 goals