



to-gather
TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

“Picnic tables are an iconic representation of people gathering for hospitality, sharing food, and taking time to sit and hear each other’s stories. The basic features of the iconic American picnic table are similar, yet distinguishable by the details. In the differences, we notice the table’s essence -- the aspects that make it both unique and familiar. Religious pluralism also creates and honors space for both the unique and the familiar.”

- Wendy Goldberg, Tri-Faith Initiative Executive Director

OVERVIEW

Picnic tables are American icons, and they are also central to the story of Tri-Faith. As we developed the idea to build a synagogue, church, mosque and interfaith center together on shared land, it was said that “if only a picnic table were constructed as a place for interfaith gathering, the mission of Tri-Faith would be fulfilled.”

“To-Gather” invites architects to form multi-disciplinary teams of artists, contractors, and fabricators that will conceptualize, design, and build one-of-a-kind picnic tables to be placed throughout the city.

The project is part of a larger effort by Tri-Faith Initiative to use art to inspire participation and public discourse on social issues and community values.

“To-Gather” architectural lead multi-disciplinary teams are encouraged to self-fund or self-sponsor their projects. A limited number of stipends are available to teams who qualify.

Locations throughout the city -- including North Omaha, South Omaha, Midtown, Downtown, and on the Tri-Faith Commons -- have already been selected to host these unique gathering spaces.

Details, project timeline, and team instructions can be found at trifaith.org/to-gather.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

We invite your sponsorship at the level of \$5,000.

Contact Wendy Goldberg at wgoldberg@trifaiith.org, or Carol Russell at carol@rickandcarolrussell.com for more information on the benefits of sponsoring this extraordinary project.

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ASKED TO:

Submit a “To-Gather” picnic table design proposal for a table to be placed in a public site to cultivate gathering, sharing stories, food, and collaboration. (Locations to be determined.)

This process includes:

1. Submit design compliance to all maintenance, safety, and load-bearing specifications as provided.
2. Design, fabricate and install as outlined at April 15 Informational call.
 - One table and benches to seat approximately 8-12 people (roughly 5’wide x 12’long)
 - Specify table foundation preference:
 - 12’ x 15’ concrete pad
 - (4) 24” diameter footings
3. (Optional) Apply for a stipend. Stipends may vary depending upon need, ranging from \$2,500-\$5,000.

PROJECT TIMELINE

- MAY 21: Architecture firms notified of site assignment.
- JUNE 11: Deadline for submitting construction and design drawings for sculptural picnic tables, plus specifications for any footings/foundations to review committee. Submit signed agreement confirming design with Tri-Faith and nonprofit partner.
- JUNE 25: Progress report due to review committee, outlining construction team, proposed timeline and schedule for construction and installation between June 25 - July 30. Teams will receive up to \$5,000 to subsidize the construction and design costs of their sculptural picnic tables, including footing and foundations.
- JULY 19-30: Teams install tables at assigned sites, including any footings/foundations.
- JULY 19-AUGUST 1: To-Gather PR Campaign.
- AUGUST 1: Public dedication part of Tri-Faith Picnic on the Commons.

ABOUT TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE

MISSION

Inspired by the faith of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities, we cultivate inclusive environments to advance interfaith relationships and understanding.

VISION

Be a best practice model, resource, and trainer for successful interfaith relationships and understanding.

WHO WE ARE

Tri-Faith Initiative brings together in permanent residency a synagogue, church, mosque, and interfaith center on one 38-acre campus in America's heartland. From this intentionally built, religiously diverse space in Omaha, we bridge divides among three faith communities, neighbors throughout our larger local community, and, increasingly, people across the U.S. and around the world. Since 2006, we've been imagining and growing an unprecedented interfaith initiative that transforms lives and communities. We have a big vision for expanding what Tri-Faith can do to meet the need. Through our 2020 Strategic Plan, Tri-Faith Initiative will create a more inclusive culture in which religious pluralism is the social norm.

ABOUT TRI-FAITH

Tri-Faith Initiative is a unique and ambitious project in the field of interfaith relations in its design, scale, and scope. The Tri-Faith Commons is located at 132nd and Pacific in Omaha, Nebraska. In 2020, the Tri-Faith Center, headquarters for Tri-Faith Initiative, joined Temple Israel, Countryside Community Church, and the American Muslim Institute as the final building on the Commons. The Tri-Faith Center is a physical place where we do not just talk about how good it would be if we were in harmony with each other -- instead, we gather both virtually and in-person to practice the act of listening. For more about Tri-Faith Initiative, visit: [Trifaith.org](https://trifaith.org).