Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh!

As the Sikh Coalition entered our third decade, we continue to adapt to a changing social and political landscape.

This year, we reflected on 10 years since Oak Creek, taking the lessons of yesterday to build our community and advocacy power for tomorrow. Alongside the sangat, we responded to a surge of hate in Queens, NY, took on multiple school bullying cases, and fought discrimination in the public and private sectors. We also continue to encourage inclusive education in our schools, and both civic and community engagement in our sangats. Meanwhile, our nation grapples with debates around expanding or restricting civil rights and the basic value of diversity – conversations in which we work to elevate more Sikh voices.

Throughout all of this change, we remain committed to serving the sangat through our legal, advocacy, community development, education, and media work, while also recognizing that solidarity with other marginalized groups is essential. And as we look to the future, we are adding more capacity to our team, including welcoming a new Executive Director to shape our strategy and impact.

Though the challenges we face are many, the resilience of the community and our shared values continue to ground us. We remain grateful to all of you, our essential partners in this ongoing work, and we look forward to fighting together into the new year and beyond.

Chardi Kala,

Anisha Singh, Executive Director
Narinder Singh, Board Executive Chairman
A Snapshot of Our Work in 2022

- 200 free legal intakes estimated for the year
- 7 states engaged to include Sikh in the classroom
- 1 historic lawsuit filed against the U.S. Marine Corps
- 89 sangats urge President Biden to protect our gurdwaras

Millions of Americans #RememberOakCreek

160 organizations join calls to protect religious migrants’ rights
On August 5, 2022, our nation marked the 10-year anniversary of the Oak Creek, WI gurdwara shooting. On this solemn occasion, we remember Paramjit Kaur Saini, Sita Singh, Ranjit Singh, Prakash Singh, Suveg Singh Khattra, and Satwant Singh Kaleka, who were killed on that horrific day; Baba Punjab Singh, who passed away in 2020 due to complications related to the injuries he sustained; and those who continue to live with physical and psychological wounds to this day.

We worked with the Revolutionary Love Project to create and launch the Remember Oak Creek learning hub, which included educational resources and a powerful video commemorating the anniversary. Through the learning hub, we and our allies pushed more than 1,000 advocates across the nation to contact their members of Congress in support of three pieces of legislation that would help make communities safer against targeted violence. We also organized and held a congressional briefing, which featured perspectives from the Oak Creek sangat, Charleston’s Black community, and Pittsburgh’s Jewish community, as well as leaders from the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. And more than 89 gurdwaras across the country joined our letter calling on President Biden to increase the security available for houses of worship; in response, on the day of the Oak Creek anniversary, the Biden Administration released a fact sheet that included a call for increased funding for the federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

The Sikh Coalition was also honored to work with our partners – SALDEF and the Interfaith Conference of Milwaukee – to directly support the Oak Creek gurdwara in organizing and promoting commemorative events during the anniversary weekend. This included the poignant Remembrance Vigil held on August 5 by the Oak Creek sangat. Speakers included Lt. Brian Murphy, Mayor Dan Bukiewicz, Governor Tony Evers, former U.S. Attorney James Santelle, White House representatives, and sangat members who lost loved ones in the attack. Sikh Coalition colleagues also attended various other commemorative events throughout the weekend.
The Sikh Coalition facilitated significant press coverage of the anniversary, beginning with numerous stories before and during the weekend’s events in all major Milwaukee-area TV networks, newspapers, and radio stations. Our team also worked with multiple national outlets covering the 10-year reflection, including features in CNN, NBC, CBS, NPR, the Washington Post, JUS Punjabi, Axios, Voice of America, Interfaith America, and the Washington Times.

Additionally, we worked with more than 20 different authors across the country to publish op-ed pieces in national and regional outlets urging Americans to remember Oak Creek and calling on our elected officials in Congress to take action. Here’s a preview:

**A decade after the Sikh Temple shooting, let’s remember the victims and commit to making the world safer from hate**
*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

**My mother was killed by a white supremacist. Now we need advocacy, not sympathy**
*USA Today*

**Recalling when six Sikh worshippers got shot to death, and pledging not to forget**
*Fresno Bee*

**10 years after the massacre in Oak Creek, I remain committed to my faith — and my country**
*WBUR*

**Time for all to act against hate-fueled violence**
*Atlanta Journal Constitution*

**Advocating for a safer, more inclusive society**
*Richmond Times Dispatch*

**Commentary: We need to commit to making houses of worship safe**
*Albany Times-Union*

**Decade after Oak Creek, Wisconsin mass shooting, Sikh Americans demand change, seek solidarity**
*The Tennessean*

**10 years after an attack on the Sikh community, we must remember to stand together**
*NJ.com*

In total, 20 op-eds placed to #RememberOakCreek
PHOTOS FROM THE VIGIL IN OAK CREEK, WI
The Sikh Coalition was proud to facilitate and support sangats in more than 20 cities across the nation participating in Day of Seva and Night of Vigil efforts to honor the 10-year anniversary of the Oak Creek shooting tragedy.

Multiple sangats held meal packing or food pantry seva, including in Detroit, MI; Charlotte, NC; Los Angeles, CA; San Antonio, TX; Olathe, KS; Lenexa, KS; and New York City, NY. The Houston, TX, sangat packed meals and backpacks for underserved children; and in Albany, NY, sangat members donated supplies for Afghan and Syrian refugees. Sevadaars directly fed members of the local homeless population in Salt Lake City, UT; delivered meals in Oakland, NJ; and attended community events to provide hot food in Cincinnati, OH, and Salem, OR. The Indianapolis, IN, sangat held a water drive. Tree plantings were organized in both Bellingham, WA, and Albuquerque, NM, and sevadaars held public clean-ups in Asbury Park, NJ, and Lexington, KY. Finally, sangat members in Orangevale, CA, made a mural of posters to be sent directly to Oak Creek, and those in Federal Way, WA, were joined by elected officials and members of the larger community to build a trail at Steel Lake Park.

In addition to these projects, sangats in Fairfax, VA; Los Angeles, CA; Lawrenceville, NJ; Dayton, OH; Enola, PA; and Oakland, NJ all held Night of Vigil programming where they welcomed community members and interfaith leaders to gather together in commemoration and reflection. We are deeply grateful to all of the sevadaars who made this incredible seva possible!

“It was a pleasure working with the Sikh Coalition to organize a National Day of Seva project. Collecting supplies for Afghan and Syrian refugees brought the sangat together to honor a deeply important moment for the wider Sikh American community, giving us space to honor the lives lost while furthering the legacy we are trying to build in this country.”

Baani Singh (Albany, NY Sevadaar)
This year, the Sikh Coalition continued our ongoing fight for safer, more inclusive schools – including by continuing to push for Sikhi to be taught in classrooms nationwide.

**Latest Updates**

Collaboration between the sangat and the Sikh Coalition since February of 2021 paid off when, this July, the Virginia State Department of Education included Sikhi in their first draft of the History & Social Science Standards of Learning. Because drafts are always subject to change, however, we campaigned for continued inclusion. As a result of Sikh Coalition-led gurdwara tabling, more than 500 public comments were submitted by VA sangat members to the state’s Board of Education in just three weeks; we also facilitated one sign-on letter in support of the standards with seven VA gurdwaras, and another with nine VA-based organizations. This fight for inclusion is far from over, but we are off to a promising start.

In Utah and Mississippi, we mobilized sangat members to speak in favor of Sikh inclusion in upcoming social studies standards drafts at public hearings. Twelve sangat members joined meetings in Utah in December of 2021; 3 sangat members also joined meetings in Mississippi in January of 2022, and around 100 more sent follow-up messages in October. In Texas, seven community members spoke in favor of continued inclusion of Sikhi in state standards in August of 2022. In each case, we followed-up with relevant supporting letters to state Departments of Education.
We also deepened our education work in Wisconsin. In March, we worked with Sikh community leaders and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to upload new material to a statewide electronic library, and addressed the Wisconsin Council for Social Studies’ 2022 Annual Conference. In April, we assisted the Oak Creek Public Library and local sangat leaders in an open house to share a new Sikh book collection. And in August, again collaborating with the DPI, we facilitated a virtual Sikh Heritage Study Circles for educators.

Finally, the Sikh Coalition continued to monitor state standards in Minnesota and Connecticut. We look forward to engaging in further work next year as states continue to revise their standards.
This year, the Sikh Coalition continued working to ensure that schools are welcoming and inclusive of all students.

In December of 2021, sevadaars presented Sikh awareness trainings to approximately 500 students at Monroe-Woodbury High School in Central Valley, NY. This ongoing programming is the result of Sikh Coalition and parent collaboration that began in 2018.

In May, Senior Education Manager Harman Singh participated in a panel on religious diversity at the Trevor Day School in New York, NY. His presentation on the Sikh faith, community, and traditions reached more than 750 elementary school students.

In June, Community Development Director Rucha Kaur joined more than 100 staff at the Gloucester County Institute of Technology in Sewell, NJ, for an interactive working session. The conversation focused on religious literacy and what teachers can do in cases of religious-based bullying. In the future, we look forward to hosting similar sessions at the school on an annual basis.

“We are grateful to the Sikh Coalition for leading this important working session with our educators. Teachers, parents, students, and administrators have to work together to create classrooms which are safe for all our students, and this is an important first step towards strengthening a culture that protects all of our students regardless of their background.”

Dr. JoAnna Murphy
(Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Gloucester County Institute of Technology)
Due to our extensive work with the Indianapolis, IN, sangat after last year’s tragic mass shooting (see page 26), we were alerted to a severe bullying case in nearby Whiteland, IN, this February. A Sikh high school student, who remains anonymous, at Whiteland Community High School (WCHS) faced harassment and assault from a group of students and was wrongfully suspended after being attacked. Our team co-counseled with a local attorney to advocate for our client and urge WCHS officials to address the systemic bias-based bullying issues poisoning the school environment.

By mid-March, our client was safely back in school, and our education team hosted a training for more than 100 WCHS staff. Educators learned about the Sikh faith and community, as well as how to recognize and stop religious-based bullying. Local press, including the IndyStar and area TV stations, covered both the successful resolution of the case and the training program – making it clear that Sikh students facing bias never do so alone.

ARE YOU A PARENT?

If your child’s school could benefit from educational engagement by the Sikh Coalition, contact our team: education@sikhcoalition.org.

If your child or a student you know is facing bullying in schools, please reach out to our legal team for a free consultation via the intake form on our website: www.sikhcoalition.org
In July, after more than a year of coordination between government officials and Sikh community advocates, the Sikh Coalition successfully assisted with the safe arrival of one multigenerational Afghan Sikh family to New York via the United States Significant Public Benefit Parole Program.

We then facilitated an exclusive story with the Associated Press to document this family’s harrowing experiences and outline how the U.S. government must help the Afghan Sikhs and Hindus both remaining in Afghanistan and temporarily relocated to India. Following the launch of the AP story, we held a press day in our New York City office to facilitate further interviews with members of the family and leaders of the Long Island sangat for outlets such as JUS Punjabi, PTC USA, Punjabi Radio USA, and more.

The Sikh Coalition has conducted a wide range of advocacy work on behalf of the Afghan Sikh and Hindu communities for two years, which ramped up after the 2020 attack by ISIS-K on a Kabul gurdwara. In August, on the one year anniversary of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, we sent our latest formal request to President Biden once again urging him to use his executive authority to expedite the resettlement of Afghan Sikh and Hindu families. We continue our advocacy on behalf of Afghan Sikhs and Hindus, because these families must be resettled to the United States in order to have security, opportunity, and full civil rights.
“On behalf of my entire family, I thank the Sikh Coalition, the Long Island sangat, and partners around the globe to facilitate our evacuation, immigration, and resettlement. We were also immensely grateful for the chance to tell our story and make it clear that there are still so many Afghans that the United States government can and should help.”

Kulwinder Singh Soni (Afghan Sikh family representative)
The Sikh Coalition continued to engage with lawmakers in 2022 to better safeguard the civil rights of Sikhs and other underrepresented communities.

**February**
We effectively facilitated the testimony of Oak Creek sangat leader Pardeep Singh Kaleka before the House Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security regarding security threats to minority institutions.

**March**
Sikh Coalition Legal Director Amrith Kaur Aakre testified before the House Committee on the Judiciary’s Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties on discriminatory policies that continue to impact Sikhs and others more than 20 years after 9/11.

**May**
In May, the Sikh Coalition led Sikh participation in detailed policy conversations with the Biden Administration that directly led to proposing plans for a White House summit around countering hate violence.

**August**
The Sikh Coalition immediately responded to the news that Sikh articles of faith were being destroyed at the U.S. border. In the weeks and months that followed, the Sikh Coalition led meetings with the White House, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other agencies to initiate investigations into the federal violations.
September

In September, plans for the ‘United We Stand’ Summit were realized and, at our urging, the first-ever White House summit was held on the 21st anniversary of the murder of Sikh American Balbir Singh Sodhi. As a result of our direct engagement with White House officials, multiple Sikh community leaders attended, participated, and were recognized during the summit. We continue to engage with the White House around policy initiatives and reforms coming out of the Summit as we push for a country free from hate.

Additionally, after two years of leading the work in collaboration with other Sikh organizations, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) launched a new training on how officers can more respectfully interact with Sikh travelers and their articles of faith. This resource, which will be available to TSA officers in 440 airports nationwide.

“I am grateful to the Sikh Coalition for ensuring that stories like my brother’s were a part of this White House conversation about hate violence. Together, we must keep pushing for the policy reforms that will increase education, safety, and unity, while pushing back against ignorance and bigotry.”

Rana Singh Sodhi (Brother of Balbir Singh Sodhi)
In August, media reports began to emerge about Sikh migrants having their dastaars seized and thrown away by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the southern U.S. border.

The Sikh Coalition joined the American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona (ACLU-AZ) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to:

- File immediate letters of complaint
- Convene meetings with policy experts, Sikh organizations, and senior government officials
- Rally more than 160 organizations for a sign-on letter calling for a full investigation and new policies

This work remains ongoing, with the Sikh Coalition, ACLU-AZ, and ACLU continuing to engage with government officials and provide specific recommendations to CBP and the Department of Homeland Security on how they can treat migrants’ articles of faith and other personal property with basic respect. We and our partners will continue to hold the government accountable for pursuing a full, transparent investigation of this misconduct and ensuring that it stops.
In April, the Sikh Coalition and our legal partners filed a historic lawsuit against the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) for forcing four Sikh men to choose between a career of military service and their articles of faith.

The Sikh Coalition, Winston & Strawn LLP, and the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty filed suit on behalf of USMC Captain Sukhbir Singh Toor and pre-accession Marine recruits Milaap Singh Chahal and Aekash Singh; BakerHostetler, representing Sikh American Veterans Alliance (SAVA), joined us in representing pre-accession Marine recruit Jaskirat Singh. The Sikh Coalition was proud to facilitate coverage of the lawsuit in a wide range of media outlets – including another exclusive piece in the New York Times, building on last year's profile of Captain Toor.

Building off previous historic victories to change the policies in the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, this litigation continues to ensure that all branches protect religious rights, as the Sikh Coalition continues fighting to ensure equal opportunity for our clients in all employment sectors.
PROVIDING FREE, EXPERT LEGAL AID FOR SANGAT MEMBERS

In addition to our work in Indiana and New York, the Sikh Coalition continues to serve as the leading source of pro bono legal assistance for Sikhs across the country. Our attorneys are on track to field an estimated 200 legal intakes for the year.

While we cannot discuss most cases due to ongoing litigation or other circumstances involving client confidentiality, here are some of the many high impact cases we worked on this year that we can share.

KIRPAN RIGHTS
In December of 2021, we secured an accommodation for our client, Simranveer Kaur, to wear her kirpan on public transportation after she was falsely told she could not do so. We subsequently held a training that reached more than 100 public employees in the city of Cleveland, OH.

OVERDUE JUSTICE
We intervened when Rouble Claire, a Sikh man in Sutter, CA, experienced police inaction in the face of threats, assault, and racist graffiti. As a result of meetings with our attorneys, the local sheriff’s office eventually called for charges against Mr. Claire’s assailant – but then, the district attorney refused to bring those charges. We rallied 12 CA organizations and hundreds of community members to call for action, and remain engaged as a new district attorney takes office this coming January.
“In the early days of the pandemic, when I was training with AMR, I was eager to use my medical and emergency preparedness knowledge to help others. It was extremely difficult to be turned away from that urgent work because of my faith—but now, I am able to be of service with appropriate and effective PPE in my new position. Ultimately, I’m supporting this legal action because no qualified professional should ever be forced to sit at home when they could be out saving lives.”

Ravi Singh (Sikh paramedic)

We filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) when Ravi Singh, a Sikh paramedic in Hartford, CT, was denied a religious accommodation and dismissed from his job; in September, Mr. Singh’s case became part of an EEOC class action lawsuit against his former employer.

EQUAL ACCESS TO PPE

A Sikh student, who remains anonymous, was wrongfully accused of a crime and expelled from school. We joined with a local American Civil Liberties Union affiliate to ultimately reverse the student’s expulsion, ensure that criminal charges were dropped, and build a safety plan for them to resume their studies without further harassment.

EMERGENCY INTERVENTION
CASE STUDY – RESPONDING TO INCIDENTS IN QUEENS, NY WITH LEGAL, ADVOCACY, COMMUNITY & MEDIA EFFORTS ALONGSIDE LOCAL PARTNERS

This year saw multiple hate crimes and bias incidents against Sikhs in Queens, NY. In response, the Sikh Coalition has pursued legal, advocacy, community, and media work alongside numerous partners – a months-long example of our multi-pronged approach to combating hate violence.

On January 3, a Sikh taxi driver was attacked and berated at JFK International Airport; then, on April 3, Nirmal Singh, a 70-year-old elderly Sikh man, was assaulted in the neighborhood of Richmond Hill. In both of these cases, the Sikh Coalition was retained to provide free legal and advocacy support, including by interfacing with the New York Police Department (NYPD), providing translation services, and conveying investigation updates to our clients and their families.

Given these and similar incidents, we also convened two community-based efforts to raise awareness about preventing and responding to hate incidents. On February 12, city agencies, volunteers from other community organizations, sevadaars, and Sikh Coalition staff distributed 600 resource flyers to taxi and rideshare drivers at JFK airport. Then, on June 24, another team of staff, sevadaars, and volunteers from 17 different organizations held a Day of Action in Richmond Hill. Together, we went door-to-door distributing posters and personal safety equipment to roughly 180 small businesses (See photos to the right; additional photos on page 27).
We also continued our advocacy to press the NYPD to accurately record and charge these incidents as anti-Sikh hate crimes. We also provided background and expert analysis to media outlets like the New York Times, the Queens Chronicle, and PTC Punjabi – focusing not just on the hate incidents, but the community organizing in response. While hate and bias remain a challenge in Queens and across the nation, we continue our work to deepen ties with the local sangat, build relationships with allies on the ground, leverage media coverage, and hold law enforcement and elected officials accountable for action.

“I am very grateful to the Sikh Coalition for their legal service as my father’s attacker was identified and arrested. The Sikh Coalition’s continued work makes it more possible for all of our elders – regardless of their religion or race – to be able to walk the streets without fear.”

Manjit Singh, son of Nirmal Singh
DEEPENING OUR ENGAGEMENT WITH SANGATS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Amidst rapid response efforts and ongoing legal casework, the Sikh Coalition continues to support sangats across the country in a wide variety of ways.

In April, we published a toolkit for sangats to request Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month (SAAM) resolutions or proclamations from school boards, city councils, and state governments. That same month, our staff also traveled to the American Trucking Show in Fresno, CA, to share Know Your Rights resources with thousands of Punjabi American truckers.

In advance of the fall midterm elections, the Sikh Coalition launched a free online Civic Action Center to provide Sikh voters with a tool to check their voter registration, polling place, and deadlines. We also connected sangats with local partners to hold voter registration drives in key states like North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Arizona.

Accommodating Sikhs in the Workplace: A Guide for Employers

In June, we also launched a new online resource, Accommodating Sikhs in the Workplace: A Guide for Employers. The guide helps both public and private sector employers understand the Sikh faith and ensure that their employment decisions are legally compliant.

Visit our website at www.sikhcoalition.org/resources to download the free guide and share it with your employer today.
In September, the Sikh Coalition hosted our second annual virtual legal conference, Realizing Justice for All, for attorneys and law students nationwide to learn about the civil rights issues facing Sikhs and other minority groups. In partnership with law firms Winston & Strawn, LLP and Weil, Gotshal, & Manges LLP, we welcomed special guest speakers Janai Nelson (President and Director-Counsel of the Legal Defense Fund) and Paul Grewal (Chief Legal Officer of Coinbase). Additional panels centered on free speech in the age of disinformation and censorship, the politicization of Critical Race Theory, and the history of the battle for voting rights.

We also honored the Stanford University Law School Religious Liberty Clinic as the 2022 Pro Bono Sevadar of the Year! We are immensely grateful to our sponsors – Winston & Strawn LLP; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; WilmerHale; Robins Kaplan LLP; the South Asian Bar Association of North America (SABA), and the SABA Foundation – for making this conference possible.

Second Legal Conference Brings Experts to Discuss Current Civil Rights Challenges

As we continue fighting to ensure Sikhs can practice their faith fearlessly, we are honored to be working alongside a slate of community leaders, activists, and experts in ensuring that underrepresented communities nationwide can do the same.
April 15 marked the one-year anniversary of the tragic April 2021 mass shooting at a FedEx ground facility in Indianapolis, IN.

In the immediate aftermath of the shooting, the Sikh Coalition worked to provide comprehensive support and resources to survivors and affected family members; one year on, we continue to assist with pressing legal issues. To mark the anniversary, more than 60 organizations joined us in a statement urging law enforcement to always examine the potential of a bias motivation when acts of mass violence harm marginalized communities.

On April 23, more than 100 volunteers joined Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, the Eway Foundation, and the Sikh Coalition for the Great Indy Cleanup and tree planting event at Indianapolis’ Arsenal Park. The Sikh Coalition sponsored eight trees that were planted in honor of the eight individuals killed in the shooting: Matthew R. Alexander, Samaria Blackwell, Amarjeet Kaur Johal, Jasvinder Kaur, Jaswinder Singh, Amarjit Sekhon, Karli Smith, and John “Steve” Weisert.
Beyond the 10th anniversary of the Oak Creek shooting, 2022 has been a year of significant milestones, including 40 years since the murder of Vincent Chin, 30 years since the LA Uprising/“Saigu,” and one year since the deadly mass shootings in both Atlanta and Indianapolis. Amidst these commemorations, Asian American communities, along with other communities of color, continue to grapple with violence and harassment.

In April, the Sikh Coalition joined NY Governor Kathy Hochul and sangat leaders at an anti-hate crime rally in Queens, NY. We also spoke out when, on May 14, a white supremacist gunman shot and killed 10 Black Americans at a grocery store in Buffalo, NY. And on June 25, the Sikh Coalition served as a partner in the first-ever Unity March in Washington, DC – an Asian American multicultural event to advance socioeconomic and cultural equity, racial justice, and solidarity.

The Sikh Coalition will continue to engage partner organizations in advocacy initiatives as we move forward together in our shared fight for civil rights and against hate violence.
The Sikh Coalition continues to recruit and train professionals with the skills and passion to serve the needs and interests of the nationwide sangat. In addition to our new Executive Director, this year, we were proud to welcome:

**A GROWING TEAM TO SERVE THE SANGAT**

**GURSIMRAN SINGH**  
Operations Manager  
Joined December 2021

**MARISSA ROSSETTI**  
Staff Attorney  
Joined March 2022

**AMREEN PARTAP SINGH BHASIN**  
Staff Attorney  
Joined July 2022

**YASHPREET SINGH MATHARU**  
Community Development Manager  
Joined August 2022

**UPNEET KAUR**  
Education Fellow  
Joined September 2022
THE SIKH COALITION WELCOMES ANISHA SINGH AS OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In May, the Sikh Coalition welcomed Anisha Singh as our new Executive Director.

Anisha is a civil rights leader with more than 15 years of experience in public interest and social justice issues, legal and policy advocacy work, and grassroots organizing. As a first generation Sikh woman who grew up in the United States, she has long had a passion for defending the civil rights of the Sikh community and previously volunteered with the Sikh Coalition in 2005. Prior to joining the Sikh Coalition, Anisha led the courts and democracy programs at Planned Parenthood Federation of America as their Director of Judiciary and Democracy Affairs.

In her first few months, Anisha has already represented the organization in external programs and presentations, helped to drive our Oak Creek congressional briefing (see page 17), cultivated new foundation support for our work, and fielded multiple interviews and op-ed requests.

“I am honored to have returned to the civil rights work that started my career by stepping into this leadership role at the Sikh Coalition. This organization – with its incredible track record in advocacy, community development, education, legal, and media efforts – has long been near and dear to my heart. I am proud to now be working with our staff, board, sevadaars, and sangats at the intersection of two pivotal moments: the third decade of the Sikh Coalition’s existence, and the continued, urgent reckoning with civil rights and hate violence in our country.”
Since the inception of the Sikh Coalition, we have endeavored to build an organization that exceeds the highest standards of competence and professionalism and remains committed to full financial transparency. The Sikh Coalition is independently audited each year, is a Better Business Bureau-accredited organization, and has received a 4 of 4 star rating on Charity Navigator and upgraded to platinum level on GuideStar.

The majority of the Sikh Coalition’s funding comes from generous donors like yourself. In addition, in 2021 the Sikh Coalition received competitive grants from foundations like Open Society Foundation, RISE Together Fund, Emergent Fund, The Asian American Foundation, Solidaire Network, Emergent Fund, El Hibri Foundation, Arab American Association of New York, Asian American Federation and Hate is a Virus, designated fund of Philanthropic Ventures Foundation. This support is a testament to our sound financial practices and ability to deliver results.
STAFF

Anisha Singh, Executive Director
Mark Reading-Smith, Senior Managing Director of Programs
Amrith Kaur Aakre, Legal Director
Rucha Kaur, Community Development Director
Graham F. West, Media and Communications Director
Harsimran Kaur, Senior Counsel
Sim J. Singh Attariwala, Senior Manager of Policy & Advocacy
Rajpreet Kaur, Senior Media & Communications Manager
Giselle Klapper, Senior Staff Attorney
Ava Master, Senior Development Manager
Harman Singh, Senior Manager of Education
Nikki Singh, Senior Manager of Policy & Advocacy
Amreen Partap Singh Bhasin, Staff Attorney
Nimarta Kaur, Media and Communications Manager
Yashpreet Singh Matharu, Community Development Manager
Marissa Rossetti, Staff Attorney
Gursimran Singh, Operations Manager
Sahej Preet Singh, Community Development Manager
Upneet Kaur, Education Fellow
Simran Jeet Singh, Senior Fellow

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Harpreet Singh, Board Member
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Savneet Singh, Board Member
Suneet Kaur, Board Member
Please donate today!

What is freedom worth to you? This full-time, high-impact organization is working day and night to protect your right to practice Sikh. Your financial support will ensure that the Sikh flag continues to fly high!

Please note our new mailing address

165 Broadway, Office 2359
New York, NY 10006