



innoFaith

2024 PRIORITIES AND FUNDING GOALS

→ **Continue to grow our audience and network of leaders and support them with the most relevant content, connections, and opportunities to advance their work and leadership**

The more our network grows, the more connections we can foster and the more impact we can have. innoFaith is for people who want to use the wisdom and assets of faith to create a better world. Whether they are already actively innovating and seeking support, or possess a vision for change but feel limited in their ability to achieve it, or sense an emerging future or yearn for something new but are unsure where to begin, we are here for them. We know there are so many people out there like this who may feel alone in their journey. We want to connect them with each other and with the stories, opportunities, resources, and insights that can help them lead in the ways the world needs right now. We hired a part-time Communications Manager in 2023, who is helping us grow our audience. We need funding to continue to support this role.

Funding goal: \$10K for a part-time Communications Manager for 6 months

→ **Develop more content, including an event series to bring innovative, high-impact ideas to faith communities seeking to create change**

At the core of innoFaith's work is the connecting of people to each other and to useful opportunities, resources, and insights. While we do this through our newsletter every month, we also occasionally host events to connect people and ideas. We plan to do more regular events in 2024 to continue to forge powerful connections that create social impact. We have already teamed up with a leading organization doing intergenerational work, CoGenerate, for a virtual webinar in February on how faith communities can nurture intergenerational relationships for social impact. Throughout the year, we will bring other relevant and useful conversations to our multi-faith community.

Funding goal: \$5K to support this new event series

→ **Launch spiritual innovation field study and convenings in collaboration with Glean Network, Chaplaincy Innovation Lab, and other partners**

As part of our goal to nurture an ecosystem at the intersection of faith and social innovation, we teamed up with partners Glean Network and Chaplaincy Innovation Lab in 2023 to develop the plan for [a national field study and set of convenings on spiritual innovation for social impact](#). The religious landscape in the U.S. is shifting, but out beyond the dominant narrative of the decline of mainstream religion, an exciting dynamic world of innovation has quietly emerged. The field study aims to uncover more about this trend, specifically as it relates to innovation creating spiritual and social impact in communities. Building on the field study, the convenings will seek to build

more learning and collaboration across the players in this emerging field for greater impact. This project already has some support from a handful of funders, but we still need additional resources to fully realize the plan.

Funding goal: \$25K to help launch the field study and convenings

→ **Bring the NYU Certificate Course in Faith, Innovation, and Social Impact to more leader cohorts**

[innoFaith and the Bronfman Center at NYU launched this introductory innovation course](#) as a pilot in the spring of 2023 with a multi-faith cohort of leaders in Washington, DC. Participants included pastors, rabbis, lay leaders, and citizen sector leaders, and we brought in leading social and spiritual innovators as faculty. Feedback from participants suggest that the course successfully helped them to think and engage in more innovative ways in the faith sector. We now have interest from a number of other faith-rooted leaders in other geographies and are looking to replicate it. We are in conversation with funders about supporting the growth of the course, but we need scholarship funding to ensure that leaders without sufficient resources can still participate.

"The course represented an important mindset shift for me. It was helpful to understand the learning and experience that informs innovation strategies. I feel better prepared to think outside the box, work collaboratively, and contribute to fresh new approaches to social problems." - 2023 Course Participant

"As a result of the course, I'm thinking more about how to co-create solutions, in dialogue with my colleagues and with the communities we are working with and serving." - 2023 Course Participant

Funding goal: \$15K in scholarship funding to support full scholarships for 10 participants, or partial scholarships for 20-30 participants

→ **Develop a fund to support interfaith innovation**

innoFaith is creating a fund to support interfaith innovation for social impact. A lot of funding in the faith world is siloed within particular faith traditions at a time when our society is growing increasingly multi-faith. Very little funding incentivizes co-leadership across faith traditions and between faith-rooted and secular initiatives. We want to change that by funding multi-faith co-creators and their collaborations. We have piloted this over the last couple of years with: 1) an innoFaith Award granted to interfaith organization The In[HEIR]itance Project as part of a pitch contest we co-sponsored, and 2) a grant to support a collaboration between the Giving Square and the Interfaith Coalition of Bowie, Maryland, to enable the piloting of The Giving Square's innovative child-centered curriculum in an interfaith setting.

"innoFaith's support came at a significant moment for the In[HEIR]itance Project. The funding was immediately put to use to expand programming, And even more impactfully, innoFaith's acknowledgment of our work offered an imprimatur that validated our efforts to engage interfaith communities in ways that helped bolster our reputation nationally and attract more community partnerships." -Jon Adam Ross, Co-founder, The In[HEIR]itance Project

Funding goal: \$20K for 4 interfaith innovation grants of \$5K each