Religious Competency for Emergency Managers training has helped our staff to improve response, recovery and preparedness capabilities so that we are truly addressing the needs of the whole community, particularly those with specific faith-related needs during a disaster.

MARYANN TIERNEY, FEMA REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY PANEL DISCUSSIONS: Ideal for department- or company-wide training, our panel program can be tailored to enhance your organization's desired outcomes. Gain insight into particular religious traditions from a select panel of experts. Panels have included representatives from the Jewish, Islamic, Hindu, Baha’i, Sikh, Buddhist, Catholic, Mormon, and Protestant faith communities. After a moderated panel session and open question and answer time, case studies illuminate critical issues tailored to the setting.

THEMES: Beyond religious accommodation; celebrating and respecting lifecycle moments; religious competency for health professionals; literacy and cultural sensitivity for emergency management workers; skills and best practices for working with employees of diverse faith backgrounds; creating an inclusive workplace.

INTERACTIVE CASE STUDIES: An opportunity to examine workplace scenarios specific to your organization’s needs and work. Guided by Interfaith Philadelphia staff, participants break into small groups to discuss a variety of industry-relevant case studies. This thought-provoking program is ideal for participants who have worked in religiously diverse contexts and want to explore issues of diversity in more depth.

COACHING & CONSULTATION: Interfaith Philadelphia offers confidential coaching and consultation for managers or human resources and diversity personnel seeking guidance when addressing questions about employees’ faith traditions, practices, and needs. Interfaith Philadelphia staff is available to work with employers on specific situations as they arise, answer general faith-related questions, or assist in accommodating religious observances in ways that advance the values of the organization and help to avert complaints. We offer both in-person and phone consultations.

TRAINING: Interfaith Philadelphia offers training workshops to complement the above programs and consultations, as well as separate workshops for managers who supervise religiously diverse teams. Workshops can be held separately from or as part of an organization’s diversity training programs. When offered separately, one to two-hour, half-day, and full-day training workshops are available.

PARTNERS: Our work has been done in conjunction with PECO, Comcast, PWC, FEMA Region III, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, The Franklin Institute, Pennsylvania Public Health Training Center, The Fabric Workshop and Museum, CHOP, Independence Blue Cross, and others.