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DR. AVINASH GUPTA

A PHYSICIAN LEADING WITH SERVICE

Dr. Avinash Gupta has combined medical excellence with exceptional community leadership, dedicating decades to strengthening the Indian-American community. As president of the Federation of Indian Associations (FIA), he led New York's iconic India Day Parade while also serving as chairman of the Sri Siddhivinayak Temple in New Jersey. A former president of BJANA and MOCAAPI, he champions healthcare, cultural unity, and philanthropy, including supporting the PRAN-BJANA Free Clinic that delivers essential medical care to underserved communities in Bihar and Jharkhand.



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BHAIRAVI DESAI

DRIVING JUSTICE FOR AMERICA'S TAXI WORKERS

Indian-American labor leader Bhairavi Desai transformed the lives of thousands of immigrant drivers as co-founder and executive director of the New York Taxi Workers Alliance, the first union of its kind in the U.S. Under her leadership, the organization secured landmark victories on wages, debt relief, and workers' rights for taxi and rideshare drivers. A recipient of the Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World Award, Desai, who studied at Rutgers University, is among America's most influential labor activists



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ARUN GANDHI

CARRYING GANDHI'S LEGACY ACROSS AMERICA

Arun Gandhi (1934-2023), the fifth grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, dedicated his life to advancing nonviolence, conflict resolution, and peace education in the United States. As founder of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence in Tennessee, he inspired students, educators, and global audiences through lectures, workshops, and advocacy. His acclaimed book, *The Gift of Anger: And Other Lessons from My Grandfather Mahatma Gandhi*, introduced Gandhian principles to a new generation, making him one of the foremost ambassadors of his grandfather's philosophy in America.



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MEERA GANDHI

GIVING BACK, ONE LIFE AT A TIME

Indian-American philanthropist Meera Gandhi, born in Mumbai to an Irish mother and a Gujarati father, is the founder and CEO of The Giving Back Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to advancing education, healthcare, women's empowerment, and disaster relief worldwide. Based in New York, she has championed humanitarian initiatives across the United States and India, promoting compassion as a force for social change. Widely recognized for her charitable work, Gandhi has emerged as a leading voice for philanthropy, cross-cultural understanding, and global humanitarian service.



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ABRAHAM GEORGE

CHOSE SERVICE OVER SUCCESS

After building a successful entrepreneurial career in the United States, Abraham George returned to philanthropy with a mission to transform lives through education and healthcare. He founded The George Foundation and the acclaimed Shanti Bhavan Children's Project, creating opportunities for underprivileged children in India. A graduate of New York University, George has received numerous honors, including the American India Foundation's Spirit of India Award, for his lifelong humanitarian work.



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INDER SINGH

UNITING THE GLOBAL INDIAN DIASPORA

Indian-American community leader Inder Singh (1932-2019) played a pivotal role in strengthening the global Indian diaspora as Chairman and later President of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO). He helped transform GOPIO into an influential international platform advocating for the rights and interests of overseas Indians while fostering stronger ties with India. His leadership contributed significantly to the worldwide recognition and unity of the Indian diaspora



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THOMAS ABRAHAM

THE FORCE BEHIND THE GLOBAL INDIAN MOVEMENT

Dr. Thomas Abraham is the founding president of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) and founder of the National Federation of Indian American Associations (NFIA). He organized the historic 1989 Global Convention in New York that united overseas Indians from around the world and laid the foundation for today's global diaspora movement. His pioneering efforts helped inspire initiatives such as Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, strengthening India's engagement with its worldwide community.



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CAPTAIN TEJDEEP SINGH RATTAN

WON THE RIGHT TO SERVE WITH HIS FAITH

Captain Tejdeep Singh Rattan made history as the first observant Sikh in decades to receive permission to serve in the U.S. Army while wearing his turban, beard, and other articles of faith. His landmark legal victory paved the way for greater religious accommodation in the U.S. military, inspiring policy reforms that opened doors for future Sikh service members while strengthening America's commitment to religious freedom.

