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**DR. MALIK NAMED CHAIRMAN
OF NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR JUST COMMUNITIES**
BRIDGES Emeritus Board Member Serves As National Leader

CINCINNATI, OH March 19, 2008 – The newly-formed National Federation for Just Communities recently announced a coalition of 18 member organizations across America dedicated to building communities by advancing inclusion and social justice issues with Cincinnati resident Inayat K. Malik, M.D. as its founding chairman.

The national network of human relations organizations has members in 16 states, including Arkansas, California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah and Virginia. With a lengthy history in human relations work, members of the National Federation for Just Communities (NFJC) are leading their local communities in addressing issues of diversity and inclusion.

“The Federation’s mission and work grow out of the social justice movement of the early 20th century. Since then we have become a nation with many races, ethnicities and cultures – more diverse than the ‘melting pot’ of old,” said Inayat K. Malik, M.D., chairman of the National Federation for Just Communities and emeritus board member of BRIDGES for a Just Community, the NFJC member in Greater Cincinnati.

“Ike has served as a tireless leader, aiding BRIDGES through our renaming and separation from NCCJ in 2006 to later collaborate with a majority of other regional NCCJ offices around the nation to co-found the new National Federation for Just Communities,” said Robert C. “Chip” Harrod, president and CEO of BRIDGES.

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Inayat K. Malik, M.D. is a local physician specializing in urology. After more than 10 years of involvement with BRIDGES for a Just Community, Dr. Malik served as the organizations president from 2003 to 2005. He is a resident of Indian Hill.

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About BRIDGES for a Just Community, Inc.

BRIDGES for a Just Community brings people together to achieve inclusion, equity and justice for all who live and work in the Greater Cincinnati community. As the region's leading human relations organization, BRIDGES' vision is to create a respectful, equitable and welcoming community for all citizens through education, advocacy and dialogue. Formerly the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) of Greater Cincinnati, BRIDGES for a Just Community has served the region since 1944. For more information, call BRIDGES at 513-381-4660 or visit online at www.bridgescincinnati.org.