

Tasneem Sultan, founder and president of La Convivencia, began with a simple mission: to build strong relationships among diverse people through dialogue, civic engagement, and community service. Her faith and values motivate her commitment to equality, justice, and service for the humanity.

Her experiences living in Pakistan, France, and Canada not only offered her firsthand knowledge of diverse people and cultures but also convinced her of the importance of creating dialogue between people of different faiths, cultures, and ethnicities. As an American Muslim woman, she realized that misunderstandings due to a lack of empathy and acceptance can easily lead to tensions and violence. She is determined to do what she can to help others understand and appreciate different cultures.

Tasneem began her volunteerism while living in Alabama, where she was an active member of Interfaith Mission Services, the Arts Council of Huntsville, and more. When she relocated with her family to New Jersey, she continued community activism by joining different organizations in the area. She has served as a member of the 'United We Create Advisory Committee' of Young Audiences New Jersey and chaired the Human Relations Council of West Windsor, NJ. She is also a board member of the Interfaith Round Table in Washtenaw County, MI.

In 2019, Tasneem was honored as a recipient of the Mercer County (NJ) Women of Achievement Award by the Mercer County Commission on the Status of Women. She and her son, Bilal Sultan, were also recognized as New Jersey 2019 State Governor's Jefferson Honorees for Justice award for their work on behalf of La Convivencia.

Tasneem is committed to creating strong interfaith and cross-cultural friendships, raising awareness of systemic racism, and promoting multiculturalism through the power of dialogue and storytelling. Her passion drives her to join in efforts to address social injustice, human rights violations, and climate change to promote global action. Tasneem lives to share compassion, peace, and has a love for service for all communities. Her goal in life is to inspire change that matters, and to mobilize as many people as possible to speak up in the name of peace and justice. She enjoys cooking, reading, painting, and exercising whenever she finds the time.