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Local faith group finalist for award

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Staff reports

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester has been named a finalist for a national award that recognizes community activism by faith-based groups.

The Interfaith Alliance, a grass-roots organization of more than 185,000 members nationwide, recognized the Interfaith Alliance of Rochester as a finalist for its annual Bishop P. Francis Murphy Memorial Local Activism Award. The Rochester group was named a finalist because of its extensive work on religious liberty in its community.

"The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester is a shining example of how religious pluralism and citizen activism can make a difference in a community," said Interfaith Alliance President Rev. C. Welton Gaddy, in a statement. "Their work has demonstrated an outstanding dedication to religious liberty."

Among its accomplishments, the Rochester group helped to organize a fair election campaign pledge for political candidates and held legislative forums in 28 legislative districts, according to officials from the national alliance. The Rochester group also produced a DVD illustrating the many faces of poverty in Monroe County as part of its "Let Justice Roll" campaign.