12th HINDU MANDIR EXECUTIVES' CONFERENCE, Indianapolis, Indiana, Sept 15-17, 2017			
PROGRAM OVERVIEW			
FRIDAY September 15, 2017			
	4:00 PM	**Registration**	
Session 0 Fri	**5:00 PM**	**Pre Conference Workshop: Vedic Wisdom and Modern Science**	**Samskrita Bharati of Indianapolis**
Meal	**6:00 PM**	**Dinner**	**Entertainment by Aks & Lakshmi**
Session 1 Fri	**7:30 PM**	**Inaugural Session - Challenges of the 21st Century**	
		Every good action is only increased many fold with blessings and gratitude. We will open the conference with Vedic Mantras and Diya lighting by hosts of the HMEC 2017. Welcome address by the organizing hosts will be followed by invited talks and inaugural addresses.	
1.1		*Bhavgeet - Ish Hame Deta Hai*	Local Indy Hosts
1.2		*Invocation Through Vedic Mantras*	Local Priests
1.3		*Deep Prajjwalan*	All Co-Host Temples
1.4		*Blessings & HMEC Vision*	Swamini Svatmavidyanandaji
1.5		*Welcome from Indianapolis Host Team*	Vijay Reddy
1.6		*Hindu Activism: A Driver of Our Future, Hopes and Dreams*	Raman Khanna
1.7		*Inaugural Address: Challenges of the 21st Century*	Swami Pratyagbodhanadaji
1.8		*Program Agenda Overview*	Ami Patel
1.90		*Ashirvachan*	TBD
1.10		*Instructions*	Arun Jain
1.11	**9:00 PM**	*Optional Documentary --Temple Makers*	SR Marri
		Q/A with the Filmmaker	Michael Husain
SATURDAY PRE-LUNCH PROGRAM			
SATURDAY September 16, 2017			
Sadhana	**6:00 AM**	**Yoga & Meditation**	
		Dhyan - Meditation	Pierre Couvillion
		Yoga	Yogi Devaraj
Meal	**7:00 AM**	**Breakfast**	
Session 2 Sat	**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**	**Temple & Institutions of the Future, Fulfilling Our Hopes and Needs**	**Arun Jain**
		The temples we have so lovingly built are destined to become museums unless they meet the spiritual, emotional and social needs of the next generation. The temple of the future will not only be a holy place to honor God but will also be a thriving center offering opportunities for nurturing and supporting the community from birth to old age. The temple will have Hindu chaplaincy services, function halls, sports courts, career/financial counseling, child and adult day care, and service opportunities that will reach out to meet the needs of the whole community including non-Hindus. Traditional subjects such as yoga, meditation,	

		dance, music and language will also be taught so these arts will not get separated from their religious roots and dharmic principles.	
2.1		*Hindu Dharma for the Next Generation*	Swamini Svatmavidyanandaji
2.2		*Temples as Centers for Healing of Body, Mind, and Soul*	Robert Arnett
2.3		*Hindu Temples as Centers of Hindu Renaissance for Gen Next*	Darshan Soni
2.4		*Hindu Chaplaincy in the 21st Century: More Needed then Ever*	Sudhir Pai
		Q&A	
Session 3 Sat	**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**	**Youth, Young Adult Engagement**	**Sohini Sircar**
		When addressing challenges of the 21st century, addressing youth engagement is of utmost importance. Ensuring that children, teens, youth and young adults are actively engaged in their mandir community is important to preserve the longevity and vibrancy of our temples in North America. This session aims to address the current state as well as propose several methods for strengthening youth involvement.	
3.1		*Hindu Dharma's Position on Social Justice Issues*	Bramachari Suryanarayanji
3.2		*Temple Internship/Employment as a Means for Engagement*	Ravi Jaishankar
3.3		*Chinmaya Yuva Kendra Program*	Kaushik Joshi
3.4		*Interfaith Marriages: Summary of 12 years of Research*	Dilip Amin
		Q&A	
Break	**10:00 AM - 10:30 AM**	**Relaxation**	
Session 4 Sat	**10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**	**Seva As An Inter-Generational Bridge**	**Preya Dave**
		Seva or service is a key driver that can bring multiple generations together under a common objective. Hindu Dharma has always promoted seva within our communities and doing good by giving of our time, wealth, knowledge. North American society is always challenged with not having enough time, but also finds the greatest of joys in giving time. Seva projects that can act as a bridge between generations will create shared experiences that will enable knowledge share, mutual respect and learning will bring us closer to sustaining Dharma inter-generationally.	
4A.1		*Encouraging volunteerism: Recognition programs for youth and adults*	Anita Gupta
4A.2		*Seva Diwas - Seva in America programs*	Vallabha Tantry
4A.3		*Hindu Family Support Services*	Nainan Desai
4A.4		*International Seva Projects*	Divya Selvakumar
		Q&A	
Session 5 Sat	**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**	**HMEC Update**	**Abhaya Asthana**

		HMEC was established to be a driver for catalytic change. Many creative ideas and practical projects have emanated from HMEC over the past 12 years. Key accomplishments from the past HMEC initiatives, action plans and projects delivered will be summarized. Some of these success initiatives have become significant movements in their own right, examples such as the Hindu Mandir Priest Conference, the Hindu Chaplaincy Initiative, the Hindu Prayer Book for Hospitals, the Bal Vihar Network or Hindu Women's Network. This session provides a glimpse of these projects.	
5.1		*Hindu Mandir Priests Conf. (HMPC)*	Lakshmi Bhamidipati
5.2		*WHC and WHEF*	Sham Sheth
5.3		*Vanaprasthi Network Vision - HAVAN*	Kumar Dave
5.4		*Hindu Women Network Conference (HWN)*	Renu Gupta
5.5		*HMEC Publications*	Tejal Shah
5.6		*HMEC Alignment with National Services*	CH (CPT) Jeremy Naugle
5.7		*HMEC Updates and Regional HMEC*	Sanjay Mehta
Meal	**12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**	**Lunch**	
SATURDAY POST-LUNCH PROGRAM			
SATURDAY September 16, 2017			
Parallel - Break Out Sessions (A, B, C, D)			
Session 6A Sat	**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**	**Temple Conceptualization, Construction, Operations and Management**	**Anil Bajpai**
		Our temples are our spiritual homes and we build them with the hope they will last forever, but many are already falling into disrepair. The temple of the 21st century needs to be beautiful, durable and “green" as well. This session will explore construction, renovation, and management concepts that enable temples to meet the needs of vastu shastra, building codes, and sustainability.	
6A.1		*Temple Construction East Meets West*	Sathya Thulasiraman
6A.2		*21st Century Temple Communications*	Rhagava Ayyagari
6A.3		*Project Akshaya Vata - Final Stop for Hindu Life*	Venkat Subramanian
6A.4		*Apps for Temple Management & Maintenance*	Ravee Dudhlur
		Q&A	
Session 6B Sat	**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**	**Young, Youth Education Program and Curriculum**	**Vishal Agarwal**
		The temples need to be equipped with a program for Hindu education, which can start from something very basic “Bal Vihar” style for kids, to a multipronged program for all age groups, both young & old. The curriculum can be taken from the best of the already active program such as Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Chinmaya Mission, BAPS, Temples like Hindu Temple of Minnesota or Hindu Temple of Toledo and many other sources, which may already have written subject matter available.	
6B.1		*Chinmaya Mission Bal Vihar Program*	Devendra Trivedi

6B.2		*Digitizing Hindu Education Programs*	Bhakti Mehta
6B.3		*Challenges and Opportunities in Hindu Education*	Vasu Murthy
6B.4		*Parents Worship Day*	Venkat Aravala
		Q&A	
Session 6C Sat	**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**	**Seniors: Current Issues & Challenges and Resolutions**	**Kumar Dave**
		Seniors faces many issues and challenges in regard to when to retire and where to settle. Many seniors don't know how to engage themselves into some meaningful activities. They have ample of time, knowledge and wisdom but may have unconscious bias towards themselves. There may be more concern about the financial and physical wellbeing, but not enough towards service (seva) and spiritual wellbeing. Temples and Institutions should focus into this age group and explore the program for the seniors resulting in benefiting both seniors in particular and the community in general.	
6C.1		*Emotional & Physical Well Being*	Vipin Kalia
6C.2		*Financial wellbeing and Retirement planning*	Surendra Pandey
6C.3		*Engaging seniors into temple programs*	Inderjit Saini
6C.4		*Engaging seniors into temple programs*	Vinod Gupta
6C.5		*Panel Discussion: Social Security, Medicare, Living Will*	Surendra Pandey, Inderjit Saini, Giridhar Ahuja, Vipin Kalia,Vinod Gupta
Session 6D Sat	**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**	**Youth Session: Hinduism, Social Challenges and Other Questions of Today**	**Ankush Modi, Shama Mehta HMEC Interns: Srinidhi Raghav, Gyan Mehta**
		From social challenges of bullying and profiling to making career choices, join us in discussing the unique challenges Hindu youth living in North America are facing today.	
6D.1		*Workshop*	
Session 7A Sat	**2:30 PM - 3:45 PM**	**Women's Role in Temple Life and Leadership**	**Shama Mehta**
		Hindu Dharma is gender inclusive. Over the centuries, there have been many great women leaders that have shaped the Hindu society with their philosophies, such as Gargi and Maitreyi. Today, the role of women in temple life and leadership differs from mandir to mandir. The goal of this panel would be to promote equality of women be it within a temple setting or the role of Hindu women as leaders in the community. It would also identify obstacles that are faced by women in their efforts to become leaders.	
7A.1		*Workshop*	
Session 7B Sat	**2:30 PM - 3:45 PM**	**Dealing with the Media**	**Fred Stella**
		For decades other religious institutions have developed savvy internal mechanisms in the area of media relations. Hindu temples are yet to catch up. This section will focus on developing a proactive agenda in matters of public relations, damage control, education & maintaining relationships with local media outlets.	

7B.1		*Workshop*	
Session 7C Sat	**2:30 PM - 3:45 PM**	**Swadeshi Indology and its Relevance to the Hindu Temples in the US**	**Sant Gupta, Ravi Joshi**
		The current Swadeshi Indology (http://swadeshiindology.com) is a multi-tier effort - with Levels A, B, C, & D - at institutionalizing the ability for Indian Civilization to be able to project its own Grand Narrative worthy of what the great civilization it is. Level A is original research and level B entails discovery and nurturing young scholars of rigor and expertise. Level C is the creation of high quality educational courses on Indian Knowledge systems and Level D is dissemination of information in variety of modes. The conveners of this workshop will explain these levels to the audience and convey the critical need to participate in this endeavor. This will enable them to rise up to the challenge of promoting/educating and defending our Dharma, culture and tradition to Hindus - those from India and the US-born. In essence, the material presented and ensuing moderated discussion will be most relevant to the temple executives and their congregation.	
7C.1		*Workshop*	
Session 7D Sat	**2:30 PM - 3:45 PM**	**Youth Session: Shaastras/Spiritual Content Distribution for Millenials Workshop**	**Preya Dave, Parth Parihar, Aditya Lingampally HMEC Intern: Nina Jain**
		In this session, participants will focus on reaching Millennials with Hinduism related content through social and informational platforms they already use. Participants will discuss which online platforms are best suited to promote Hinduism. They will also identify platforms not ideal for this purpose and why. Groups of participants will also be asked to demonstrate their views on interacting with these platforms via practical exercises.	
7D.1		*Workshop*	
Meal	**3:45 PM - 4:15 PM**	**Afternoon Tea and Snacks**	
		Parallel Workshops - (A, B, C, D)	
Session 8A Sat	**4:15 PM - 5:30 PM**	**Developing Common and Simplified Temple Resources**	**Chandra Reddy**
		Developing an informative and simplified booklet on the following topics for purpose of promoting the Hindu people to speak in one voice about Sanatana Dharma (generally known as Hinduism): 1. Outline the core belief system or traits of Sanatana Dharma. 2. Significance of Rituals, Rites, Symbols and Worship at homes and Temples. 3. Easily understandable guiding steps to Temple visitors.	
8A.1		*Workshop*	
Session 8B Sat	**4:15 PM - 5:30 PM**	**Temple By Laws and the Legal Implications**	**Vijay Reddy**

		The Bylaws of a not-for-profit organization are the legally binding rules by which the organization is governed. They set forth the structure of the organization and guide the Board of Directors ("Board") in the conduct of its business. In essence, Bylaws are the operating manual for the not-for-profit, by-laws should be unique to each organization and tailored to the needs of the not-for-profit organization. Most temples are non-for profit, which requires a copy of Bylaws to be submitted to IRS. In this session we will cover: Understand Key Principles that ALL Board/Executive Members should know about Bylaws, Key parts that all Bylaws should have, Key Pitfalls to be aware of and how to avoid in Bylaws and finally a real time example of a case where a temple was involved in a legal battle with its members.	
8B.1		*Workshop*	
Session 8C Sat	**4:15 PM - 5:30 PM**	**Hindu Executive Leadership Development**	**Madhu Sharma, Sri Mukthananda**
		Temple leadership needs certain skills and knowledge in order to have a successful organization. In volunteer based organization it is not always possible for each member to have those leadership skills and knowledge. Board members as well as the management teams that have these capabilities can lead successfully; on the other hand, lack of these capabilities could lead disastrous effect on the organization as well as the community. The objective of this workshop is to identify those critical skills and knowledge and develop long term strategy to deliver these skills to the leadership team of the organization. Ideally, aspiring leaders should receive this training in advance of their being elected or selected for the leadership positions, a backup option is also needed as an alternative for those who may have missed the initial training.	
8C.1		*Workshop*	
Session 8D Sat	**4:15 PM - 5:30 PM**	**Youth Session: Digital Guide for Mandirs Workshop**	**Bhakti Modi, Sohini Sricar HMEC Interns: Shivani Bajpai, Amruth Bairavasundaram**
		This session will give participants a chance to implement ideas from Youth Sessions 1 & 2 by creating digital products that can be put to use in their own mandirs and organizations. This engaging workshop will provide the youth an opportunity to create a simple guide for mandirs to help them adapt and implement technology into their regular operations.	
8D.1		*Workshop*	
	5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	**Free time - Networking**	
SATURDAY EVENING			
Session 9 Sat	**6:00 PM - 10:00 PM**	**Gala Dinner Program**	
	6:00-6:30 PM	**Bus Transfer to HTCI**	
	6:30-6:45 PM	**Welcome by HTCI**	
	6:45-7:00 PM	**Aarti**	
Meal	**7:00-7:55 PM**	**Dinner**	
	7:55 PM –	**Entertainment Program**	

	9:30 PM		
	7:55 PM	**Invocation**	**HTCI Youth**
	8:00 PM	**Welcome by HTCI Chairman**	**Anil Bajpai**
	8:05 PM	**Welcome by HTCI President**	**Jay Pandey**
	8:10 PM	**Indiana Sec. of State Welcome**	**Sec. of State Connie Lawson**
	8:15 PM	**Sanatana Dharma Scholarship**	**Sanjay Mehta**
	8:25 PM	**Indianapolis Mayor Welcome**	**Mayor Joe Hogsett**
	8:30-9:00 PM	**Bhajans by Aks & Lakshmi**	
	9:30 PM	**Bus Transfer to Hotel**	
	10:00 PM	**Arrive Hotel**	
SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM			
SUNDAY September 17, 2017			
Sadhana	**6:00 AM**	**Yoga & Meditation**	
		Dhyan - Meditation	Pierre Couvillion
		Yoga	Dr. Yogi Devaraj
Meal	**7:00 AM**	**Breakfast**	
Session 10 Sun	**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**	**Hindu Activism**	**Darshan Soni**
		Hinduism is being threatened on many fronts today and this is likely to get worse with the rise of nationalism, intolerance and hatred that has been spreading around the world. We must take these threats seriously and use all non-violent means necessary to defend our right to practice our faith with respect and acceptance in Western society.	
10.1		*Political engagement for promoting Hindu interests outside of India*	Raja Krishnamoorthi, US Congressman
10.2		*Speaking with One Voice*	Padma Kuppa
10.3		*Social Media Strategy*	Aditya Lingampally
10.4		*Textbook reform as a means of dispelling ignorance and mistakes in Western education about Hinduism*	Parth Parihar
		Q&A	
Session 11 Sun	**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**	**Indic Faith Session: Promoting Solidarity of All Dharmic faiths**	**Swami Parmeshananda**
		Dharmic or Indic faiths are the religions that originated in the Indian subcontinent and include but are not limited to Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism. There are a lot of misunderstandings and misconceptions by other faiths, especially Abrahamic religions, regarding Dharmic faiths. While education and awareness are integral to developing tolerance and appreciation for Dharmic/Indic faiths, working closely with each other, standing together as partners and allies, we can draw on our strengths and mutual respect.	
11.1		*Sikh*	Baljit Singh Oberoi
11.2		*Jain*	Suvarna Vinze
11.3		*Buddhist*	Betty Klein

11.4		*Hindu*	Sri Nandanandana Dasa
		Q&A	
Relaxation	**10:00 AM - 10:15 AM**	**Break**	
Session 12 Sun	**10:15 AM - 11:15 AM**	**Parallel Track Summary and Solutions Integration**	**HMEC Intern**
		The intent of this session is to summarize and integrate the solutions which emerge from the parallel sessions on Saturday (Sessions 6A-6D, 7A-7D, 8A-8D). Observers are appointed for the parallel track series and they are asked to sit through the sessions, put together a summary of ideas captured from the sessions and share the insights in a concise manner.	
12.1		*Summary and Lessons Learned: Sessions 6A-7A-8A*	HMEC Intern
12.2		*Summary and Lessons Learned: Sessions 6B-7B-8B*	HMEC Intern
12.3		*Summary and Lessons Learned: Sessions 6C-7C-8C*	HMEC Intern
12.4		*Summary and Lessons Learned: Sessions 6D-7D-8D*	HMEC Intern
Session 13 Sun	**11:15 AM - 12:15 PM**	**HMEC 2017 Closure Session**	**Vipul Patel**
		Every great idea starts with a single thought. The fluid thoughts and active participation excites us to continue on this remarkable journey with the review of action items and concrete resolutions. Conclude with blessings and parting thoughts from Swami Ji.	
13.1		*Immigration Update*	Shrinarayan Chandak, Sudhir Pai, Chitti babu Pacharu
13.2		*Closing Remarks*	Chandra Reddy
13.3		*Action Items and Resolutions*	Vipul Patel
13.4		*Blessings*	Swami Parameshananda
13.5		*Announcements & Thanks*	Kumar Dave & Hansa Dave
Meal	**12:15 PM**	**Lunch**	
		End of HMEC 2017	
	12:45 PM	**Guided Tour of Indy 500 Race Track**	