



Session 8

Hindu Mandir Empowerment Council
October 2 - 4, 2026 | Buena Park, California



Dhanesh Budhram
HinduACTion

Speaker Bio



Dhanesh Budhram is a Miami-born Hindu priest initiated under Swami Chidghanand Parivrajak of the International Brahmishi Mission, serving South Florida's Hindu community. His family is from Guyana. He is a chemistry teacher and Anatomy professor, holding a Biology degree from UNC and a Master's in Pharmacology and Physiology from UF. He aspires to become an orthopedic surgeon and serves Hindu organizations including VHPA, HMEC, IHU, and HinduACTION.

Presentation Abstract



This presentation highlights HinduACTion's American Hindu Pathfinders Project, which develops the next generation of Hindu civic and community leaders through structured training in civic engagement, public policy, leadership, and communications. It also introduces HinduAction's voter-registration initiative, which builds a city-by-city network of volunteers to increase civic participation and voter registration among American Hindus. Together, these initiatives aim to empower American Hindus to become more informed, engaged, and active participants in American civic life.

Pathfinders Internship



Why Pathfinders

- Hindu voices missing in key spaces
- The youth faces stereotypes & bias
- Leadership gap

Mission



BUILD
KNOWLEDGE



STRENGTHEN
CONFIDENCE



CONNECT VALUES
WITH LEADERSHIP

Pathfinders

HINDU ACTION

AMERICAN HINDU CONGRESSIONAL INTERNSHIP & LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.AMERICANHINDUPATHFINDERS.COM (202) 838-6655

PATHFINDERS.HINDUACTION@GMAIL.COM

STEP INTO THE WORLD OF PUBLIC OFFICE:
BUILD LEADERSHIP SKILLS, GAIN HANDS-ON
EXPERIENCE, AND LEARN STRATEGIES FOR
SUCCESS FROM EXPERTS IN STATECRAFT—
WHILE ENGAGING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
AND BUILDING A STRONG NETWORK.

STARTS IN JANUARY
OPEN TO APPLICANTS NATIONWIDE!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- STIPEND
- NETWORKING WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS
- ONLINE + IN-PERSON TRAINING
- INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT

WHAT YOU'LL EXPERIENCE

- FREE TRAINING BY TOP SUBJECT-MATTER EXPERTS & ELECTED OFFICIALS
- 24 HOURS OF ACADEMIC TRAINING LED BY PROMINENT SCHOLARS
- 24 HOURS OF LEADERSHIP TRAINING
- TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.
- EARN A GENEROUS SUMMER STIPEND!

CRITERIA

U.S. CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT
STUDENT (16+) | INTEREST IN POLITICS &
GOVERNANCE | AVAILABLE FOR ACADEMIC
& LEADERSHIP TRAINING

APPLY
NOW



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HinduAction October 2026

Pathfinders Approach



Two Pillar Approach

Hindu thought &
civilizational
context

Civic leadership
& policy training

Internship Placement

Support for placements

Congressional, state, think tanks

- Program developed in partnership with Hindu University of America (HUA).
- Focus areas include Hindu philosophy, geostrategies, history, and American politics.
- The program offers a 52-hour course that began on March 1.
- Stipends:
 - \$1,500/month stipend for interns 18 years and older.
 - \$500/month for interns under 18 years old.



Pathfinders Testimonials



Growth in confidence



Civic awareness



Real stories of impact

Results that speak

• 80+ applicants

• 23 selected

• 22 internships completed

My name is Roshan, and I was a 2025 Pathfinders Intern with HinduACTION. The 10-12 week training gave me meaningful insights into Hinduism, Indian culture, history, and American politics. I chose to intern directly with the HinduACTION team on the backend, working 15-20 hours a week — and I've enjoyed every minute. One of the most valuable lessons I've learned is persistence — each challenge has pushed me to think creatively, adapt quickly, and keep moving forward with confidence.

Minal

Congressional 2025

What stood out most about Pathfinders was the interview — it focused on my values, not just academics, which made it feel deeply personal. I felt challenged and seen in the best way. From the learning sessions to the DC trip with HinduACTION, the entire experience empowered me as a young Hindu in public service. I connected with like-minded peers, explored new ideas, and gained tools I now use every day in my internship.



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Cohort Numbers



2025



2026



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Voter Registration



DEAR 4 MILLION+ AMERICAN HINDUS, EMBRACE YOUR DHARMA.
SHAPE THE FUTURE OF AMERICA.



REGISTER TO VOTE

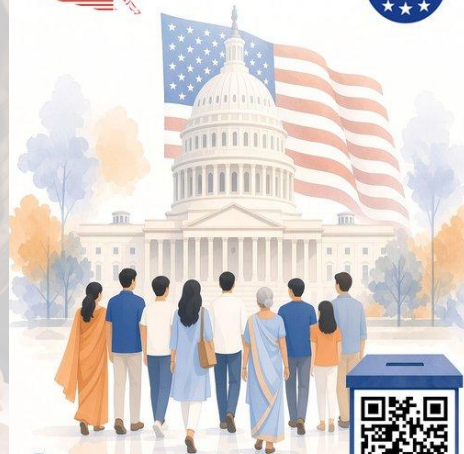


Scan to register or update your voter registration with Michigan Secretary of State.

STAND WITH THOSE WHO STAND WITH AMERICAN HINDUS.
THE FUTURE GENERATIONS ARE COUNTING ON YOU TO VOTE,
ENSURING THEY INHERIT A DIGNIFIED, SAFE, BIGOTRY-FREE &
EMPOWERED FUTURE.

Vote in November.

DEAR 250,000+ HINDUS OF TEXAS,
EMBRACE YOUR DHARMA.
HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF AMERICA.



THE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF HINDUS ARE
COUNTING ON YOU TO VOTE, ENSURING THEY
INHERIT A DIGNIFIED, SAFE, BIGOTRY-FREE &
EMPOWERED FUTURE.



USE QR CODE TO
REGISTER IN TEXAS

Vote in November.

VOTETEXAS.GOV
REGISTER BEFORE OCT 5

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