



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Norfolk Division
509 Resource Row
Chesapeake, VA 23320

For Immediate Release
January 6, 2017

Contact: **Vanessa Torres**
Community Outreach Specialist
(757)609-2595

FBI announces local recipient of the 2017 Director's Community Leadership Award

The Norfolk Field Office of the FBI is proud to announce Mr. Jonathan Zur, President and Chief Executive Officer of the [Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities](#) (VCIC), as the 2017 [Director's Community Leadership Award](#) recipient.

VCIC is an organization that works with schools, businesses, and communities to achieve success through inclusion. Under Mr. Zur's leadership, VCIC increased the number of programs delivered annually by over 600%, reaching over 19 thousand people in 2016 alone. The organization has been recognized locally and nationally for its effectiveness by groups including the Virginia General Assembly, Diversity Richmond, GreatNonprofits, the Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond, Partnership for the Future, the Urban League of Hampton Roads, and the Valentine Museum.

As an experienced facilitator and consultant on issues of diversity and inclusion, Mr. Zur has been a selected presenter at a number of international, national, and statewide conferences. His program work with VCIC is noted in the book No COLORS: 100 Ways to Stop Gangs from Taking Away Our Communities as “the best ... in the nation for sowing the seeds of non-violence, inclusiveness, and understanding in a high school.”

Since 2003, Mr. Zur has supported a variety of organizations in the community to ensure every person is included and to mitigate issues related to prejudice, intolerance, and fear. As a result of his leadership and VCIC's effectiveness, there has been a 74% decrease in discipline referrals at a participating middle school within one year and a 45% decrease in suspension rates in a participating school division in a time span of five years.

Inasmuch as these transformational activities and results did not occur without the leadership of Mr. Jonathan Zur, the Norfolk Field Office would like to honor Mr. Zur with the 2017 Director's Community Leadership Award.

On April 28, 2017, FBI Director James B. Comey will personally present the award to Mr. Zur at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., which honors all 56 award recipients from across the country.



Mr. Jonathan Zur

###