



## One Year After Tragedy: Oak Creek, WI's Relentless Optimism



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Will you help us out and [answer a few questions?](#)

C'mon, you'd take that quiz about something goofy. This will help us prioritize our story-telling and resources for Not In Our Town. As a thank you, we'll send you our new (as of yet unreleased) guide, *Ten Ways to Spark Action in Your Community*.



*Residents join the Sikh community at the One Year Anniversary Vigil in Oak Creek, WI.*

How can a community remember a massacre? In August, the NIOT film team returned to Oak Creek, Wisconsin to honor the lives lost on the anniversary of the hate-driven killings at the Sikh Temple on Aug. 5, 2012, and to witness the community in action.

From this small Milwaukee suburban town of less than 35,000 people, we have seen so much transformation and healing. One year is a short time, but our film tries to capture some of the stories and actions from the families who were devastated, and the community that embraced them.

[Here's a chronicle of the events we covered one year after the tragedy that reverberated for Sikhs around the world, and forever changed the community of Oak Creek, Wisconsin.](#)

## National PTA Features Not In Our School

Not in Our School was well-represented at the National PTA conference in Ohio this summer in workshops and sessions featuring NIOS Director Becki Cohn-Vargas and NIOS student leaders.

We're pleased that the PTA has featured this series of Not In Our School blogs on their



NIOS students and director with US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan

website, including "[Youth Leaders Spread NIOS Message to PTAs Nationwide](#)," "[From One Upstander to Another: Working Together for a Common Cause](#)," and "[Snowflakes for Newtown: A Case for Empathy](#)." Read and share!

## Profile: Not In Our Town Oak Ridge, TN



After her child was assaulted in a classroom, Valerie Hughes stepped forward to bring her community together to address bullying and ensure that Oak Ridge, Tennessee is safe and welcoming for people of all backgrounds. Just three months old, the Not In Our Town group in Oak Ridge is planning activities for the year and garnering community support. [Learn more about Not In Our Town Oak Ridge, TN in this Q&A with](#)

[founder Valerie Hughes.](#)

## Share Your Story on NIOT.org



NIOT.org is the digital home of the Not In Our Town project, where we house the stories, lessons and resources from our growing network. We're committed to opening our pages to the many voices and perspectives in our network and are always seeking guest bloggers. [Learn more about the content we're looking for and how to get started here.](#)

