



MMCC

2016-2017 GUIDE BOOK

Michigan Muslim Community Council

The Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC) is a representative forum of the Michigan's Muslim community. In the 1980's, metro-Detroit's Muslim community embarked on the critical task of bringing Muslim communities under a single umbrella. The Muslim leadership began work on the creation of a Council, bringing together partners from multiple Muslims sects, ethnicities and races. The Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan was established in 1988, and was formally incorporated in 1993.



CIOM focused on efforts to unite the Muslim community since the 1980s. The very first organized efforts of the developing Council was an annual Eid Unity Banquet in celebration of the end of Ramadan. Since that time, CIOM branched into numerous other important services, including statewide open houses for Michigan's many mosques, extensive outreach effort working with civic and interfaith groups across the state, developing a strong relationship with local print and broadcast media, establishing halal food guidelines on a statewide level, and establishing the Imam's Council.

A parallel council, Islamic Shura Council of Michigan (ISCOM), was established in 2005 to focus on community service projects. ISCOM developed partnerships with many non-profits, including the free healthcare clinic, HUDA, Muslim Family Services, and Islamic Relief, one of America's largest Muslim charitable organizations. The Shura Council helped rehabilitate numerous inner-city mosques and feed thousands through their annual Udhiya/Qurbani (ritual sacrificed meat) program, and Humanitarian Day programs. Their Day of Goodness raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for local service projects that benefited the underprivileged in this area.

In 2012, CIOM & ISCOM merged, and formed the Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC). The MMCC is a representative forum of the Michigan's Muslim community. MMCC's Board of Directors come from every major ethnicity, sectarian groups and nonprofit within the Muslim community. An Advisory Council assists the Board of Directors in remaining connected with the community. MMCC is supported by resources from generous community members, partner organizations, grants, our staff members, interns, and many volunteers.

MMCC is committed to unifying and coordinating Michigan's Muslim communities, promoting Islamic and American values to help better our state and advocating for social justice. MMCC will work to enhance and develop needed programs in the community that will improve the state of the people of Michigan, In sha Allah (as God wills)

Board of Directors

Muzammil Ahmed, <i>Chairperson</i>	Samir Al-Hadidi	Iltefat Hamzavi	Fatima Salman
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Hadidi, <i>Vice-Chairperson</i>	Kassem Allie	Arif Huskic	Misbah Shahid
Ahmar Iqbal, <i>Treasurer</i>	Afra Almasmary	Ahmar Iqbal	Evot'e Seifullah Shakur
Nurah Petross, <i>Secretary</i>	Suehaila Amen	Tayeb Jukaku	Mitchell Shamsud-Din
Imam Mustapha El-Turk, <i>Imam's Council</i>	Mouhib Ayas	Asim Khan	Abubakr Sheikh
	Ismael Basha	Mikhail Muhammad	Irfan Shuttari
Mamdouh Abdulrazzak	Ed Bedoun	Firas Nashef	Nabil Suliman
Fawaz Ahmed	Mark Crain	Samer Nasry	Waheed Zaman
Muzammil Ahmed	Davine El-Amin	Moussa Niang	Catherine Ziyad
Shereef Akeel	Mustapha Elturk	Nurah Petross	
Mahdi Ali	Mahmoud Hadidi	Chakrapani Ranganathan	

Community Advisory Council

Erica Ahmed	Nadia Bazy	Amina Iqbal	Erum Mohiuddin	Jawad Shah
Haaris Ahmed	Najah Bazy	Muhammad Islam	Syed Mohiuddin	Nauman Syed Shamsuddin
Shafi Ahmed	Ghalib Beg	Razi Jafri	ElSayed Mostafa	Hassan Sheikh
Adil Akhtar	Chris Blauvelt	Abdel-Majed Katranji	Sufian Nabhan	Zahid Sheikh
Juman Alomary	Bob Bruttell	Iffa Kazi	Halim Naeem	Kashif Siddiqui
William Antoun	Faisal Chaudhry	Nargis Khan	Wasim Rathur	Steve Spreitzer
Jawad Arshad	Abdullah El-Amin	Saeed Khan	Fayrouz Saad	Rashida Tlaib
Tim Atallah	Sharif Gindy	Farhan Latif	Quaid Saifee	Dawud Walid
Kenan Basha	Yusuf Hai	Asad Malik	Eric Sabree	Serene Zeni
Yahya Basha	Nawal Hamadeh	Asif Malik	Mohammed Saleem	
Tarek Baydoun	Sally Howell	Saba Maroof	Thasin Sardar Sardar	



Assalamualaikum, Greeting of Peace!

On behalf of the Michigan Muslim Community Council, thank you for support and prayers over the past year.

This has been a year of opportunities. The election season has revealed deep polarization in our state, with many of our fellow Michiganians expressing a fear of Muslims, refugees, immigrants or anyone who looks like them. The polarization is also seen in our cities where there are so many people who are deprived of basic amenities we expect all Americans to have: clean water, a solid education, economic opportunities, fair treatment by authorities, and more. Michigan Muslims can reduce the polarization and division by putting our faith into action. By mobilizing, coordinating and convening our community, using the principles of collaboration and inclusion, we can work to take on the challenges that Michigan faces.



Our work would not be possible without your support. We appreciate the time and resources our board members, advisers and staff have given to continue the work of MMCC and help guide it into the future. We are also indebted to the many others who have supported MMCC, whether it has been donating money, volunteering at our activities and events, or simply "Liking" us on Facebook. God rewards even the smallest of good deeds.

We know there is much more work to be done. We have many great ideas on improving civic engagement, promoting interfaith, intrafaith and educational activities, providing support for our youth and schools, enhancing our mosques, helping our Imams, and working with others to help bring about positive change in our communities. I hope that you will stay engaged over the next year as we work towards our vision of a better Michigan. May God bless you and our country.

Muzammil Ahmed
Chairperson, MMCC



Assalamu alaikum,

On behalf of everyone at the MMCCI would like to welcome you all to our annual event which reflects the unity, love, and understanding that we have in our community. In the past year, I have been very fortunate to visit many schools, institutions and places of worship that made me truly thankful to be part of such a wonderful community. The MMCC is committed to unifying our communities, building bridges with our civic leadership, extending our hand to our interfaith partners, and serving the citizens of this great state. We will continue to strive in putting our differences aside and come along as a unified nation. The Prophet peace be upon him said, "He is not a true believer who does not love for his brothers and sisters what he loves for himself," and "The best among you are those who help others".

We ask you to please join us in being part of this effort and support the MMCC with your prayers, your time and your finances to see a greater community in the coming years. Thank you all for joining us and may Allah bless you and your families.

Imam Mohamed Almasmari
Executive Director



Assalamu Alaikum

May Peace and Blessings be upon you,

On behalf of the Michigan Muslim Community Council, I would like to welcome you to our Annual Unity banquet. I am honored to have recently joined MMCC as the Director of Operations this year. I'm proud to have been a longtime member and volunteer with MMCC and look forward to continuing my service to the community alongside such a wonderful team.

Michigan Muslim Community Council is an organization devoted to promote unity and cooperation amongst diverse Muslim cultures, ethnic backgrounds, and races by joining and mobilizing the Muslim communities in Michigan. MMCC strives to promote the best Islamic and American values through advocacy, organizing service, and education. MMCC works to pursue social justice, improve human relations, and uphold human rights in America.

I am excited to join the team in executing the mission and vision of MMCC and hope to use my skills to lead efforts of membership growth and increase the organization's visibility and impact. I am elated to be able serve my community through my new role and can find no better inspiration than our beloved Prophet PBUH who said, "the best of people are those who are most beneficial to the people."

Thank you for your continual support and prayers,

Shereen Abunada
Director of Operations



Our Staff



Imam Mika'il Stewart Saadiq, Outreach Director

Imam Mika'il Stewart Saadiq is currently the Director of Outreach for the Michigan Muslim Community Council. He is also Assistant Director at the Historic Al-Ikhlās Training Academy. Born and raised on the west side of Detroit, Imam Mika'il went on to study sociology and political science at Prairie View A&M University. After accepting Islam at 21 years of age, he immersed himself in Islamic activism and began studying Islamic 'Aqeedah and Fiqh under the late Imam Luqman Abdullah. He continues his studies and growth under the advice of local/internationally renowned imams and scholars. He is the President of Neighborly Needs (Detroit), a reserve Police Chaplain, a member of the Michigan Muslim Community Council Imam's Committee, and is involved in several community service projects and activities. Imam Mika'il is known for his real, but sophisticated, lectures and writings on minority and youth social issues. In 2013, he became the first Muslim to offer the invocation for a Michigan State Senate session. In 2015, Imam Mika'il joined the pioneers in America's New Age of Islamic Enlightenment and published his work, *Islamic Lifestyles in Urban America*, Vol. 1.



Sumaiya Ahmed, Communications Director

Sumaiya Ahmed is an Oakland University graduate having received a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. She is currently the Director of Operations at The Tutoring Center-Troy while pursuing her Master's in Special Education at Oakland University. In her current role as the Communications Director for MMCC, she helps organize and coordinate various community-based events. One of her most recognized accomplishments is the MMCC community calendar which informs the Michigan Muslim community about various events going on in the area. She is also currently serving on IAGD's Community Affairs Committee, MMCC's Youth Council and The Greater Detroit Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Council. Sumaiya has contributed to many other organizations over the years by being OU's Muslim Student Association President, ISNA Detroit's Media Relations Chair, and a member of STEM Education Board. Sumaiya continues to passionately serve the community that helped to raise her and prays the community will achieve great success in the year to come.



Nausheen Razvi, Administrative Director

Nausheen Razvi is a proud mother of 3 children, who she constantly strives to set a good example for through her activism and community contributions. She has been serving the Michigan Muslim Community in various capacities since 2007, particularly working with the youth of the community which she enjoys tremendously. In her current role as the Administrative Coordinator for MMCC, she leads, organizes, and coordinates various community-based events throughout the metro Detroit area. One of her recent accomplishments was coordinating the 2015 and 2016 Ramadan Fight Against Hunger campaign which provided thousands of pounds of food to local food banks to be distributed later to hundreds of distressed families. In addition to her duties with MMCC, she is currently serving as the President of the Board of Directors to one of the most successful schools, Crescent Academy International, where she assumes other responsibilities such as, the acting Ombudsman.



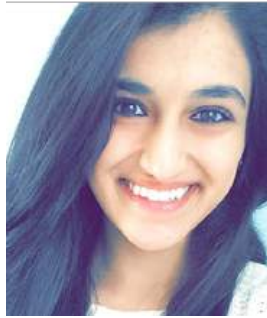
Maisha Rahman, Youth Council Director

MMCC Youth Council Director, graduated from Wayne State with a degree in Psychology and co major university honors. She currently is a Doctor of Pharmacy Candidate for the Class of 2020 at the University of Michigan. As Youth Council Director, Maisha hopes to be able to bridge the gap between communities to give the Muslim Youth an outlet and opportunity to get involved, as well as plan events around their needs in today's society. When she isn't studying or planning events, Maisha enjoys spending her leisure time at coffee shops and playing with her cats.

Our Interns



Sumayya Master
Communications Associate



Mariam Sharaf
Outreach Associate



Adham Ghannam
Outreach Associate



Ahmad Ghani
Multimedia Specialist



Abdallah Kazbour
Journalist



Khadija Mubarik
Multimedia Specialist

Farewell letter from Amina Iqal, former Director of Operations

Dear Community Members, Salaam

After three wonderful years at the Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC), I stepped down from my position as Director of Operations in March. It was probably one of the most difficult decisions I made since I consider MMCC to be “my first non-profit love.” However, as one dear board member said to me, “Amina, MMCC is like your baby, but you have a real baby and family to take care of. They need you more.” Indeed.

After five months of down-time with my family, I am back at MMCC as an advisory council member, and working on independent projects such as assisting in developing this year’s MMCC guidebook!

I also recently accepted a job offer as Executive Director of Project Healthy Community, an interfaith nonprofit organization based in Northwest Detroit that helps one child and one family at a time through means of health, nutrition, and education in Southeast Michigan. Being the first Muslim to formally join this incredible organization, I hope to continue to collaborate with many of you, your respective organizations, communities, and of course, MMCC, the organization that continues to empower and mobilize the Muslim community.

Congratulations to Shereen Abunada, the new DOO, who in the words of our beloved Imam Almasmari “will kill it”. :-)

With love and prayers,
Amina Iqal





STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

November 6, 2016



Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 30th annual Unity Banquet, hosted by the Michigan Muslim Community Council.

As we move forward on our journey to create an environment in Michigan that fosters job opportunities and growth, it is important to recognize those making committed efforts to improve and invest in the future of our state. I am confident that your organization will continue to contribute to our collaborative efforts to reinvent Michigan.

Please accept my wishes for a memorable event as well as continued success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder
Governor

GEORGE W. ROMNEY BUILDING • 111 SOUTH CAPITOL AVENUE • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov

United States Senate

November 6, 2016

Michigan Muslim Community Council
30701 Woodward Ave., Suite 310
Royal Oak, MI 48073

Dear Friends,

I appreciate the opportunity to welcome you to the Michigan Muslim Community Council's (MMCC) Annual Unity Banquet.

The MMCC is a collaborative endeavor of the Islamic Shura Council of Michigan and The Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan. Created to connect Muslim organizations in the region, the MMCC is an extension of the legacy of both organizations. The MMCC has been a forum for the Muslim community in Michigan since 2012. I applaud its dedication to community engagement and the cultural diversity of Southeast Michigan.

The United States continues to build upon its legacy of providing refuge to those living in areas of the world rife with conflict. As the nation accepts Syrian refugees, Michigan has local organizations that are ready and willing to assist them in their transition. Across the country there are resettled refugees who are already giving back to the communities that have embraced them. Syrian refugees will add to the diverse fabric of our nation and our state.

Again, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Michigan Muslim Community Council's (MMCC) Annual Unity Banquet. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work to strengthen the cultural diversity and opportunities in the Greater Detroit area and the State of Michigan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gary C. Peters".

Gary C. Peters
United States Senator

DANIEL T. KILDEE
5TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

**COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HOUSING AND INSURANCE**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MONETARY POLICY AND TRADE**

SENIOR WHIP

**DEMOCRATIC POLICY AND
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

October 25, 2016

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The Michigan Muslim Community Council
30701 Woodward Avenue
Suite 310
Royal Oak, Michigan 48073

Dear Friends,

I am excited to again be asked to recognize the work of The Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC) as you come together for your 30th Annual Unity Banquet. As you reflect on 30 years of work and advocacy on behalf of the Muslim Community in Michigan, it is my sincere hope that you also look forward to the hard work in the weeks, months and years ahead. As our nation faces many difficult questions, and the hateful rhetoric of some has grown louder, your work to ensure that the voices of Muslims in Michigan are heard has been more important than ever.

The past year has been one of challenges, but also one of celebration as I was excited to welcome Amir Hekmati home to Michigan. Amir's release after four-and-a-half years spent in an Iranian prison was the culmination of years of hard work to secure his freedom. From the tireless work of his family, to the 'Free Amir' campaign that we launched, and the advocacy of Muslims across Michigan and the nation, I am reminded of the power of what can be accomplished when we work together. However, as we came together to celebrate Amir's return, we have been faced with the challenges presented by the ongoing Flint Water Crisis. Throughout this crisis, the true strength of the Michigan spirit has shown through as groups like MMCC have come together to offer support to those affected by the crisis. I am humbled by the magnitude of support, and look forward to continuing to work together as we continue to face this crisis.

As you come together to reflect on your mission to unify communities, promote the best Islamic and American values, and pursue social justice for America; I hope that you know what a difference your advocacy is making and that your faith and continued service is an example to Americans everywhere. Despite the challenges that the Muslim American community face, I know that you will continue your great work. It is through that work that we build a stronger future for Michigan and America.

Sincerely,

Dan Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



"What is your favorite fiction book and why?" From Our Community Friends



State Senator Steve Bieda

"Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury

I like this work because it stresses the importance of freedom of thought and expression, and warns of the dangers of totalitarianism.



**Former MI State Representative
Rashida Tlaib, Lawyer**

"The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho

The Alchemist is about faith, quote from the book "there is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure.



**Representative Martin Howrylak,
41st District**

*"The Milagro Beanfield War"
by John Nichols*

It is a book about right and wrong and efforts of those unjustly treated to rise up against injustice.



Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence

*"The Celestine Prophecy"
by James Redfield*

I loved this book up until the last chapter. Humans with mystical powers fascinate me.



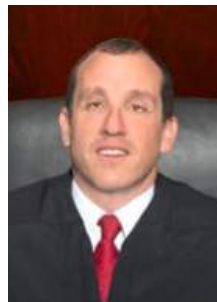
**Representative Christine Greig
District 37, Farmington/
Farmington Hills**
"The Red Tent"

A novel that explores the story of Biblical women Leah, Rachel and Dinah, strong women in the times of Jacob and Joseph, showed how women shape lives and history – regardless if their stories are ever shared in history books.



**John Austin, President Michigan
State Board of Education**
"Middlemarch" by George Elliot

Nicely skewers the petty pretenses of all humanity.



**Supreme Court Justice Richard
Bernstein**
*"To Kill a Mockingbird"
by Harper Lee*

Atticus Fynch embodies everything that is kind and noble, he is not just a good lawyer but a good man. He stood up for what was right despite the dangerous consequences. Fynch represents values and nobility we wish we could have ourselves and those around us.

"What is your favorite fiction book and why?" From Our Community Friends



State Representative Stephanie Chang
house District 6
"Click Clack Moo" by Doreen Cronin
"As a community-organizer-turned-legislator, I absolutely love this children's book because it is all about community organizing, building a coalition, and addressing community needs. Advocacy lessons from farm animals who have a typewriter - who knew?!"



Saeed Khan, Wayne State University Professor
"The Godfather" by Mario Puzo
It's my favorite book because everything you need to know about life, you can learn from the Quran, golf, and the Godfather.



Najah Bazzi, Founder and President of Zaman International
"The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho
Because it teaches that the universe will work for you if you're willing to work for it.



Zarinah El-Amin Naeem Founder of: Niyah Press, Beautifully Wrapped, and Enliven Your Soul
"The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho
I remember first reading it thinking, Wow! He had no fear! I've got to find my own "personal legend." I think the book touched so many souls because deep down all of us want to live lives that are in accordance with our deepest wishes and desires.



Ghalib "Victor" Begg, MMCC Senior Advisor
"Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis"
It gives a deep insight into lives of disaffected white-American-working-class, their trials, their hopes, their aspirations and powerlessness that breeds their anger.



Zaynab Salman, High School History Teacher
"The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha" by Miguel de Cervantes
It's a novel that speaks to the yearning of the human soul and the aspiration of reviving chivalry. We all have a yearning in our soul; there's a sense of relatability to ideals, understanding our limits as well as the realizing the potential of our own humanity.



Steve Spreitzer, President & CEO, Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion
"Jonathon Livingston Seagull" by Richard Bach
This is one book which had a very strong influence on me in the early 70s and continues as a framework for my life, and which challenges mere existence by proposing joyful exploration of our limits, while living life to its fullest.



Amal Beydoun, Senior Development Manager
"The Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway
It is a good story about resilience and not giving up.

"What is your favorite fiction book and why?" From Our Community Friends



Rich Homberg,
CEO Detroit Public Television
"The Origins of the Urban Crisis"
by Thomas Sugrue

To truly understand where Detroit is today and where cities are headed in the future, you must understand the history of Detroit in the 20th century. Sugrue takes readers through an important journey through the history that led to the summer of 1967 and all that followed. This is a book that every Detroit can learn from.



David Crumm, Editor of Read,
The Spirit online magazine and
publishing house
"Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck

I first read the book when I was a teenager and, throughout my life, it has reminded me of the need to care for everyone in our community, including the most vulnerable.



Amina Iqbal, Executive Director
Project Healthy Community
"Anne of Green Gables"
by L.M. Montgomery

The characters captured my heart, especially Annie, who is high spirited, enthusiastic, and has an optimistic outlook on life despite all the hardships and losses she faces-first novel I read with my own girls.



Raman Singh, President Interfaith
Leadership Council
"A Suitable Boy" by Vikram Seth

I loved this book because it was fully a absorbing, unpredictable and relevant story with lovely, lyrical and poetic writing that engaged all of my senses.



Fay Beydoun,
Executive Director, American Arab
Chamber of Commerce
"The Life of Pi"

Why? I am a hopeless dreamer who always wants happy endings in my books. I enjoyed the story for its strength, imagination and determination. I also found the multiple religions that Pi chooses to embrace very interesting.



Dawud Walid, Executive Director
CAIR-MI
"1984" by George Orwell

It's my favorite fictional book because it was the first work which I read as a high school student that caused me to ponder how the world could look if we are not careful; I still reference it in my professional capacity.



Sally Howell, Professor of History
at UM-Dearborn
"Woman Warrior"
by Maxine Hong-Kingston

This is among my very favorite books because of its honest, heart breaking depiction of the life of a young second-generation American.

Keynote Speaker

Imam Khalid Latif

Khalid Latif is Executive Director and Chaplain (Imam) for the Islamic Center at New York University (NYU).

In 2005, Imam Latif was appointed the first Muslim chaplain at NYU. In 2006, Imam Latif was appointed the first Muslim chaplain at Princeton University. In 2007, Imam Latif's position was fully institutionalized at New York University, and so he committed himself to that institution and the building of a Muslim life institution.

Imam Latif's dedication and ability to cross faith and cultural boundaries on a daily basis brought him recognition throughout the city, so much so that in 2007, Mayor Michael Bloomberg nominated Imam Latif to become the youngest chaplain in history of the New York City Police Department when he was 24 years old. Since then, Imam Latif has dedicated himself to America's largest police department, and has developed tremendously valuable skills as a spokesperson for coexistence, mutual understanding, and productive relationships between cultures, communities, and religions.

Since 2010 Imam Latif has run a daily blog for the HuffPost Religion during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, in 2011 winning the Brass Crescent Award. Among his many honors is being named the 2012 Christian Science Monitor's "30 under 30" list. In 2014, Imam Latif was honored with the NYU Alumni Distinguished Service Award for his continued work to help bridge gaps between different faith groups.



Emcee

Dr. Abdulrahman Mohamed El-Sayed

Dr. Abdul El-Sayed is a public health physician and epidemiologist. He serves the City of Detroit under Mayor Michael E. Duggan as Health Officer and Executive Director of the Detroit Health Department.

Appointed in August of 2015, Dr. El-Sayed is responsible for rebuilding the City's Health Department after it was privatized in 2012 during Detroit's municipal bankruptcy. At the Department, Dr. El-Sayed is leading major initiatives to reduce infant mortality, to promote vision access, and to integrate early childhood services.

Dr. El-Sayed also serves on several public health boards, including the Governor's Childhood Lead Elimination Board, created in the wake of the Flint Water Crisis, as well as the Advisory Committee to the US Secretary of Health & Human Services to elucidate forthcoming Healthy People 2030 objectives.

Dr. El-Sayed is an internationally recognized expert in health policy, the social determinants of health, and health inequalities. Previously, he was assistant professor in the Department of Epidemiology at Columbia University, where he directed the Columbia University Systems Science Program and Global Research Analytics for Population Health. He has authored over 100 peer-reviewed scientific articles, commentaries, book chapters, and abstracts in journals including JAMA, the American Journal of Public Health, and Pediatrics. He is a frequent featured speaker at national and international conferences. He is the recipient of numerous policy, research, and civic awards, including being named a Policy Innovator by the Carnegie Council; 2016 Public Official of the Year by the Michigan League of Conservation Voters; and 40 under 40 by Crain's Detroit Business.

Dr. El-Sayed earned a doctorate in Public Health from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, and his medical degree from Columbia University as a Soros Fellow. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan with Highest Distinction in Biology and Political Science, where he delivered the University-wide student commencement speech alongside President Bill Clinton.



Awards

Fairness in Media Award

Jack Lessenberry

Jack Lessenberry, the head of the journalism faculty at Wayne State University, is WUOM-FM's senior news analyst and delivers daily essays and commentary on important Michigan issues.

He has consistently shown truth to power, pointing out the lies and cover ups performed by both republican and democratic politicians in our state. Whether it is corrupt Detroit officials who take bribes, or Lansing politicians who derail road improvement, access to voting or fair tax policies, Jack Lessenberry clearly and consistently speaks with a fair and compassionate voice.

He has talked a lot about polarization and the negative undertones in our national discourse over the past year. Recently, commenting on the treatment of Arabs and Muslim Americans, he said on his show: "Growing up, we were taught that one of our nation's

most shameful racist actions had been herding Japanese-Americans into concentration camps during World War II. Not a one ever proved disloyal. We came to be ashamed of that. What's depressing is that thanks to xenophobia, we seem determined to disgrace ourselves again."

He also is or been a writer for many national and regional publications, including Vanity Fair, Esquire, George, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Boston Globe. Currently, he is a contributing editor and columnist for the Metro Times, the Traverse-City Record Eagle, Dome Magazine and the Toledo Blade, and formerly for the Oakland Press and the Heritage Newspaper Group in Wayne and Washtenaw counties. He also serves as The Blade's writing coach and ombudsman.

Lessenberry is also a board member of the Historical Society of Michigan, the ACLU advisory board and the Wayne State Student Newspaper Publications Board.

Lessenberry has reported as foreign correspondent for and executive national editor of The Detroit News, during which time he reported from more than 40 countries. He has also worked for other newspapers in Michigan, Tennessee and Ohio, and was Editor-in-Chief of both Detroit Monthly and Corporate Detroit magazines.

He is the co-author of the book, "The People's Lawyer, The Life and Times of Frank J. Kelley, the Nation's Longest-Serving Attorney General," published by Wayne State University Press in September 2015.

Lessenberry also does occasional analysis for television stations in Detroit, and won a National Emmy award in 1995 for one of two Frontline documentaries he helped report and produce on Dr. Jack Kevorkian.

He is also host of the weekly television show "Deadline Now" on WGTE-TV (Channel 30) in Toledo. It airs Fridays at 8:30 p.m.

He was named the Journalist of the Year in 2002 by the Metropolitan Detroit Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Lessenberry, 64, has a master's degree in Journalism and East European studies from the University of Michigan. His partner in life, Elizabeth, is a rare book and private collections archivist and librarian. They live in Huntington Woods and Charlevoix, with their dog Ashley, and a copy of every Michigan Manual since 1869 and every Almanac of American Politics since they were first published.



Awards

Syed Salman Community Service Award

TAKE ON HATE

Since 9/11, there has been an unprecedented increase in acts of hatred and bigotry against Arab and Muslim Americans. In 2014, Take On Hate launched in four cities: Washington, D.C., Detroit, New York and San Francisco and has captured national attention through its message of dialogue and engagement. This critical organization aims to address the negative perceptions and hateful behavior towards Arab and Muslim Americans and stand up for change.

Since its inception, Take On Hate has helped to create oversight over national watch lists, established a White House Task Force to prevent and respond to hate violence, conducted congressional hearings around post 9-11 abuses and profiling, and called for the Department of Justice to investigate surveillance by local police departments.

Locally, the Take on Hate has made a substantial investment in young people. Through its fellows and interns, the TOH team trains many young people from diverse backgrounds to become leaders and change makers in their community. Some of their events include workshops on race identity, creating your own narratives, sponsoring vigils, promoting voter education and mobilization and much more.

The Michigan Muslim Community Council congratulates Take on Hate on today's 2016 Syed Salman Community Service Award. The organization's diligent efforts on helping us move closer to being a nation that upholds dignity and equality for all – regardless of national origin, ethnicity, or religion.



**IT'S STILL HAPPENING.
IT'S STILL WRONG.**



Awards

Interfaith Partner Award

Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network (DION)

From organizing interfaith potlucks to creating interfaith workshops to promoting arts and culture, Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network, or DION, is an invaluable resource in Detroit.

DION's vision is to create an environment in which Detroiters, particularly our youth, can flourish educationally, culturally, spiritually, physically and economically. DION partners with faith-based and civic organizations in and around Detroit, building networks of support and mutual cooperation between people of all faiths and cultures, providing programs that bring about a spiritual and social transformation that empowers our youth and citizens.

DION is steadfast in holding regular and significant events year round at various locations making an effort to stay inclusive. DION helped coordinate a joint iftar and shaabat between the Muslim and Jewish community during the shared holy months last year, and it organizes a large Belle Isle interfaith picnic where groups from across the city can meet together in a safe space.

The Michigan Muslim Community Council congratulates Detroit Interfaith Outreach network on the 2016 Interfaith Partner Award. The organization's commitment to building community through interfaith collaboration is crucial in promoting unity, integrity, respect, education, and the successful development of our Metro Detroit youth and family.





Past Award Recipients

FAIRNESS AND MEDIA AWARD

Craig Fahle
Carol Cain
Stephen Henderson
Joseph Grimm
Richard Homberg

David Crumm
Grace Gilchrist
Gregg Kruppa
Sarah Hulett
James Ricci

SYED SALMAN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Muslims Interscholastic Tournament (MIST)
Muslim Family Services
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-MI)
Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU)
Zaman International
The Muslim Observer
Huda Clinic
Indus Community Action Network (ICAN)

INTERFAITH PARTNER AWARD

Bob Brutell
Jim Tuman
Archbishop Allen A. Vigneron
Rev. Sharon and Daniel Buttry
Rev. Michail Curro
Brenda Rosenberg
Rev. Kenneth Flowers
Steve Spreitzer
Rev. Bill Gephord
Late Rev. Felix Lorenz

*In Recognition of the Generous Contributions
of the late*

Dr. Abdulmunim Shakir



Dr. Abdulmunim Shakir was born May 19, 1924 in Egypt. He migrated to the US in the forties and initially pursued a degree in chemical engineering. However, shortly after he switched his career and pursued a Ph. D. in political Science. He was fascinated by the US constitution and was

able to bring out the similarities between it and the Islamic teachings from the Quran.

He dedicated himself to education and specifically educating inner-city youngsters. He taught in several states before settling down in Michigan in the seventies. He established the first program ever in Michigan that was focused on "Muslim World Studies". Through this program, at Wayne County Community College in the heart of Detroit City, he introduced many thousands of students to Islam and the Arabic Language. At the same time he taught US History and Political Science for about three decades at WCCC. He also served in the United Nations for several years.

He was involved in many Muslim projects in the Detroit area. He taught at several Islamic Sunday schools, both in Sunnah and Shia' mosques. He held close to his heart the saying of Prophet SAWS "If you do a deed you need to perfect it", he always strived to be perfect and instill the love

of perfection in his students. He held several leadership positions in several Islamic organizations in the US and was particularly proud of his affiliation and support to the Islamic Cultural Institute for which he served as President for several terms.

Dr. Abdulmunim Shakir passed away February 2, 2006. Because of his strong belief in the value education, Dr. Shakir arranged for a Scholarship Fund to be established to support Freshmen students in their first year of higher education. This program is administered by ISNA and is funded by the Abdulmunim Shakir Charitable Trust.





Our Mission

1. Promote **unity and cooperation** among the diverse Muslim communities, cultures, ethnic backgrounds and races by convening and mobilizing the Muslim community
2. To promote the **best Islamic and American values** through advocacy, and organizing service, education and partnerships and coalitions with ethnic racial, religious, education and civic organizations, government and the media others
3. Pursue social **justice**, improve human relations and uphold human rights in America

Our Year in Review

Imam's Council

Imam's Council has brought together Shia and Sunni Imams who meet regularly to address religious challenges affecting the community. The MMCC also supports the Muslim Chaplaincy which is run through the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit.



The Imam's Council had several workshops: Mental health first aid workshop, domestic violence workshops. They had their first annual Umrah trip to Mecca where they took over 100 people in the spring to visit the Holy Lands.



Michigan Muslim Capitol Day

- Brings together communities across Michigan
- Co-Hosted by dozens of elected officials
- Imam's seminar with legislators
- College student session with senators
- Over 200 attendees
- Islamic School participation
- Leadership Development
- Teamwork
- Community Engagement
- Healthy & Sustainable Relationships

Social Service Activities

Ramadan Fight Against Hunger:

Partner with Zaman, Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest, and United Way to organize volunteers and collect/pack food.

Oudhiyah/Qurbani: Thousands of food and meat packed/ delivered. Partnered with Gleaners, Zaman Intl, MFS, Mosques, & Forgotten Harvest

December 25th, Muslim Volunteer Day: Muslims and Jewish faith members deliver

Christmas presents through Jimmy's kids. Serve in Soup kitchens, senior citizen homes, and helped with food packaging

Media coverage of events

NBC, Detroit News, Detroit Free Press, Huffington Post, CBS, Washington Post, Local 4 News

MMCC Year in Review



Unity Banquet

- Over 600 attendees
- Community Service, Fairness in Media, and Interfaith Partner Award
- “Most diverse” audience than any other Muslim event in Michigan



Unity Banquet 2015: Many Imams from Southeast MI pictured above at the 29th Annual Unity Banquet



Carol Cain from CBS Michigan Matters accepting the Fairness in Media Award



Jim Tuman of Jimmy's Kids accepting the Interfaith Partner Award

MMCC Year in Review

Unity Banquet



Guests from the Muslim Center pictured above



Anwar Khan of Islamic Relief USA accepting the Syed Salman Community Service Award



Keynote Linda Sarsour with MMCC Youth Director Chair Maisha Rehman

2015 Bridge Builder's Award from ADC November 2015



MMCC Year in Review

December 25th Volunteer Day

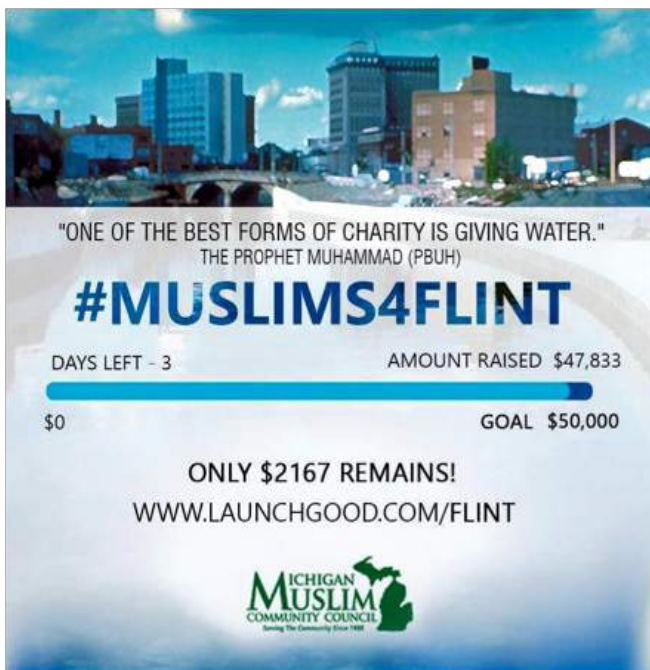


Packaging toys prior to Christmas for Volunteer Day



Serene Katranji-Zeni and Beverly Phillips, JCRC on Click on Detroit.

Flinter Water Distribution



David Kurzmann, Executive Director of JCRC and Sumaiya Ahmed joining forces to talk about Muslim Volunteer Day on WDET.



Trucks stocked with water at night to distribute to Flint residents in the morning



MMCC Year in Review

MMCC and American Jewish Council



A SHARED FUTURE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A 3-PART LECTURE SERIES WITH
PROFESSOR SAEED KHAN AND PROFESSOR HOWARD LUPOVITCH
AS THEY EXPLORE



JANUARY 27, 2016
WHAT'S IN A WORD? "ZIONISM" AND "JIHAD"
WHAT THEY ARE; WHAT THEY ARE NOT

FEBRUARY 3, 2016
ANTI-SEMITISM AND ISLAMOPHOBIA - WHAT IS THE ANTIDOTE?

FEBRUARY 10, 2016
WHOSE MIDDLE EAST IS IT? A MULTI-MILLENNIAL
RETROSPECTIVE OF THE REGIONAL RELATIONSHIP OF MUSLIMS AND JEWS

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY - OAKLAND CENTER FACILITY
33737 WEST TWELVE MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
PLEASE EMAIL YOUR SESSION CHOICE(S), NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S)
ATTENDING AND ANY QUESTIONS TO ASHAREDFUTUREDETROIT@GMAIL.COM
THERE IS NO FEE TO ATTEND THIS EVENT
THIS PROGRAM WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM THE RAVITZ FOUNDATION

MMCC Ramadan Fundraiser at The Unity Center



MMCC Year in Review

Youth Qiyams

- Youth Qiyams are done quarterly
- This year's locations: Unity Center Bloomfield, ICD Detroit, MCD Detroit, and IAGD Rochester
- Each session had over 300 students
- There was also a leadership retreat in Flowerville, Michigan in August with 40 local MSA leaders for a 2-day intense leadership training session.



Youth listening attentively to Imam Alasmari



Ammar Al-Qouqa, Unity Center Youth Director



MMCC Board Member Fatima Salman and Imam Saleem Khalid on a panel at the Qiyam



Sisters and brothers activity time at the Muslim Center qiyam.



Sarah Edliby speaking about her personal experiences at the Muslim Center qiyam

MMCC Year in Review

Ramadan Fight Against Hunger 2016



RAMADAN 2016

This Ramadan Michigan Muslims...

1

DISTRIBUTED OVER

40

TONS OF FOOD TO PEOPLE IN NEED

2

FUNDRAISED OVER

\$12000

IN TWO WEEKS FOR LOCAL FOSTER KIDS AND REFUGEES

3

ORGANIZED FASTING 5K CHARITY RUNS

THAT RAISED OVER \$100K NATIONWIDE

4

SPONSORED DOZENS IFTAR EVENTS

SERVING HUNDREDS OF REFUGEES

5

FACILITATED BUS TRIP TO LOUISVILLE TO ATTEND LEGEND MUHAMMAD ALI'S FUNERAL

6

ORGANIZED COMMUNITY IFTAR WITH DETROIT MAYOR MIKE DUGGAN

TO KICK OFF VOTER MOBILIZATION EFFORTS

Michigan Muslim Community Council

MMCC Year in Review

Oudhiya 2016

MMCC has collected and distributed the sacrificed meat to needy families in metro-Detroit. Over 30,000 lbs of meat are collected and distributed annually. MMCC has partnered with Islamic Relief USA, Gleaners Food Pantry, the Detroit Muslim Mission, Mercy International and others to make this huge undertaking successful.



Mental Health Grant

MMCC was the recent recipient of a \$30k grant from the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority geared towards raising awareness and help remove stigma around mental health.

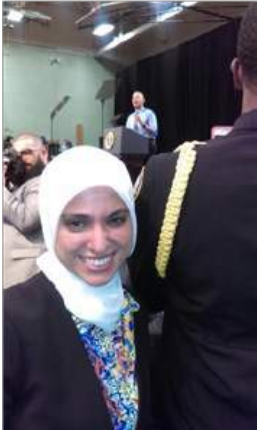
Nearly 100 participants from the Muslim Community were trained and certified in Mental Health First Aid. Several training workshops were held at various locations throughout Michigan taught by licensed instructors and clinicians.

Mental Health First Aid teaches participants a five step action plan, (ALGEE) to support someone developing signs and symptoms of a mental health illness or experiencing an emotional crisis, and QPR (question persuade refer) additionally teaches three simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide.

Workshop participants included; families, youth leaders, educators, and other professionals from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds within the Muslim Community.



MMCC Year in Review



Board Members Nurah Petross, left, and Fatima Salman, right, at the Flint rally with President Obama

MMCC Advisor Syed Mohiuddin, center, and Board Member Fatima Salman at the White House Eid Party



On Sunday, September 18th The Michigan Muslim Community Council and Jewish Community Relations Council walked in Nolan with over 150 Muslims and Jewish volunteers to brighten up this already beautiful school! We painted murals, hung up inspirational posters and organized the library!



MMCC Year in Review

MI Muslim Capitol Day 2016



Students in the the Rotunda, Lansing, MI



Listening attentively at the Rotunda

SAVE THE DATE:
MI Muslim Capitol Day:
May 9, 2017



Nurah Petross, MMCC Board member, pictured above with students waiting to hear invocation

Capitol Day Highlights

- Over 250 attendees coming from as far away as Grand Rapids,
- MMCC hosted a community leader briefing session on 2016 elections
- Michigan State House invocation led by Imam Saleem Khalid (sponsored by State Rep Kristy Pagan from Canton)
- 30 bi-partisan co hosts. Most of which either spoke, stopped by, and/or we had one on one meetings with
- Keynote delivered by Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein
- 4 Islamic schools sent their middle school students
- Michigan Muslims met their legislators to discuss how to make the state better
- Students from 4 college Muslim Student Associations had a workshop with Senators on civic engagement
- During the several dozen legislator meetings, Capitol Day attendees encouraged their officials to help reduce anti-immigrant and anti-refugee policies, which harm the state economically and socially.
- MMCC also advocated for short and long term solutions to helping the disadvantaged people of our community, especially the Flint and Detroit residents who are deprived of water and Detroit school children who have substandard schools.



Keynote Speaker, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein



Community leader forum



Dearborn boy scouts color guard troop 1139



Michigan Muslim Capitol Day

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 | Lansing, MI

Bringing hundreds of Muslim youth and adults to Michigan's state capitol to engage and empower our community.



Keynote Speaker: Justice Richard Bernstein



Justice Richard Bernstein became the first blind justice, elected by voters statewide, to the Michigan Supreme Court in November 2014. With a commitment to justice and fairness, Bernstein began his 8-year term in January 2015. Prior to being elected to Michigan's highest court, Justice Bernstein was known as a tireless advocate for disabled rights as an attorney heading the public service division for The Sam Bernstein Law Firm in Farmington Hills, Michigan. Blind since birth, Justice Bernstein is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan and earned his juris doctorate from Northwestern University School of Law. Among his cases in private practice, he helped establish disability accommodation guidelines that are used by all commercial facilities across the country. He also gained accessibility for disabled fliers, helping set the standard for which airlines and airports are to be covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. A proponent of education, he argued for, and won, preservation of special education funding throughout the state. In his spare time, he has participated in triathlons and over 18 marathons. In 2013, Justice Bernstein was inducted into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Special Guest Speaker: Judge David Turfe



Judge David Turfe is the chief judge for the 20th District Court in Wayne County, Michigan. He was first elected to the court in November 2006 and has subsequently been reelected twice to the 6 year term position. He received his undergraduate degree from Wayne State University in 1987 and his J.D. from Michigan State University College of Law in 1991. Before becoming a judge, he worked as a trial attorney for 15 years. He is known for his community service and commitment to justice. In 2011, he was awarded the Guardian of Justice Award by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. He is married with 4 children and is a long time resident of Dearborn Heights.

Emcee: Paula Tutman



Paula Tutman is a transplant to Michigan, born in Washington DC. Her father was a director in the Peace Corps so she spent her formative years in Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and traveling much of Europe. She has spent more than twenty years as a television reporter in a variety of markets, eventually landing in Detroit. The Emmy-winning journalist is now a specialty assignment reporter for the city's NBC affiliate, WDIV Channel 4. In 2008, Paula released her first novel, *Deadline*. The thriller was inspired by her own journalistic experience on the police beat, and chronicles the story of a television reporter being stalked by a murderer. The book has been critically acclaimed and was selected as the 2009 Winner, Best General Fiction at the Hollywood Book Festival. Paula is a member of the International Thriller Writers, Debut Author Class of 2009 and a member of Sisters In Crime. She has received many awards and honors, including the WONder Woman Award. She is the founder of Children's ToothFairy Foundation which provides dental care and oral health education to uninsured children in Southeastern Michigan.

Co-Hosts

STATE SENATORS

Bert Johnson (D)	Jim Ananich (D)	Marty Knollenberg (R)
Curtis Hertel Jr (D)	Jim Marleau (R)	Mike Kowall (R)
David Knezek (D)	Jim Stamas (R)	Morris Hood (D)
Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D)	Margaret O'Brien (R)	Vincent Gregory (D)

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Adam Zemke (D)	Harvey Santana (D)	Kurt Heise (R)
Andy Schor (D)	Henry Yanez (D)	Pat Somerville (R)
Brandon Dillon (D)	Jeff Irwin (D)	Robert Kosowski (D)
Christine Greig (D)	Jim Townsend (D)	Sam Singh (D)
David Rutledge (D)	Kathy Crawford (R)	Stephanie Chang (D)
George Darany (D)	Kristy Pagan (D)	Tim Greimel (D)

Organization Sponsors

ACCESS	Lansing Islamic Center
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee	Muslim American Society Detroit Chapter
CAIR Michigan	Muslim Community of Western Suburbs
EMERGE Michigan	Muslim Family Services
Islamic Center of America	Muslim Unity Center
Islamic Organizations of North America	Tawheed Center



MICHIGAN MUSLIM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
30701 Woodward Ave., Suite 310, Royal Oak, MI 48073
mimuslimcouncil.com • 248-268-2766



PROGRAM

9:00 am	Registration and Orientation (in Tent)
9:30 am-11:00 am	Parallel Programs
	PROGRAM 1: Middle/High School Students. "Discover the Michigan State Capitol-Legislation-Civic Engagement" Capitol Building, 4th floor, Room 402. Led by: Nurah Petross, Saim Raza, and State Senator Morris Hood
	PROGRAM 2: College, and General Public. "Meet your Legislators-Ways to Become Civically Engaged" In the Tent. Led by: Saffwan Ahmed, Hassan Ahmed.
	PROGRAM 3: Community Leader Forum on Voter Mobilization for 2016. "Making the Muslim Voice heard" Anderson House Building, Room 508, Led by: Imam Mikail Saadiq
9:30 am-3:00 pm	Appointments with Legislators (see schedule for full details)
11 am-11:30 am	Break
11:30 am-11:45 am	Gather in Rotunda 2d floor of Capitol Building
12 pm-1:00 pm	Rotunda Program: National Anthem, Quran Recitations, Speeches
	Paula Tutman emcee; Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein keynote speaker; Judge David Turfe special guest speaker
1:00 pm-1:15 pm	Annual Picture on Capitol Building Steps
1:15pm-1:30 pm	Head to 3rd Floor Capitol Building Gallery for State side
1:30 pm-2:00 pm	Invocation in State House (enter on 3d floor gallery) Imam Saleem Khalid is the invocatee
2:00 pm-2:45 pm	Lunch on Capitol Lawn with Speeches and Networking
2:00 pm	Optional Discussion and Meeting Room 810 in Farnum
2:45 pm	Zuhr Prayer on Capitol Lawn

Amazing Michigan Muslim

Rasha Basha

Rasha Basha came to the United States from Syria in 1988, at the young age of 17. The same year she married Ismael Basha, a businessman who is helping to revive the state of Michigan. After having three children, a determined and passionate Rasha Basha decided to complete her GED, and decided to pursue an Associate's in Accounting. Since the time of her graduation and raising three children, Rasha has been actively involved in the community.



Rasha has visited refugee camps in Jordan and Turkey in 2012-2013 through an organization she and her friend Rouzana Hares founded, Women for Humanity. This non-profit initiated a school for refugees, with 500 students enrolled. Women for Humanity fund students' transportation, meals, and enrichment programs. They provide thirty full scholarships to students attending universities and the programs are expanding.

She began volunteering at the Muslim Unity Center, a mosque where her husband was a founding member, helping to run the banquet center for four years. She also served on various committees in addition to helping the mosque with their accounting needs. Although she formally left several committees at the Unity Center eleven years ago, to pursue other community activities and to have her fourth child, she is still involved in the social events committee.

The rise of the Syrian Revolution of 2011, also known as the Arab Spring, started the rise of various Syrian organizations that Rasha Basha helped initiate and found.

The first was the Container of Hope which began with donations of toys, books, clothing from community members and ended up including mini-hospitals fully equipped with wheelchairs and hospital tools donated by the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS) for people in Syria. The first two containers left from her garage, and later her brother-in-law another Michigan humanitarian superstar, Dr. Yahya Basha, donated a warehouse to store all the equipment until it was ready for shipment overseas.

She also volunteered extensively with the Syrian Sunrise Foundation which focuses on providing humanitarian assistance to Syrians both inside Syria and in neighboring countries as well. Rasha, along with Dr. Ayesha Fatima, are the founders of the Syrian American Rescue Network (SARN). SARN helps Syrian refugees find housing, support them by family mentorship visits, job placements, teaching them life skills and IT training. The arrival of the first Syrian refugee family was in April 2014.

When asked what drives her passion for Syrian refugees since she has lived in the USA longer than the USA, she tried hard to fight back tears, and said she remembers being in a similar situation as a Syrian child. One can only imagine how frightful it must be for a young child to live in a war-torn area with fear for his/her life every moment of their life. Will they have to flee their beloved land, and if they do, will they survive? Rasha continues to help the refugees fleeing her homeland and hopes they are able to build a better life for themselves here in Michigan. From enrichment classes at the Balkan Center in Troy, to working with adoption agencies to find a better home for children, Rasha keeps busy by dedicating her life to serving others. A truly amazing Michigan Muslim.

Amazing Michigan Muslim

Raheel Siddiqui

The Michigan Muslim Community Council will be honoring the sacrifice of Marine recruit Raheel Siddiqui at the 30th Annual Michigan Muslim Unity Banquet on Sunday November 6th at 530 PM at Burton Manor in Livonia Michigan. Raheel Siddiqui was a great example of a Muslim American who strove to serve this country and better the community. His parents immigrated from Pakistan over 25 years ago, and he grew up in Taylor Michigan. He was valedictorian at Harry Truman High School and went on to study at the University of Michigan Dearborn, working part time at Home Depot. He dreamed of serving his country, and despite his mother's fears, he enlisted in the marines. He spent a year preparing for joining the marines by learning how to swim, running and getting himself in good physical shape. He started basic training for the US marines in March of 2016 at Parris Island, South Carolina. Unfortunately, within 2 weeks of starting his training, Raheel was killed after falling from a 3d floor stairwell. The circumstances of the death are under investigation, but 20 Marines are currently face disciplinary measures directly due to the senseless death. Congresswoman Dingell has played a critical role in ensuring justice will be done. Raheel Siddiqui is survived by his parents and sisters. His family deserves all of our prayers and support for their loss. Raheel Siddiqui is an Amazing Michigan Muslim who we are all proud to honor.



"Raheel Siddiqui and his family made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, and we are proud to call him an Amazing Michigan Muslim. They are an example of how Immigrants and new Americans embrace their country and make America great," states Executive Director Imam Mohamed Almasmari.

Muslim, Jewish Communities in Michigan to Host Day of Service on Christmas



Muslim and Jewish volunteers at Muslim Volunteer Day and Mitzvah Day in Metro Detroit.

by Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

On Christmas Day, approximately 1,000 Muslims and Jews in Michigan will come together for a day of community service.

The Jewish Community Relations Council in Detroit has been organizing Mitzvah Day for over 20 years, and the Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC) has participated since 2007, recruiting under the banner of Muslim Volunteer Day. Volunteers work side by side on over 20 volunteer projects across the Metro Detroit area.

Muslim and Jewish volunteers at Muslim Volunteer Day and Mitzvah Day in Metro Detroit. Courtesy of the Michigan Muslim Community Council

"This specific event helps our Christian neighbors facing hard times as they celebrate Christmas," Sumaiya Ahmed, communications director of the MMCC, told NBC News. "It shows the true intentions of the Muslim community. The media is turning our lives upside down; it gives a chance to regroup and refocus. It gives us a chance to step away from the negativity and support each other in good and bad times."

The volunteers deliver food to home-bound seniors, wrap and deliver gifts to families, work at animal shelters, entertain seniors in assisted-living facilities, serve hot meals at soup kitchens and food pantries, and more. By working alongside each other, Muslims and Jews can also get to

know each other better, organizers say.

"This event reminds all of us about the common values and humanity that bring us together," Muzammil Ahmed, chairperson of the MMCC board of directors, told NBC News. "We hope to help our disadvantaged community members enjoy the holiday. We hope to encourage Muslims and Jews and Christians to work together the rest of the year to make our state a better place for all, and we hope the Muslim and Jewish volunteers who don't celebrate Christmas can have a meaningful experience on this day that brings them closer to each other."

Muslims serve water in stricken Flint Michigan

Flint, Michigan (1/28/2016) – “I am sorry and I will fix it!” Over a hundred thousand residents of Flint, Michigan received an apology from the Governor of Michigan last December. It was the governor’s appointed emergency manager that switched the water supply of Flint to a cheaper alternative in April of 2014. The large Muslim community of Michigan has joined civic and relief groups to help out its neighbors in Flint.

Local groups including the Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC), Zaman International, the Grand Blanc Muslim Youth group, the Sylvester Broome Center, the Amity Foundation, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Who is Hussein, the Pakistan American Social Movement, local chapters of the Muslim Students Association and national groups including Islamic Relief USA, Life for Relief and Development are just a few of the many Muslim and Arab organizations that are bringing water and volunteers to Flint. In the past 2 weeks, an estimated over 150,000 bottles of water have been donated and almost 300 Muslim volunteers have joined local teams personally delivering cases of water to residents in Flint’s hardest hit areas.

“It’s a tragedy that the people of Flint have been neglected, they are our neighbors and they deserve clean and safe water,” said Amina Iqbal, Director of Operations for MMCC. “Michigan’s nick name is the Great Lake State, and it is an embarrassment that we cannot provide water to our own people.”

MMCC started a successful nationwide crowd funding campaign through LaunchGood.com to raise \$50,000 to purchase water supplies and provide education for Flint residents. Almost \$25,000 has been raised in the first 2 weeks. Local Muslim physicians led by neurosurgeon Dr. Jawad Shah have begun lead screening at the Sylvester Broome Center. Over 100 volunteers from the Muslim community were present in the first weeks after the declaration of a federal emergency distributing water, supplying filters, packing food, unloading trucks, drawing blood samples and more.

Large national American Muslim relief agencies have also started operations in Flint. Life for Relief and Development and Islamic Relief USA have both been visibly on the ground with truck and staff delivering water and coordinating with the Red Cross and food pantries. The Islamic Relief USA has committed to bringing over 30,000 bottles of water weekly and coordinating local volunteers for the months of January and February.

The intense interest in this hard hit city is not new. It was the center of attention in the social Flint native Michael Moore’s debut hit documentary, “Roger and Me.” In this movie, he lampooned General Motors CEO Roger Smith for destroying Flint’s economy by transferring jobs to Mexico and laying off thousands of workers. Flint’s economic woes only worsened over the following years.

In 2011, Governor Rick Snyder appointed an emergency manager to take over Flint due to worsening budget deficits based on a controversial Michigan law. The people of Flint lost their local voice in how they were governed. The emergency manager switched the water supply from the city of Detroit, to the nearby Flint River to save money in April of 2014. Almost immediately, the water in Flint homes was yellow tinged with a foul taste and odor. Despite this, state officials assured residents the water was safe to use.

The Flint Coalition for Clean Water was a diverse group of local activists that helped spur the fight against the toxic water. Concerned Pastors for Social Action and several individuals played a major role in the organizing effort. Several Muslims were among them including Nayirrah Sharif, Leon Elamin and Mona Haydar.

Nayirrah organized some of the original protests and leads an active twitter feed providing the outside world a glimpse of what life is like inside Flint. Former Flint resident, Mona Haydar, protested with the clean water coalition because she felt it was the right thing to do. “It’s not enough to do well for ourselves, we also have to take care of other people beyond the walls of the masjid.”

Leon Elamin leads the MADE Institute where it helps returning citizens from prison and youth develop job skills and training. Although Leon’s initial interactions with the local immigrant Muslim population were not positive, he gradually developed relationships with the second generation of young American Muslims from the immigrant communities. According to Leon, “There were a lot of barriers and prejudices... some people would not even want to stand next to me in prayer.” However, the new generation of Muslims embraced the chance to work others who were of different



ethnic or socioeconomic backgrounds, “Young people are our hope,” he says.

Leon Elamin joined other Muslims from the larger Flint community and established the Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village to help create a positive change in the urban Flint areas. The Center’s new executive director, Omar Kamran, has seen a flurry of activity with the water crisis, and has seen a bigger role for the community: “We want everyone to understand that there is no quick fix to this catastrophe. There is a clear need for a sustained long-term relief effort that must coincide with the rebuilding of our water infrastructure.”

“We want everyone to understand that there is no quick fix to this catastrophe. There is a clear need for a sustained long-term relief effort that must coincide with the rebuilding of our water infrastructure.”

– Omar Kamran, Executive Director of Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village

According to Tarek Baydoun, project spokesperson for MMCC, “We need to do more than just provide water, we must make a commitment to investing in our infrastructure and reforming of government to make sure this failure never happens again here or in any other city.” The Flint Coalition for Clean Water and other advocacy groups are joining together to make just such a push.

The positive impact Muslim are having in Flint is being noticed. Speaking from his heart, Tim Abdul-Matin, a Flint resident, had a message to those who were donating and volunteering, “Thank you all for helping Flint during this crisis. On behalf of myself, my family, and the citizens whose voices you may not hear, Thank you! May Allah reward you all!”

Story By Muzzamil Ahmed
Edited by Ahmed Nadeem

Michigan Muslim Community Organizations Join Forces to Help Flint Water Crisis

by Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

Members of Michigan's Muslim community have been working together and in collaboration with other organizations to help the residents of Flint, Michigan, during the Flint water crisis.

"As Muslims it is our religious and civic responsibility to help our neighbors," Amina Iqbal, director of operations of the non-profit social justice organization Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC), told NBC News. "The Flint community needs us, and MMCC in conjunction with our various partners are helping by providing them with clean drinking water, filters, educational material related to the hazardous water, offering free lead testing, and raising money to assist the Flint communities."

According to the MMCC, several Muslim-American non-profit and relief organizations joined forces to deliver 110,000 bottles of water to Flint residents last week. Volunteers distributed water as well as helped at a local food bank.

Some of the organizations participating are the MMCC, Life for Relief and Development, the Amity Foundation, Who is Hussain, and the Kalamazoo Muslim Community, according to The Arab American News. Another 90,000 bottles of water are expected to arrive shortly from Islamic Relief USA and the Pakistan Women's Association.

The Detroit News also reports that Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has also been collecting water across the Detroit metro area.

According to a statement from the MMCC, providing water is one of the Muslim faith's highest forms of charity. The MMCC plans to work with the local Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village and other faith-based organizations to expand water delivery and education efforts, as well as to advocate for the replacement of Flint's aging lead water pipes.

Several Muslim community groups are also fundraising with an online Launch Good campaign, Clean Water for Flint. <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CZbJ3Q5WkAEUoxI.jpg:small>



Michigan Muslim Community Council volunteers delivering bottled water in Flint, Michigan. Courtesy of the Michigan Muslim Community Council



Detroit Free Press

Metro Detroit Muslims remember Muhammad Ali's legacy, attend funeral

Niraj Warikoo

Muhammad Ali was influenced by metro Detroit's African-American and Muslim communities, who in turn were inspired by him and his message

When Nurah Petross of Detroit heard that a chartered bus from Michigan was headed to Kentucky for Muhammad Ali's funeral, she knew she had to go. As an African-American Muslim, she connected with Ali's vision and courage that allowed her and others to maintain their identity: as blacks, as Muslims, as Americans.

"Muhammad Ali is part of our history here in America," Petross, 42, said from Kentucky. "He helped pave the way to practice our religion freely. He was a great civil rights activist, for black Muslims especially. He was one of the most inspiring examples of excellence, fortitude, and dignity."

Petross was one of about 60 Muslims of diverse backgrounds from metro Detroit who bused to Ali's Islamic funeral on Thursday. Others from Michigan drove on their own to attend one or both of the two funeral services for Ali, which included one on Friday that drew interfaith leaders and Bill Clinton.

In metro Detroit, many African-Americans and Muslims felt a connection to the legendary boxer, a frequent visitor to the region who once lived in southwestern Michigan in Berrien Springs. His message resonated in an area known as a place where Islamic and black identities were forged in struggles.

At a time when Muslim-Americans feel under attack with anti-Muslim rhetoric from some politicians questioning their loyalty, they see Ali's life as a way to be proud of who they are.

"Ali put the question as to whether you could be a Muslim and an American to rest," said Professor Sherman Jackson of the University of Southern California, who previously taught at the University of Michigan, at Thursday's Islamic funeral. "Ali gave us pride and identity. He gave us confidence ... taught us how to fight, not only inside the ring, but outside as well."

Ali converted in 1964 through the Nation of Islam, which was founded in Detroit. The Nation's ideas influenced his decision to oppose the Vietnam War and resist the military draft in accordance with his religious beliefs, getting him banned from professional boxing for three years, but earning him worldwide respect.

He visited metro Detroit often, at first with Nation of Islam leaders Elijah Muhammad and Malcolm X, both onetime Michigan residents. Later, after he split with the Nation and followed Muslim leader Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, Ali would visit local mosques including Masjid Wali Muhammad and the Muslim Center in Detroit, and the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs mosque in Canton.

Imam Abdullah El-Amin, founder and imam emeritus of the Muslim Center in Detroit, remembers Ali during his visits as a warm, friendly man focused on helping others.

"He came to Detroit for humanitarian purposes," said



Muslims board bus Thursday at the Muslim Center in Detroit to go to Muhammad Ali's funeral in Kentucky (Photo: Razi Jafri)

El-Amin, of Detroit, also speaking from Kentucky. "He was known as a great jokester, he told jokes, magic tricks, but he did not come for that."

"He would come to promote Islamic materials" of Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, El-Amin said. "He was a true Muslim at heart. Boxing was a very small part of him. The bigger picture was his heart, the way he loved people."

El-Amin's daughter, Zarinah El-Amin Naeem, attended the funeral, too, saying that Ali inspired younger generations.

"For all of us, he was just a beacon of courage, the person who reminded you couldn't live your life being a punk," Naeem, of Detroit, said. "You can't say you believe something and then hide it when it's not convenient."

"He showed us how to live your life in accordance with your values and not be afraid of the worldly consequences," she said.

Dr. Abdull El-Sayed, director of the city of Detroit's health department, traveled to Kentucky to pay tribute.

"I've never been so emotional about the passing of an icon or celebrity," said El-Sayed. "No icon whose life with which mine overlapped has done more to empower me."

"He was my mind's answer to all the times I was told 'You can't because ...' Here was this Muslim minority — a guy who looked different and had a weird name — who had the rare combination of a remarkable set of skills and the sheer grit and courage to believe both in himself and in a set of values to which he held unshakably, regardless the consequences."

El-Sayed added: "I'm thankful for what he did for me and a whole generation of black and brown kids in America, Muslims worldwide, and for global peace ... inspired to help carry on that legacy in some small way."

Ali also inspired Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree, who in April became the first African-American

and Muslim to hold that position in the county.

"He was a unifying force," said Sabree. "He loved people, he found ways to bring people together, and a person who believed in excellence."

In the mid-1980s, Sabree remembers meeting Ali when he visited Detroit, Pontiac, and Flint to speak in schools, encouraging students to strive and not get involved with drugs.

Sabree, 62, was 12 years younger than Ali, and grew up admiring him. Sabree's father, Bill Humphries, once interviewed Ali in the 1970s on a Detroit TV sports show. Today, he still watches Ali's fights 20 to 25 times a year.

Sabree recalls a conversation he had with Ali in the 1980s about spirituality.

"We were talking about religion. I was asking him, how he felt traveling around the world, and being a Muslim, and how he really felt about religion. He said, 'You

have to believe in the faith you would want to have if you were on an island by yourself, just you and God. If you're an island by yourself, what would you believe in?...People can mess you up, and if you believe in people, you can get messed up, but if you believe in God, you will be strong."

For Sabree, Ali's message helps him to stay focused, despite attacks on Islam and minorities.

"These attacks are nothing new," Sabree said. "Throughout history, people have been attacked for their faith or ethnic background or heritage, but if you stick to what you believe and try to do good to other people, then you usually come out victorious."

Troy Muhammad, a minister who heads the Detroit chapter of the Nation of Islam, said on Facebook: "With Faith in Allah and faith in himself Muhammad Ali became a great human being who touched black people, touched humanity and touched the world. He will be missed but never forgotten."

Sumaiya Ahmed, 25, a director with the Michigan Muslim Community Council who helped organize the bus trip, said: "The community is so grateful to him for what he did. When it was hard to be an African-American, let alone a Muslim-American, he made it very well known he was as proud black Muslim American, which meant a lot for us here in Michigan."

Ahmed, who attended the funeral, said the fact that Ali died during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan adds to his life's significance.

"It's a really difficult time right now for Muslims around the world, especially in the U.S.," Ahmed said. "God had a plan for him to unify us all together, people of all faiths and those who don't practice."

Razi Jafri, 34, of Detroit, said Ali "was a great American Muslim hero. In today's climate with rising Islamophobia and rising anti-immigrant sentiment, Muhammad Ali was a great counterweight to all that."

Contact Niraj Warikoo: 313-223-4792 or nwarikoo@freepress.com. Follow him on Twitter @nwarikoo

Muslim Community Directory

College Muslim Student Associations

Eastern Michigan University
Mohamed Nouadir
mnouadir@emich.edu
<https://emu.collegiatelink.net/organization/muslim-student-association>
www.facebook.com/msa.emu
I: @emu_msa

Oakland University
Ahmed Naseem
msaoakland@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Oakland-University-Muslim-Student-Association-1002003186479537/?fref=ts>
T: @ou_msa

Wayne State University
Yasser Mushtaque
umushtaque@gmail.com
wsmsa.com
<https://www.facebook.com/waynestatmsa>
T: @waynestatmsa
I: @waynestatmsa

University of Michigan-AA
Farhan Ali
msa-eboard@umich.edu
muslims.studentorgs.umich.edu/
www.facebook.com/umichmsa
T: @michiganmuslims
I: @michiganmuslims

University of Michigan-Dearborn
Amina Marini
ammarini@umich.edu
msadearborn.org
www.facebook.com/umdlmsa
T: @msadearborn
I: @msadearborn

University of Michigan-Flint
Lamees Shamieh
lshamieh@umflint.edu
www.facebook.com/UM-Flint-Muslim-Students-Association-101723466577842/timeline/
T: @umflintmsa
I: @umflintmsa

Michigan State University
Abraham Aiyash
msaofmsu@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/MSAofMSU
T: @msumsa
I: @msu_msa

Univeristy of Detroit Mercy
Amena Alkhafaji
alkhafajiamena@gmail.com

High School Muslim Student Associations

Plymouth-Canton
Sameed Khan
Sameed.Khan@Outlook.com

Troy High
KM Rahman
thmsa16@gmail.com

Rochester
Anam Ahmed
rochesterhighmsa@gmail.com

International Academy-Central
Nedda Elewa
nelewa@sbcglobal.net

Troy-Athens
Zehn Wani
zehnwani@gmail.com

Avondale
Mariya Ahmed
mariya786@gmail.com

International Academy-East (Troy)
Osama Hashmi
ohashmi11@gmail.com

Harrison
Afeefah Khan
khanafeefah@yahoo.com

Bloomfield Hills High
Shahada Altaii
shayaltaii@icloud.com

Islamic Schools

Genesee Academy
Imad Tibi
principal@gafint.org
9447 Corunna Rd,
Swartz Creek, MI 48473
810.250.7557
office@gafint.org

Toledo Islamic Academy
Amal AbuKaram
a.abukaram@tiaus.net
5225 W Alexis Rd,
Sylvania, OH 43560
(419) 882-3339
http://www.tiaus.net/pages/Toledo_Islamic_Academy

Noor Academy
Nada Shuttari
administrator@nooracademy.org
879 W. Auburn Road,
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 852-5657
<http://www.nooracademy.org/>

Muslim Amerian Youth Academy
Sr. Hala Hazimi, MAYA/
ICA Linda Charara
lindazjc@yahoo.com
19500 Ford Rd,
Dearborn, MI 48128
(313) 436-3300
<http://www.mayaschool.org/>

Huda School & Monterssori
Erum Mohiuddin
Erum@hudaschool.org
32220 Franklin Rd.
Franklin, MI 48025
(248) 626-0900
<http://hudaschool.org/>

Beverly Hills Academy
meghanl@beverlyhillsacademy.org
32605 Bellvine Trail,
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
(248) 433-9470
www.beverlyhillsacademy.org/

Al- Ikhlas Training Academy
Sr. Nafeesah ATA,
dnmahdi@aol.com
12555 McDougall St,
Detroit, MI 48212
(313) 369-0880
www.alikhlastrainingacademy.com

Crescent Academy
Kareemah Abbas
info@crescentacademy.org
40440 Palmer Road,
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 729-1000
www.crescentacademy.org/

Greater Lansing Islamic School
Hanna Gomma
gomma@school.lansingislam.com
920 S. Harrison Road
East Lansing, Michigan 48823
(517) 332-3700
<http://k8.school.lansingislam.com/>

Tawheed Center of Detroit
Sr. Ghazala Khan
tawgkhan@gmail.com
18624 W. Warren Ave.
Detroit, MI 48228
(313) 271-0731
<http://school.masjdtawheed.org/>

MIA
Fayzeh Madani
principal@mia-aa.org
2301 Plymouth Rd,
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
(734) 665-8882
<http://www.mia-aa.org/>

Hamadeh Educational Services
Nawal Hesedu (CEO)
nhamadeh@hesedu.com
6919 N Waverly St,
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
(313) 565-0507
<http://www.hesedu.com/>

International Islamic Academy
Khalidh Almasnaah
kalmasnaah@gmail.com,
14350 Tireman St,
Detroit, MI 48228
(313) 799-3442
<http://iiaschool.org/iia/>



Michigan Mosque Directory

Ann Arbor

- 1 **Adams Community Center**
Islamic Center of Ann Arbor
Muslim Community Assoc. of Ann Arbor
2301 Plymouth Rd, Ann Arbor 48105
www.mcws.org, mca-a2.org, (734) 665-6772

Bloomfield Hills

- 22 **Muslim Unity Center**
1830 W Square Lake, Bloomfield Hills 48302
www.muslimunitycenter.org, (248) 857-9200

Brownstown/Riverview

- 18 **Masjid Umar bin Khattab**
Islamic Association of Michigan
18105 Racho Rd, Brownstown 48193
masjidumarbinkhattab.org

Canton

- 21 **Muslim Community of Western Suburbs**
40440 Palmer, Canton 48188
- 63 **Canton Islamic Center**
5840 N. Canton Center, Ste 218, Canton 48187
www.cicimi.org, (313) 805 5913
- 64 **Masjid Bilal**
1525 Ridge Rd N, Canton, MI 48187
(734) 340-9575

Dearborn

- 6 **American Muslim Center**
21110 Outer Dr, Dearborn 48124
www.amcdearborn.net, (313) 565-9314
- 8 **American Muslim Society**
9945 Vernor Hwy, Dearborn 48120
www.masjiddearborn.org, (313) 849-2147
- 9 **Dearborn Community Center**
3900 Schaefer, Dearborn 48126
dearborncommunitycenter.org, (313) 584-9494
- 16 **Karbalaa Islamic Educational Center**
15332 W Warren Ave, Dearborn 48126
- 24 **Islamic Center of America**
Muslim American Youth Academy
19500 Ford Rd, Dearborn 48128
icofa.com, mayaschool.org, (313) 593.0000
- 27 **American Moslem Bekaa Center**
6110 Chase Rd, Dearborn 48126

Dearborn Heights

- 26 **Islamic House of Wisdom**
22575 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Hts 48127
islamichouseofwisdom.com, (313) 359-1221

Detroit

- 11 **Islamic Center of Detroit**
14350 Tireman St, Detroit 48228
icd-center.org, (313) 584-4143
- 17 **Masjid Al-Falah/Al-Ikhlās Training Academy**
Islamic Center of North Detroit
12500 McDougall St, Detroit 48212
alikhlastrainingacademy.com, (313) 369-0880
- 20 **Muath bin Jabal-Detroit/Hamtramck**
6096 Dorothy St, Detroit 48211

- 25 **Muslim Center of Detroit**
1605 West Davison, Detroit 48238
muslimcenterdetroit.com, (313) 883-3330

- 29 **Baitul Islam**
7826 Klein St, Detroit 48211
biid.lsa.umich.edu/communities.html

- 35 **University Islamic Center of Detroit (WSU)**
4646 Cass Ave, Detroit 48201

- 39 **Islamic Community of As Salam**
21628 Fenkell, Detroit 48223

- 46 **Masjid Al Fatiha**
2844 4th St, Detroit 48201

- 48 **Masjid Al-Haqq**
4017 Clairmount St, Detroit 48204

- 57 **Masjid Un-Noor Inc.**
11311 Mound Rd, Detroit 48212

- 59 **Muslim Community Center of Detroit**
13720 W McNichols, Detroit 48235

- 66 **Masjid Wali Muhammad**
11529 Linwood St, Detroit, MI 48206
(313) 868-2131

East Lansing

- 12 **Islamic Center of East Lansing**
940 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing 48823
lansingislam.com, (517) 351-4309

Farmington Hills

- 14 **Islamic Cultural Association**
35700 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills 48331
- 23 **Tawheed Center**
29707 W 10 Mile, Farmington Hills 48336
tawheedcenter.org
- 47 **Masjid Al-Burhani**
20959 Orchard Lake, Farmington Hills 48336

Flint

- 32 **Flint Islamic Center**
9447 Corunna Rd, Swartz Creek 48473
www.flintislamiccenter.com, (810) 406-2617
- 34 **Islamic Center Mumin Inc**
4043 Clio Rd, Flint 48504
- 49 **Masjid Al-Madrashah**
3129 Clio Rd, Flint 48504
- 53 **Masjid Mu'min**
64043-A Clio Rd, Flint 48504

Grand Blanc

- 13 **Islamic Center of Grand Blanc**
1479 Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc 48439
www.gbi.center

Hamtramck

- 4 **Al-Islah Islamic Center**
2733 Caniff St, Hamtramck 48212
alislhamasjid.tk, (313) 365-9000
- 30 **Bosnian American Islamic Center**
3437 Caniff St, Hamtramck 48212
- 33 **Islamic Center Gazi-Husrevbeg-Hamtramck**
12424 Joseph Campau, Hamtramck 48212

Harper Woods

- 2 **Albanian Islamic Center-Harper Woods**
19775 Harper Ave, Harper Woods 48225
(313) 884 6676

Highland Park

- 50 **Masjid Al-Nur**
318 Pilgrim, Highland Park 48203

Madison Heights

- 5 **American Islamic Community Center**
27205 Dequindre, Madison Heights 48071
www.aiccmi.com, (248) 584-4100

Mt. Pleasant

- 37 **Islamic Center of Mt Pleasant**
907 McVey St, Mt. Pleasant 48858
www.icmtp.org

Oak Park

- 55 **Masjid Oak Park**
15425 Miller St, Oak Park 48237

Rochester

- 10 **Islamic Association of Greater Detroit**
879 W Auburn St, Rochester 48063
iagd.net, (248) 852-5657

Southfield

- 58 **Muslim American Society-Detroit**
23724 Northwestern, Southfield 48075
www.masdetroit.org

St Clair Shores

- 41 **Islamic Cultural Institute**
30115 Greater Mack Ave, St Clair Shores 48082
www.icionline.org

Sterling Heights

- 7 **American Muslim Diversity Association**
44760 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights 48314
- 28 **American Muslim Diversity Association**
38810 Ryan Rd, Sterling Hts 48310, amda.us

Troy

- 3 **Adams Community Center (Troy)**
4700 Rochester Road, Troy 48085
- 40 **Islamic Council Detroit**
64 Duncan Dr, Troy 48098

Warren

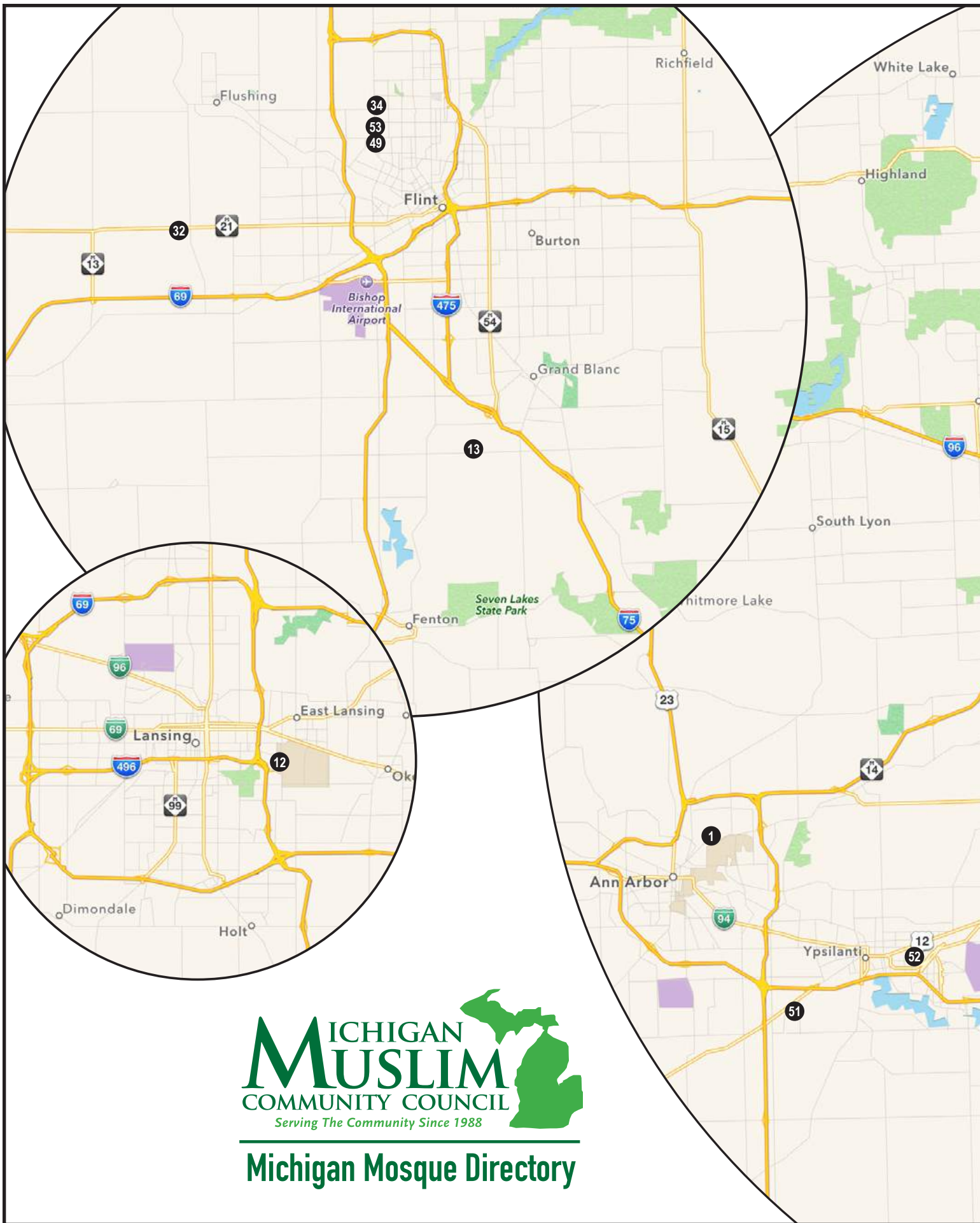
- 15 **Islamic Organization of North America**
28630 Ryan Rd, Warren 48092
www.ionamasjid.org, (586) 558-6900
- 19 **Masjid Uthman ibn Affan**
21380 Ryan Rd, Warren 48091
uthmanibnaffan.weebly.com, (586) 510-4240

Westland

- 65 **Masjid Madinatul Ilm**
37775 Palmer Rd, Westland, MI 48186
(734) 834-9294

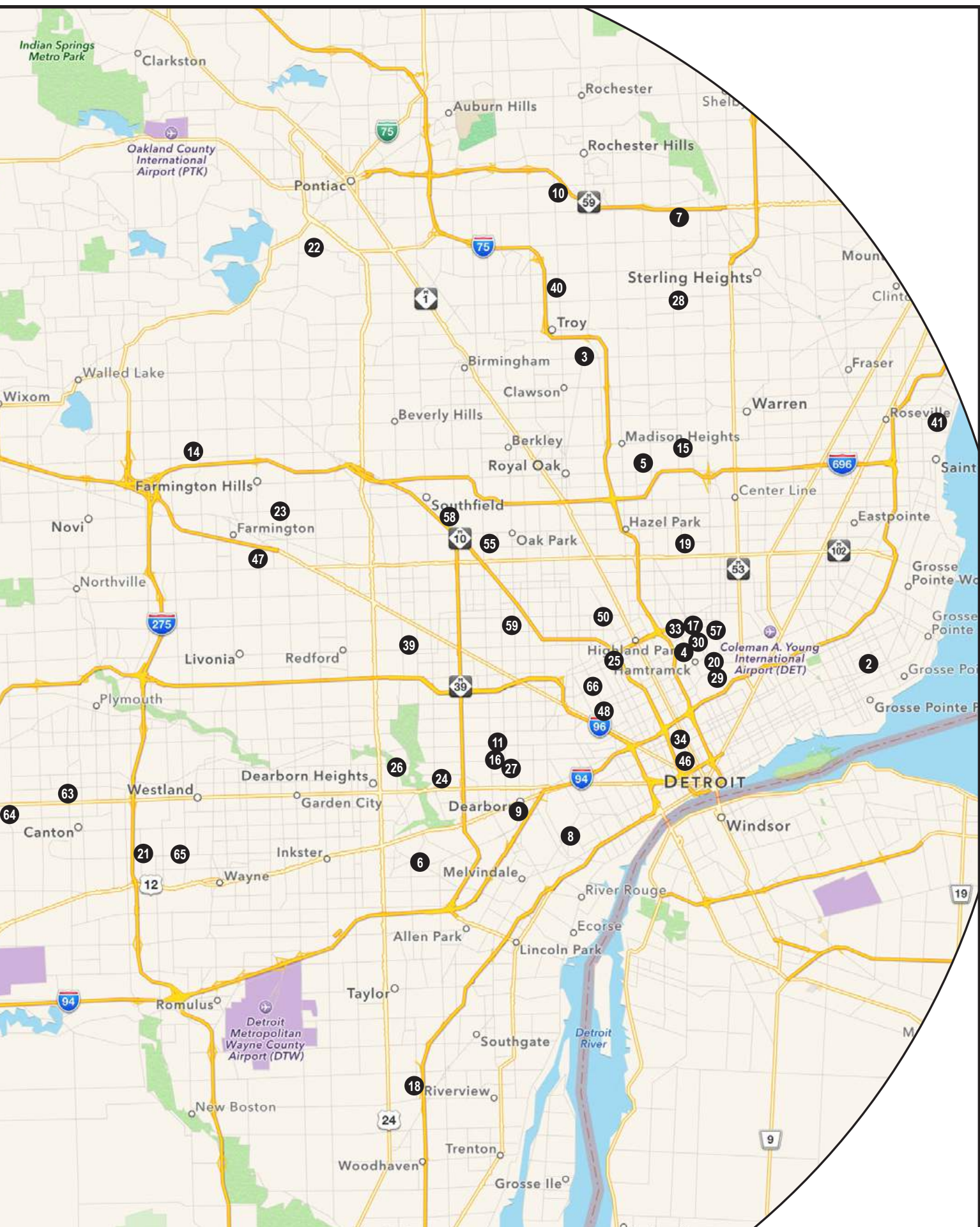
Ypsilanti

- 51 **Masjid Bilal**
4891 W Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti 48197
www.masjidsbilalmi.org, (734) 337-3215
- 52 **Masjid Ibrahim**
315 S Ford Blvd, Ypsilanti 48198



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Michigan Mosque Directory



Growing Up Muslim

by Stacey Wincone

What is it like to be a family that practices Islam in southeast Michigan right now? In a year when anti-Muslim rhetoric has rocked our presidential race and terrorism is a constant in headlines, it's a complex question for Muslim parents. Yes, the anxiety is real. Yet so is their desire to rise above, seek out the good – and raise kids who are confident in their communities and religion.

On a Tuesday evening in late January, West Bloomfield residents gathered for a town hall meeting. The topic: repealing the immigrant-friendly “welcoming” designation it had just adopted the previous spring. It was a contentious night. And, though the practice was narrowly upheld, it was a turning point for Anasie Tayyen, a Muslim mom of three girls who lives in the township.

“I never saw that much hatred or misunderstanding,” says Tayyen, who identifies as an American with parents of Syrian descent. “When I got up to speak, we were supposed to say our (home) addresses in front of the township, and I told the trustees, ‘I don’t feel safe saying my address out loud.’”

When the meeting ended, Tayyen says she feared someone would follow her, so she parked on another block in her subdivision and waited a bit before venturing home.

The fear Tayyen felt that winter night is not unfounded.

Over the course of 2015, attacks on Muslim Americans surged 78 percent to 196 reported incidents, according to a September 2016 report by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, based at California State University, San Bernardino.

“These are levels not surpassed since the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks in 2001,” the report notes, “and come at a time of heightened prejudice, recurring terrorism and polarized politics.” Limited data for 2016 shows a doubling of anti-Muslim hate crimes in New York City and Ohio, it adds, and Delaware had its “first reported anti-Muslim hate crime in years.”

With news of ISIS terrorist attacks across the globe and a presidential candidate’s strong anti-Muslim rhetoric at home, there’s been a huge shift in attitudes toward the nation’s Muslim American population, which Pew Research Center estimates at 3.3 million – about 300,000 to 400,000 of whom call metro Detroit home, Royal Oak-based Michigan Muslim Community Council tells Metro Parent (it’s based on a few sources, as it’s not officially census-tracked).

While there have been 55 threats and hate crimes against U.S. mosques so far this year, only one attempt has been made in Michigan, notes Dawud Walid, executive director of Council on American-Islamic Relations – Michigan, located in Farmington Hills.

“We’ve had instances of death threats against people in congregations,” says Walid, a Detroit dad of three. “We’ve had complaints even this year of Muslim women driving down the streets and being yelled at; a couple of instances in Dearborn of people being assaulted at grocery stores.”

And it’s all cause for concern, says Canton mom of four Amina Iqbal, also Muslim.

“I think mothers always feel very protective of their children,” she says. “I would say the level has increased after all these hate crimes that have taken place.”

The election effect

Anti-Muslim political rhetoric during this presidential campaign cycle has played a role, according to the recent Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism report. It released official data on hate crimes in 20 states, including Michigan.

Researchers dug even deeper by examining the effect of statements by political leaders in response to “catalytic events.” They found there was a “dramatic” drop in anti-Muslim crimes after George W. Bush’s post-9/11 “statements of tolerance at a mosque” – but “a moderate weekly rise in hate searches on Google like ‘kill all Muslims’” after Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump’s late-2015 proposed Muslim ban. The report draws a strong connection between statements like this and prejudiced actions.

It’s something that Safa Sankari, a Bloomfield Township mom of three – two girls, 12 and 9, and a son who’s 8 – says she feels more acutely these days.

“I feel like the last year, because of everything going on, people have felt like they have been given permission to be either rude or questioning or make you feel like you don’t belong,” Sankari says. “So I definitely felt a difference from when I was younger to now.”

She even worries about the safety of her children, who attend a local Islamic school. Could someone target the school because of its students’ religious views? “God forbid,” Sankari says. “This is our fear. We live with that fear.”

For Tayyen, it feels worse now than 9/11. “That’s the first time a lot of Americans heard of terrorism in the name of religion.” That, she says, was the beginning, and now there’s a cumulative effect.

The hate was apparent to Tayyen on a trip to Costco in Commerce Township, when she was waiting to have her receipt checked on the way out. A woman approached her from behind, whispered “Trump” in her ear and walked away. Tayyen almost didn’t believe her ears. She wanted to find the woman in the parking lot to talk to her about what had happened but didn’t get the chance.

Similarly, a small incident at a local chain store stopped Iqbal from shopping alone in the evening. “I remember being followed by teenage boys just being silly – and there was a little fear in my heart,” Iqbal, who wears a hijab headscarf, says. For her, that meant a change in her routine, and today, she even prefers to walk in groups.

Sankari, who also wears a hijab, says she and her husband have a heightened sense of anxiety about shopping or going



out at night, as well.

“It’s really sad because I shouldn’t have to be extra vigilant in the day going shopping. I’m not doing anything wrong,” Sankari says. “We’re all trying to live our lives.”

While negative incidents do happen, Tayyen also stresses the good in people, like a person she encountered at an office building in Southfield. “Somebody touched my shoulder and I got kind of scared and I turned around, and it was this lady that was like, ‘We’re with you.’”

Sankari agrees many people have been nicer and even gone out of their way to show not everybody feels negatively towards Muslim Americans. The good outweighs the bad, these moms say, especially in a diverse region like southeast Michigan.

What about the kids?

Growing up is tough enough, but when you look different from someone else because you choose to wear a hijab, for example, other kids who may not understand can be cruel.

Sankari’s 12-year-old, Muna, encountered this with a young boy at Kroger in Bloomfield. Muna, who attends the private Islamic Huda School in Franklin, says she was still wearing her hijab from school when she accompanied her mom to the store.

“I kind of got a little bit lost,” Muna says. “And a kid, he walked up to me – he looked like my age, maybe a little bit older – and he told me, ‘Can you please remove your headscarf? Because as far as I’m concerned, you have no hair or ears.’”

It was a small incident and Muna simply walked away, not wanting to feed into any stereotype the boy may have had about Muslims being argumentative. She even waited a month to tell her mom about what happened.

“(It) kind of made me sad,” Muna says, “because I remember when I was little, no one said anything to my mom or any of my other friends that wear the scarf.”

Things were, in fact, different when these local moms were growing up.

As a child in Brownstown, Iqbal, whose parents are from Pakistan and moved here in 1971, says she felt safe riding her bike around the block. She doesn’t with her kids. “We have to constantly worry, ‘Is this safe for my child to play outside?’”

Her children, three girls ages 13, 10 and 1 and a boy, 6, haven’t reported any incidents, but her eldest is heading to high school next year. Mom told her “she has to talk to us if she ever comes across something or feels that she was mistreated.”

Over in Dearborn, 15-year-old Adina Kanan says life at school

for her isn’t any different from that of your average teenager.

The Dearborn High School sophomore, whose family is of Palestinian decent, says she hasn’t been mistreated and feels safe, even though she wears a hijab to cover her hair. For her, it’s the norm. “If you walk into Dearborn High, you’ll see a bunch of girls with a scarf on,” Adina says.

Issues are rare, she adds, due to the city’s diversity and many residents’ practice or understanding of Islam. (It’s worth noting not all Arab-Americans are Muslim, or vice versa, a lingering misconception – though Dearborn has strong populations of both.)

Adina’s mom, Suzanne, agrees. “I would probably be a little more concerned if I was living outside of Dearborn or if I was living in a predominately white neighborhood,” Kanan says, adding that she and her children, two sons ages 20 and 18 and two daughters, 15 and 12, haven’t experienced any issues locally.

When it comes to dealing with prejudice, Kanan urges her kids to show their own character instead of being on the defense.

“I’ve always been the type to focus on them being good kids, them being well-mannered,” Kanan says.

Other local schools, such as the Muslim school Tayyen’s daughters attend, have proactively addressed some of the misunderstandings surrounding Islam – and equipped kids with information to use to educate others, too.

“They teach them these people aren’t Muslim; we know they don’t represent Islam,” Tayyen says. Teachers tell children it’s forbidden to hurt or kill people like ISIS extremists do. They use these news stories as teachable moments.

Still, the rhetoric has impacted Tayyen’s children.

“Why does he hate us? If he becomes president, what is he going to do?” Tayyen’s youngest daughter, 7, once asked her of Trump. Mom told her it’s a political tool he’s using to get votes. “I don’t want my children to walk around thinking half the grocery store hates them,” Tayyen says.

It’s a tough balancing act for these moms. While they have their own fears and anxieties, they don’t want their children to share those feelings.

Iqbal adds, “I have so many other things to worry about,” instead of justifying her religion.

This year has been a turning point. But hope isn’t lost.

“Things are going to get better,” Tayyen says. “We’re going to make it better.”

Photo by Lauren Jeziorski

Detroit Free Press

Jews, Muslims come together to brighten Detroit school

Katrease Stafford

Ellie Slovis smiled as she slowly lifted her paintbrush and meticulously made wide strokes of blue on a mural she helped create at Nolan Elementary-Middle School in Detroit on Sunday, depicting a child on a swing.

Helping to create the colorful mural that stretched across a wall was a chance for Slovis to give back to a school and community in need, but it also meant more.

It was the latest in a series of events within the past seven years to bring the Muslim and Jewish communities together to do community-based work and break down stereotypes and barriers. The event was sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council and the Michigan Muslim Community Council and began as a follow-up to Mitzvah Day, where nearly 1,000 volunteers from Detroit's Jewish community were joined by Muslims to help Detroit social service agencies at 43 community sites on Christmas.

"We heard there was a school in need of brightening up," said Slovis, who is Jewish. She said principal Ricky Fountain "got me very excited about being a part of it and making us feel that what we were doing was really important to the kids and their attitude coming to school, and to their self image of seeing bright walls and pretty pictures. We're also using this as a way to bring the Jewish community and Muslim community together."

More than 150 volunteers from across metro Detroit met at the school, located at 1150 E. Lantz St., for the interfaith Nolan Makeover Fix-Up Day effort. Volunteers worked together to paint murals throughout the hallways, prepared classrooms and did a complete transformation and reorganization of the school's library.

The event follows another Makeover Day the two organizations held in March at the school, where more than 100 Muslim and Jewish volunteers along with Nolan students and parents came together to clean the school's library, paint the bathroom stalls and install new toilet seats, clean debris from the grounds and complete a student-designed hallway mural.

Nolan, which is part of the state-run Education Achievement Authority school reform district, has more than 300 students ranging from pre-K to eighth grade, according to Fountain.

"It's a splendid situation," Fountain said. "It reinforces what we want the community to do to support us. We've had conversations on how can we bring these communities together and literally impact the achievement. The whole purpose of today is, everything they're doing is going to affect instruction...I couldn't be happier than I am now."

Fountain said the best part for him will be seeing the faces of his students Monday morning. He said he believes will be excited to see the halls suddenly lit up with artwork



Jews and Muslims sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council and the Michigan Muslim Community Council come together to brighten Nolan Elementary-Middle School in Detroit, Sunday, September 18, 2016. (Photo: Education Achievement Authority)



and color.

"The scale of this will shake them up," Fountain said. "They'll be in positive awe, and that's exactly what we want to do. In the morning, I'll be here looking at their faces, and it'll be a beautiful thing."

Kindergarten teacher Mariam Fahs, who is Muslim, helped orchestrate the event and said she believes the makeover would help reinvigorate her students' learning throughout the year.

"As a kindergarten teacher, I get children that come with blank canvasses," Fahs said. "For a lot of my kids, this is their first experience ever in school, so for them, I want to make sure that this is the space for them to feel that not only is this space my school, but it's my home. And with what we did last year, with beautifying the school, that was our first step. Next, it needed the color, it needed that inspirational feel, that warmth that students needed

when they walked in."

Naomi Levine, community relations associate for the Jewish Community Relations Council, said her organization has had a "wonderful partnership" with the Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC) over the past several years.

"We thought this was a perfect thing to do," Levine said. "We're committed to this school. They're the best kids. It's also important for us to dispel any preconceived notions that Muslims and Jews can't work together and get along. I mean, why not? We're all people and we care about our kids. It's a wonderful thing, and we're so proud. It has truly resonated with people."

Sumaiya Ahmed, communication director of the Michigan Muslim Community Council, said the idea to help Nolan came about shortly after teacher sickouts last school year that shut down several schools in Detroit.

"When we heard about the sickouts we were thinking, what can we do?" Ahmed said. "We wanted to help the city of Detroit because that's where we were all born and raised. ... Education is something that is not only a faith-based thing but a human thing. That's where I teamed up with a good friend of mine, Mariam (Fahs). She was already doing local things within the school. I reached out to her. We didn't want it to be a one-time thing."

Oxford Virtual Academy senior Bayan Rayes said this isn't the first time she's volunteered at an MMCC event. Rayes, who is Muslim, helped Slovis and several others Sunday create the mural that included a girl on the swing and bright green grass and the sun.

"Doing things like this makes me feel like I'm being part of something good," Rayes said. "It always makes you feel good at the end of the day. You feel amazing."

Volunteer Ben Kramer came to the school along with his wife, Erin Kramer, and her sister Elyse Bartos. The trio helped design and create several colorful posters that were going to go on the walls of Fahs' classroom.

"We wanted to get more involved in the community," Ben Kramer said. "We like the uniqueness of the event."

More than 30 people helped organize the school's library, including former librarian Janice Ungar, who said she came to put her skills to use.

Volunteer Linda Fahs, Mariam Fahs' cousin, said she felt the need to pitch in because she has heard a lot about the struggles involving schools in Detroit.

"They're such bright kids," Linda Fahs said. "I love that all of this is really going to put a smile on their faces."

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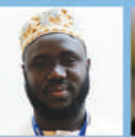
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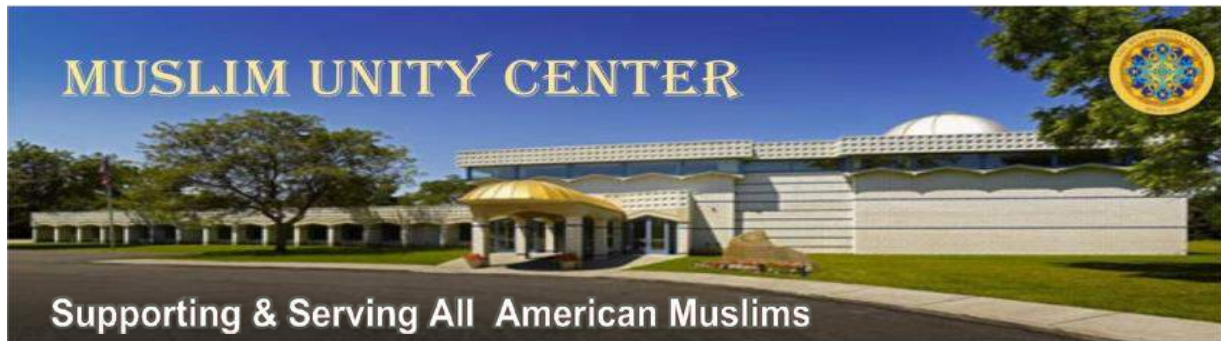


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The Islamic Association of Greater Detroit

879 W. Auburn Rd., Rochester Hills MI 48307

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The Muslim Youth of Greater Detroit (MYGD) is an organization devoted to providing opportunities for the youth to strengthen their faith and their connection with Allah (SWT). MYGD provides a friendly and open environment that promotes creativity and leadership for young adults in the Muslim Ummah. Through our weekly brothers' and sisters' halaqas, frequent workshops, qiyaams, sports tournaments and trips, Muslim youth have the opportunity to engage with other Muslims living in the area and build life-long friendships. **We hope to inspire and encourage many to step up and become role models in society for future generations.**



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@IAGD
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admin@iagd.net
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The Islamic Center of Detroit-ICD

Would like to congratulate the Michigan Muslim Community council on its 30th Annual Unity Banquet

ISLAM PEACE JUSTICE

The Islamic Center of Detroit is a Non-Profit Organization serving the Detroit Metro Area

Please join us to make a difference.

- Weekend School
- Summer Program
- Quran Program
- Youth Program
- Year Round Community Events

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Founded in 2006, to institutionally increase American Muslim civic and political participation

The American Muslim community lacked an institution that could holistically meet their civic needs and a long-term strategy on how to consistently engage the community into the nation's civic culture.

Emerge USA seeks to engage, educate and empower American Muslim communities through civic education, voter initiatives, and leadership development to create a community of equitable, knowledgeable, and motivated citizens.

emergeUSA

MICHIGAN

Emerge USA engages the American Muslim community to ensure proactive, sustained and long term civic and political engagement with measured impact.

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Cong. Allen West: Extremists Hired Him in 2010, Emerge USA **FIRED** Him in 2012

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The Muslim Community Mosque

Serving the community at large to build a better understanding of true Islam through promoting knowledge and action.

Our services:

- Daily and Friday prayer.
- Youth programs including boys /Girls group , scouts and MYNA
- Summer and Ramadan Camps
- Ramadan and Eid activities and celebration
- Saturday Lectures and workshops
- Interfaith activities
- Social events : brunches, dinners, Potlucks...and more
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Congratulations MMCC on your 30th Annual Unity Banquet!



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Vote on November 8th



APIA Vote-MI is a nonpartisan organization committed to justice and equity for the Asian American community through grassroots mobilization, civic engagement, leadership development, and coalition building.

<http://www.apiavotemi.org/>

Congratulations MMCCC on their 30th Annual Unity Banquet!

The Muslim Center



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IMANA Congratulates MMCC on it's 30th Annual Unity Banquet

About IMANA

The mission of IMANA is to provide a forum and resource for Muslim physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals. Promote a greater awareness of medical ethics and values from an Islamic perspective, provide humanitarian and medical relief, and to be an advocate in health care policy.

"If anyone has saved one life it is as if he saved the whole of mankind."

Quran 5:32



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These interreligious initiatives have helped break down barriers of misunderstanding, formed genuine partnerships of faith and ethics, and established a platform to advocate for social justice issues for the common good.

We aim to work together to fight Islamophobia and share knowledge about the true teachings and understanding of our religion in all sectors.

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