

MMCC

2017-2018 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 nonprofits, 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 Oudhiya/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 and grants.

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, Inshallah (as God wills).

## Board of Directors

Muzammil Ahmed, <i>Chair</i>	Mamdouh Abdulrazzak	Ismael Basha	Fatima Salman
Mahmoud Al-Hadidi, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Kassem Ali	Mustapha Elturk	Misbah Shahid
Nurah Petross, <i>Secretary</i>	Mahdi Ali	Iltefat Hamzavi	Evot'e Seifullah Shakur
Imam Mustapha El-Turk, <i>Chair of Imam's Council</i>	Shereef Akeel	Arif Huskic	Mitchell Shamsuddin
	Afrah Almasmary	Asim Khan	Abu Bakr Sheikh
	Fawaz Ahmed	Mikhail Mohammed	Irfan Shuttari
	Mark Crain	Firas Nashef	Nabil Suliman
	Davine-El Amin	Samer Nasry	Jukaku Tayeb
	Samir Al-Hadidi	Moussa Niang	Waheed Zaman
	Suehaila Amen	Chakrapani Ranganathan	Catherine Ziyad
	Mouhib Ayas	Wasim Rathur	

## Community Advisory Council

Fatina Abdrabbah	Ghalib Begg	Iffa Kazi	Mohammed Saleem
Haaris Ahmed	Chris Blauvelt	Arfaat Khan	Gigi Salka
Erica Ahmed	Robert Bruttell	Nargis Khan	Thasin Sardar
Shafi Ahmed	Faisal Chaudhry	Saeed Khan	Jawad Shah
Adil Akhtar	Abdullah El-Amin	Yasser Khan	Hassan Sheikh
Eide Alawan	Dima El Gamal	Farhan Latif	Sumaiya Ahmed Sheikh
Eide Alawan Jr.	Mostafa ElSayed	Asad Malik	Zahid Sheikh
Juman Alomary	Sharif Gindy	Asif Malik	Kashif Siddiqui
William Antoun	Yusuf Hai	Saba Maroof	Nadeem Siddiqui
Jawad Arshad	Nawal Hamadeh	Erum Mohiuddin	Steve Spreitzer
Tim Atallah	Sally Howell	Syed Mohiuddin	Shamsuddin Nauman Syed
Kenan Basha	Amina Iqbal	Sufian Nabhan	Rashida Tlaib
Yahya Basha	Muhammad Islam	Halim Naeem	Imam Dawud Walid
Tarek Baydoun	Razi Jafri	Fayrouz Saad	Serene Zeni
Nadia Bazzy	Muna Jondy	Eric Sabree	
Najah Bazzy	Abdel-Majed Katranji	Quaid Saifee	



Assalamu Alaikum, Greeting of Peace!

On behalf of the Michigan Muslim Community Council, thank you for your support and prayers over the past year. Our vision is simple: We seek to elevate the Michigan Muslim community to become valued and active partners in making Michigan a great place for all. We do this by mobilizing, coordinating and convening our community in areas where we can have the greatest impact, using the principles of collaboration and inclusion.

This has been a trying year for us all, as fear, misinformation and bigotry are at an all time high in our country. There are so many vulnerable populations at risk: the poor, people of color, ethnic minorities, women, people with disabilities, refugees, union workers, immigrants. We here at the Michigan Muslim Community Council seek to preserve the ideals that make America so special: all Americans should have the opportunity to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.



Our work would not be possible without your support. We appreciate the time and resources our board members, advisors 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 is 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 and 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.

We are here to celebrate our progress, our heroes and friends, and to brace for the challenges ahead.

This moment is historical.

Join us.

**Muzammil Ahmed**  
Chairperson, MMCC





As-Salaamu 'Alaikum and Good Evening Dear Friends,

We have seen many unexpected and emotional events over the past year. Our faith, convictions, and friendships have been tested in many ways. Your support for the Michigan Muslim Community Council this evening is a reassurance of the effectiveness of communication, cooperation, and coalition-building.

Please accept my humble welcome and thanks.

**Imam Mika'il Saadiq**  
Outreach Director



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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 31st Annual Unity Banquet.

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.



In my current position, I work with the Board of Directors and Staff in executing the mission and vision of MMCC, and in particular, I ensure that the various projects and obligations of MMCC are being successfully completed.

I am excited to spearhead initiatives to mobilize youth and connect MMCC with other interfaith organizations. I also hope to use my skills to lead efforts to grow membership and increase the organization's visibility and impact. I am elated to be able serve my community through my role here at MMCC 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,

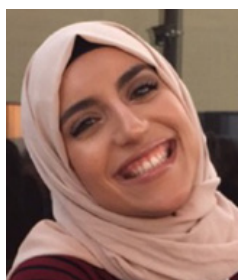
**Shereen Abunada**  
Director of Operations



## Our Staff



**Saadia Ahmed** is a graduate from Wayne State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology. She has helped out and volunteered with different Muslim organizations such as MIST, MMYC and ISNA to name a few. She hopes that her background in anthropology can help bring together the various cultures and communities of Michigan. By joining MMCC, Saadia wishes to work closely with not only the great people and leaders of the Muslim Community, but of those of different faiths as well. Saadia is excited to work with MMCC, and looks forward to all the good that will come out from the dedication and hard work of its members.



**Jenin Sabbah** is a graduate from Wayne State University with a degree in Global Supply Chain Management. She is currently a Juris Doctorate Candidate at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law for the Class of 2019. As Youth Council Director, Jenin intends on providing a platform for expression for the youth through the many volunteer and networking opportunities, and youth Qiyams/Islamic lectures she will be organizing. She wants to focus on the quality of the events, in order for the youth to learn important principles, because they will ultimately be the next generation of leaders inshaAllah. When Jenin is not working or studying, she is spending time with her family and friends, staying active, and keeping up to date with fashion. She loves learning about her Deen, and as Youth Council Director, she intends on incorporating everything she learns every step of the way to benefit the youth and the community inshaAllah. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) led an

incredible example of how we should value time and never waste it as a Muslim Ummah, and that has taught Jenin how to effectively utilize her time with the goal of ultimately making a difference inshaAllah.



**Mariam Sharaf** is a graduate from Wayne State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Food Science. She has worked with various nonprofits in the metro Detroit area. She sparked a real interest in the healthcare field and working with the community. She is excited to see what she can contribute to the organization.



**Sehrish Hussain** is a Senior in high school at the Utica Academy for International Studies, and is deeply fascinated with the Marketing and Communications aspect of organizations that work to promote goodness in the community. Her love for creativity and art emanates in her work designing flyers for events and creating inspirational reminders. She is always looking for more challenges and outreach opportunities that will not only spark her interests, but also give back to the community. With initiating her school's Muslims Students Association, contributing as President of the National Art Honor Society, working as head of committee on her student council's Marketing and Communication, and investing in Amnesty International she is quickly finding her path in being a successful and knowledgeable communicator with her community's best interest at heart. She has learned tremendously from being a leader in her school and community—realizing her strengths and limitations by constantly reflecting upon her actions. With leadership roles, comes great responsibility and sometimes that responsibility can be daunting at times; however, her being a leader with the best intentions at heart for others and the good company that surrounds and motivates her will always outweigh the potential obstacles in her path. She is ecstatic to continue her journey by applying her assets to MMCC.



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

November 5, 2017



Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 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](http://www.michigan.gov)

## Keynote Speaker

### Farhana Khera

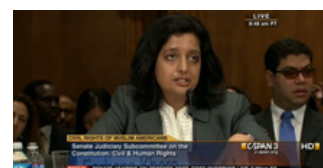
Farhana Khera is the first executive director of Muslim Advocates. Prior to joining Muslim Advocates in 2005, Ms. Khera was Counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Property Rights. In the Senate, she worked for six years directly for Senator Russell D. Feingold (D-WI), the Chairman of the Constitution Subcommittee. Ms. Khera focused substantially on the Patriot Act, racial and religious profiling, and other civil liberties issues raised by the government's anti-terrorism policies after September 11, 2001. She was also the Senator's lead staff member developing anti-racial profiling legislation and organizing subcommittee hearings on racial profiling. Ms. Khera wrote the first drafts of the End Racial Profiling Act and organized the first ever Congressional hearing on racial profiling.

Prior to her service with the Senate Judiciary Committee, Ms. Khera was an associate with Hogan & Hartson, specializing in commercial and administrative litigation. She also worked with Ross, Dixon & Masback, serving as the lead associate on several pro bono employment discrimination cases, which resulted in the firm being honored with the Outstanding Achievement Award by the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs.

Ms. Khera has been honored by the Auburn Theological Seminary with its Lives of Commitment Award, along with Kathleen Kennedy Townsend and Barbara Friedman. She has also been recognized by Islamica Magazine as one of "10 Young Muslim Visionaries" for leadership, innovative approaches, and "a level of success that bodes well for America." Because of her leadership in civil rights, the White House asked Ms. Khera to facilitate the first and only meeting between Muslim community advocates with President Obama.

Ms. Khera has written an op-ed in the Washington Post on hate crime law, and has been quoted or profiled in numerous publications including The New York Times, Associated Press, Wall Street Journal, and the Los Angeles Times. Ms. Khera has also made numerous appearances to discuss civil rights issues on national televised news, including CNN, MSNBC and the Charlie Rose Show.

Ms. Khera received her B.A. with honors in Political Science and Economics from Wellesley College and her J.D. from Cornell Law School. At Wellesley, she served as president of the student body and co-founded the first Muslim student organization, al-Muslimat ("The Muslim Women"). At Cornell, Ms. Khera was a finalist in the law school's annual Cuccia Cup Moot Court Competition and was an editor of the Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy.



## Emcee

### Suehaila Amen

Suehaila Amen is the Director of Outreach and Educational Programs for HYPE Athletics Community, a Michigan non profit organization serving over 15,000 youth in metro Detroit, annually. Her efforts transcend geographical, cultural, religious, and educational boundaries, working to build relationships and bridges of understanding with foreign governments, academic institutions, and grassroots communities.

An active leader in metro Detroit, she faces challenges head on, overcoming obstacles, allowing her global experiences to pave the way for advancement. She works unrelentingly on a number of community programs which enable students to foster learning, social justice and community empowerment. For over 20 years, she has volunteered with various local and national organizations, law enforcement agencies, and task force initiatives, focusing on issues concerning disenfranchisement of minority youth, substance abuse, domestic violence, and education. She has traveled on numerous global public diplomacy missions, representing the USA, to facilitate meetings, trainings, and discuss strategies on community engagement, counterterrorism and combating violent extremism efforts, and community building.

Amen speaks nationally and internationally on growing up Arab and Muslim American post-9/11, community building, leadership and faith in service work and how to work collectively, as a unified voice for change. She and her family were featured on TLC's All-American Muslim reality show in 2011-12.





# Awards

## *Interfaith Partner Award*

### Central United Methodist Church

Central United Methodist Church, the first Protestant congregation in Michigan, is a Reconciling Congregation that welcomes all people regardless of economic status, race, gender identification, or sexuality. The church was organized in 1810, they celebrated their bicentennial in 2010!

They are currently Celebrating 150 Years of Sanctuary. Their mission statement states: "We envision Central as a vital, diverse river of life nurtured by the light of Christ, rooted deeply in and living the scripture, a holy presence in the center of Detroit, transforming individuals, institutions and the world, advocating peace and justice in all we do."

Central members were involved in the movement to end capital punishment in Michigan in the early-1800s. Central was one of the first truly integrated congregations in the Detroit area and has long been involved in the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. often preached at Central and was offered Central's pastorate but declined due to his busy schedule.

Central is often the gathering place for rallies and marches for peace and social justice, and its pastors and congregants have even been arrested for civil disobedience in protest of injustice. They also help prevent home foreclosures and have a long history of supporting labor unions. They have helped start interfaith dialogue and have had both imams and rabbis preach from their pulpit.

Reverend Pastor Ed Rowe, Reverend Pastor Jill Zundel and the Central United Methodist Church have been at the forefront of social justice issues whether it be the water shutoffs, immigration rights, Islamophobia, or foreclosures. Central United Methodist and its pastors have been there partnering with every organization including Muslim Organizations at the peak of issues related to 9/11, backlashes during terrorist attacks, islamophobe Terry Jones visit and the recent immigration issues including the recent Executive Orders.

The church is now facing pressure from developers that are causing issues with access to the Church. They have been a source of food and shelter for the local underserved population for decades.

The Central United Methodist Church has had a decades long relationship with the Michigan Muslim Community though working with various mosques, the Michigan Muslim Community Council, and its predecessor, the Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan. They have worked with the Muslim community hand in hand in organizing community service and advocacy projects across Metro Detroit, and the Muslim community of Michigan is proud to award them the Interfaith Partner Award.



# Awards

## Syed Salman Community Service Award

### Gleaners Food Bank

Headquartered in Detroit, Gleaners Food Bank operates five distribution centers in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties and provides food to 534 partner soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters and other agencies throughout southeastern Michigan. Gleaners collects nearly 39 million pounds of food a year and distributes 89,000 meals each day including providing nourishing food and nutrition education to 171,000 children a year.

Gleaners was one of the first food banks established in the United States. Not only has Gleaners been a leading organization fighting hunger in the community, Gleaners has been a valuable partner to MMCC in executing their community service projects for many years.

MMCC and Gleaners partner together to fight hunger during Ramadan during the Ramadan Fight Against Hunger. They help collect food from dozens of sites at various mosques, and have allowed hundreds of volunteers over the year to help them in their warehouses collect, package, and distribute food to those less fortunate in Metro Detroit. Over 100,000 pounds of food was collected and distributed by MMCC last Ramadan and Gleaners played a critical part. .

Gleaners has also helps MMCC fulfill the community obligation of helping with the annual sacrifice of meat during the holiday of Eid al-Adha. Gleaners works closely with MMCC to store and distribute meat collected from all the MMCC Oudhia/Qurbani project every year. Gleaners kindly welcomes MMCC volunteers and assists them in loading the thousands of pounds of meat onto the Gleaners trucks and their staff volunteers to drive and distribute the meat to centers all over the Metro Detroit area. This year, over 40,000 lbs of meat was distributed with Gleaners help.

MMCC is proud to award the Gleaners team, the Syed Salman Community Service Award this year!





# Awards

## Fairness in Media Award

### WXYZ- Simon Shaykhet



WXYZ Detroit has long made an effort to highlight the diversity in Metro Detroit and has participated in meetings with Muslim leaders in the past year to discuss issues pertinent to the community. As a result of these meetings, the producers at WXYZ realized the problem that many people in Michigan did not know a Michigan Muslim.

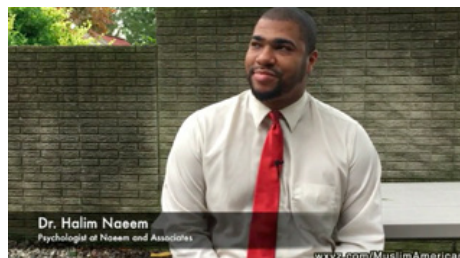
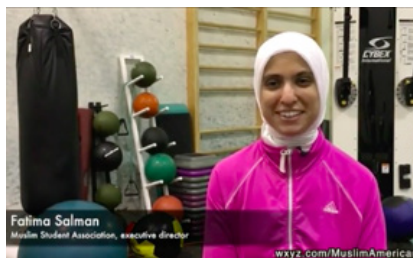
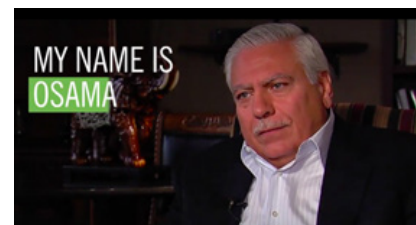
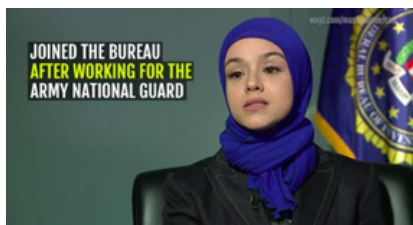


To address this issue, WXYZ most recently featured Muslim Americans in a series of videos called Muslim American: Inside a Growing Michigan Community where 10 Michigan Muslims were interviewed and highlighted and in the process, hundreds of thousands of people learned about the Muslim community. The series shed light on the leaders in the Muslim community, provided background on Islam and helped to dispel misconceptions about Islam and Muslims. WXYZ and its journalists, in particular Simon Shaykhet, should be commended for helping to dispel stereotypes and myths.

Simon Shaykhet is a native Detroiters who has worked on both sides of the camera. Most recently, he was the spokesperson and public affairs specialist for the Detroit Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, coordinating the release of information related to hundreds of cases including; the Detroit city hall corruption scandal, the Christmas day bomber, and the FBI search for Jimmy Hoffa.

"I am thrilled to once again bring you the stories that make a difference," said Simon Shaykhet. "Taking action and fighting for your rights is something that I look forward to doing each and every day in my reporting. I am honored to be able to stand up for Metro Detroiters and continue to serve the community I call home."

The Michigan Muslim Community Council is honored to present WXYZ Detroit and Simon Shaykhet with the 2017 Fairness in Media Award.

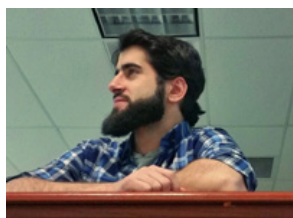




# Youth Leadership Awards



**Hana Alasry** is a community youth organizer in the metro-Detroit, Michigan area. Hana's aim in her work is to develop Muslim youth into socially conscious organizers who balance activism with spiritual awareness and action. She works most heavily with the Detroit chapter of Muslim American Society. As part of MAS she's coordinated the Detroit Minds and Hearts fellowship, ran her own workshop series called TANG, worked on tarbiya and curriculum development and is on the strategic planning team. She's also served two years on her MSA board, bringing in a new dynamic of critically conscious and goal-oriented programming. She spent the past few months working with Citizen Detroit, an organization that aims to educate Detroit residents on relevant political issues. She currently works with MAS nationally to develop a social justice movement Muslim workers across the country. She also works in an advising role for Muslim community organizations and MAS chapters across the country.



**Ammar Al-Qouqa** has been actively promoting growth in many communities over the past few years. Starting as the Ameer of Qabeelah Ittihaad Michigan, he helped to organize many successful seminars. He also served on the Wayne State MSA board and is actively involved in the campus community. Currently he is the youth director at the Muslim Unity Center and has implemented a wide variety of programs to benefit the youth. He is also under the tutelage of Shaykh Al-Masmari and pursuing knowledge through various avenues.



**Khodr Farhat** is a 24-year-old student and advocate for individuals with disabilities. He pursued his high school diploma from Lincoln Park High School. Then, he pursued his Associate Degree from Henry Ford College specializing in the field of Special Education. Currently, Farhat is a senior at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, where he is pursuing his bachelors degree in political science. Farhat is very active in his community. He attends many events, as well as he speaks at schools, colleges, universities and various other functions. His speaking touches on the themes of motivation, education and inspiration. Farhat does draw this attitude from his personal story with blindness. He was born blind in Beirut, Lebanon. He encountered many challenges during his childhood. In 2009, Farhat and his family immigrated to America. At that time, Farhat did not know any English or anything related to the school system. Yet, he persevered until he was able to overcome all of the obstacles. Farhat is a Difference Maker at the University of Michigan, a disability advocacy champion awardee and a voice for the voiceless like what so many people love to call him. He works his best to make sure that everyone is treated with respect and equality. Farhat lives by a unique tag and philosophy, his idol and model, "I will reach for the stars that I can not see!"



**Khadega Mohammed** is an eighteen year old Sudanese-American spoken word artist and community activist. Born in Sudan and raised in Saudi Arabia, her experiences with racism and discrimination pushed her to speak up against oppression and bigotry of all forms. Being a Black, Muslim woman in America has further pushed her to be outspoken and unapologetic about her identity as a way to push back against hate. Khadega first began her spoken word career competing in MIST (Muslim Interscholastic Tournament) in 2014, then went on to perform locally and nationally. This is where she first found her passion for spoken word poetry. Throughout her high school years, Khadega has performed in various cities such as Chicago at the MAS-ICNA Convention, in Washington D.C at Georgetown University, and in Jerusalem, where she performed in Arabic. Khadega is currently a first year student at Wayne State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in public health, and later hopes to attend law school. She is actively involved in community organization, most recently in Southwest Detroit where she is an intern with One Michigan for Immigrant Rights. Khadega hopes to one day utilize her spoken word poetry to shed light on issues, as well as to be a voice for minorities in America.



**Adam Siddiqui** is a research and teaching assistant at the University of Michigan. He has volunteered and worked with several Muslim organizations in Southeast Michigan, including: the Muslim Community Mosque (MCM), annual Day of Dignity, and the Michigan Muslim Youth Council (MMYC). He is also a member of the MMCC Youth Council.



## Past Award Recipients

### FAIRNESS AND MEDIA AWARD

Jack Lessenberry	David Crumm
Craig Fahle	Grace Gilchrist
Carol Cain	Gregg Kruppa
Stephen Henderson	Sarah Hulett
Joseph Grimm	James Ricci
Richard Homberg	

### SYED SALMAN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Take on Hate  
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

Detroit Interfaith Outreach network (DION)  
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 Gepford  
Late Rev. Felix Lorenz

# IMPACT REPORT

## MOBILIZING THE COMMUNITY



- Muslim Capitol Day encourages the community to get involved in the political process and make their **voices heard** on issues pertinent to the community.
- Over **250 attendees** from across Michigan met with elected officials from both parties and heard from leaders about the importance of organizing and advocacy.
- Led a number of protests including one earlier this year at the DTW Airport which brought together **thousands** to protest the Executive Order.

## CONVENING AND UNIFYING



- Our annual Unity Banquet has been called the "**most diverse**" in Michigan, attracts over **600 guests** and brings together a dynamic group of individuals including elected officials, professionals, community leaders, activists, media, college students and **more!**
- We further work to convene the community by compiling all events happening in our **community calendar** and **weekly newsletters!**

## GIVING BACK



- **Days of Ihsan** or Excellence, spanning throughout December brings out hundreds of volunteers to give back at over **40 different sites** in Metro Detroit
- Ramadan Fight Against Hunger campaign, over **500 volunteers** helped to collect and distribute over **150,000 pounds** of food and impacted more than **25,000 lives** in the Metro Detroit area
- Oudhiya/Qurbani program honors the sacrifices of Prophet Abraham and we raise funds to distribute over **65,000 pounds** of meat to those in need.

## BUILDING ALLIANCES



- One of our main missions is to **build bridges** and **connect** with allies in the community.
- We are proud supporters and members of interfaith coalitions and diversity roundtables which make it their mission to **foster tolerance** and **understanding**.
- We regularly attend meetings which bring together organization leaders, media, government, and law enforcement agencies to discuss the **needs** of the community

WEBSITE:

[www.mimuslimcouncil.org](http://www.mimuslimcouncil.org)



Michigan Muslim  
Community Council



@mimuslimcouncil



## 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

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## Imam's Council

The Imam's Council of the MMCC is a council of more than 30 Imams representing Islamic Centers in Southeast Michigan. The Imams meet monthly to discuss the needs of the Muslim Community as well as the community at large. They represent all the major Muslim sects, both Sunni and Shia, and multiple ethnicities, races and hometowns in Michigan. These Imams created the historic Code of Honor in 2007, outlining the mutual respect that all Muslims, regardless of sect or ethnicity, must have for each other, and the imperative to work together out of mutual love of God and his Prophet.

The Imam's Council welcomes questions and comments from the community at large. They meet regularly with federal, state and local officials. They also conduct ongoing training workshops, including training for marriage counselling, domestic violence identification, substance abuse training, mental health first aid and more.

The current chairs of the council are Imam Mustapha Elturk and Imam Mohammed Elahi.

# MMCC Year in Review



MMCC Board members and staff pose for a group photo at the end of the dinner

## Unity Banquet

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



MMCC staff addressing the crowd and welcoming them



Omar Aburashed rapping during the entertainment portion of the event



Keynote speaker Imam Khalid Latif addressing the crowd in a riveting speech



Young Quran student reciting verses of the Quran at the beginning of the dinner



Executive Director Imam Mohamed Almasmari greeting guests and members of Imam's Council



2016 Syed Salman Community Service Award recipient Take on Hate team accepting their award



2016 Interfaith Partner Awardee DION accepting their award from MMCC Board members



2016 Fairness in Media Award recipient Jack Lessenberry accepts his award from MMCC board members



# MMCC Year in Review

## Michigan Muslim Capitol Day 2017



### Highlights

- Muslim Capitol Day encourages the community to get involved in the political process and make their voices heard on issues pertinent to the community.
- Over 250 attendees from across Michigan met with elected officials from both parties and heard from leaders about the importance of organizing and advocacy.





# MMCC Year in Review

## Youth Council

The MMCC Youth Council consists of Muslim Youth from various communities in Michigan working together to accomplish the following goals:

- To break ethnic and cultural barriers by having unified events with different communities every semester.
- To share speakers, programs and experiences.
- To share community news and events; and to make an effort to attend events planned by other communities.

2017 events featured quarterly Qiyams held at mosques around the Metro Detroit area, and a MSA Leadership retreat which brought in renowned speakers Mohamed Almathil and Farhan Latif to lecture to MSA members on pertinent topics during a 2 day intensive training session.





# MMCC Year in Review

## Protests/Vigils

MMCC mobilizes the community to get engaged and advocate for the rights of all Americans. We led a number of protests including one earlier this year at the DTW Airport which brought together thousands to protest the Executive Order.





# MMCC Year in Review

## Black History Month “We Don’t Want Them” Series



- Partnered with The Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion to put on a series of events featuring a travelling exhibit showcasing the history of the African American housing struggle.
- Held events in 8 different mosques in the Metro Detroit Area



## A Shared Future Lecture Series

- Partnered with the JCRC/AJC and Professors Saeed Khan and Howard Lupovitch of Wayne State University to put on a series of lectures and discussions on American Xenophobia: Antisemitism and Islamophobia.
- The 3 part lecture series was well attended by members of the diverse Interfaith community and featured lively discussions as well as engaged participation from the audience



Join the Jewish Community Relations Council/AJC and the Michigan Muslim Community Council for a special dialogue between Wayne State University Professors Howard Lupovitch and Saeed Khan

**A Shared Future: American Xenophobia – Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia**

Presented on the following dates at these three venues:

February 15, 2017 7 p.m.	March 1, 2017 7 p.m.	March 22, 2017 7 p.m.
The Muslim Unity Center 1830 Square Lake Road Bloomfield Hills	Adat Shalom Synagogue 29901 Middlebelt Road Farmington Hills	Wayne State University Community Room 3210 David Adamany Undergraduate Library 5150 Anthony Wayne Dr. Detroit

Each program will be followed by a dessert reception • No Charge  
Advance registration is required | Register at: [asharedfuture.eventbrite.com](http://asharedfuture.eventbrite.com)  
For additional information contact Corey Young, [young@jimd.org](mailto:young@jimd.org).  
A Shared Future is generously sponsored by the Rivitz Foundation

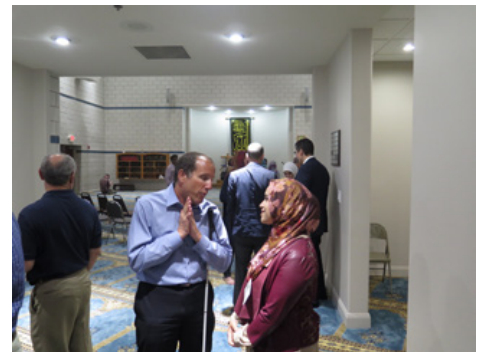




# MMCC Year in Review

## Interfaith Iftar

- MMCC Partnered with The Muslim Unity Center, Interfaith Leadership Council, Jewish Community Relations Council, Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom, and WISDOM to put on an Interfaith Iftar on June 13th 2017.
- An evening of faith, friendship and food, the inaugural Interfaith Iftar brought more than 200 participants of many religions together to break bread and share the experience of this holy ritual.
- Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein who offered an emotional speech encouraging participants to appreciate and learn from their neighbors, and to have pride in their traditions.

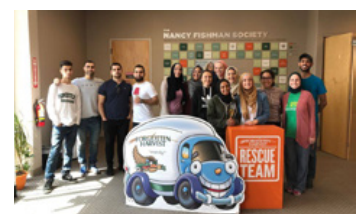




# MMCC Year in Review: Social Service Activities

## Ramadan Fight Against Hunger

Ramadan Fight Against Hunger campaign, over 500 volunteers helped to collect and distribute over 150,000 pounds of food and impacted more than 25,000 lives in the Metro Detroit area

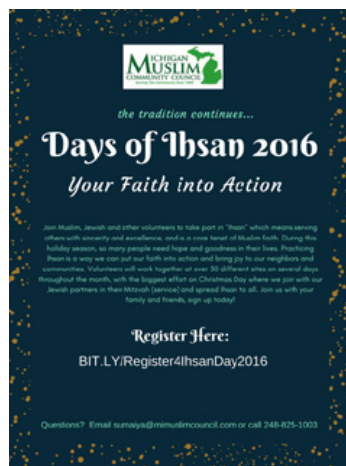




# MMCC Year in Review: Social Service Activities

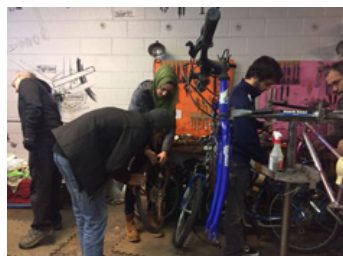
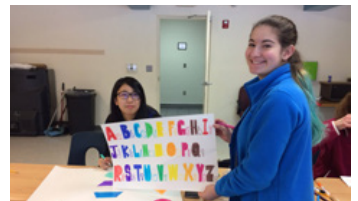
## Muslim Foster Kids Project

Partnered with Muslim Foster Care Association to raise \$11,600 for Ramadan and Eid Gift Packages for Muslim Foster children in Metro Detroit.



## Days of Ihsan

Days of Ihsan or Excellence, spanning throughout December brings out hundreds of volunteers to give back at over 40 different sites in Metro Detroit





# MMCC Year in Review: Social Service Activities

## Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts

- Thanks to the generosity of our board members, MMCC was able to be on the ground in Houston and provide meals to over 2000 Hurricane Harvey victims and first responders.
- Vice-chairman Dr. Mahmoud Al-Hadidi was key in spearheading the efforts to ensure MMCC and the Muslim Unity Center could offer a warm meal to the families in need.



## Ramadan Fundraiser

MMCC Board members and community members gathered to enjoy an Iftar together and hear passionate speeches by community leaders and the staff about the accomplishments, goals, and vision of MMCC.





# MMCC Year in Review: Social Service Activities

## Oudhiya/Qurbani

Oudhiya/Qurbani program honors the sacrifices of Prophet Abraham and we partner with Mercy-USA for Aid and Development, Muslim Family Services (MFS) and Islamic Relief USA to raise funds and with the help of our incredible volunteers we distribute over 30,000 lbs of meat to people in need across Metro Detroit.



## Schulze Academy Makeover

- On Monday, April 3, students at Schulze Academy in Detroit got a terrific surprise. The school, which, like so many Detroit Public Schools buildings, has been descending into decrepitude due to lack of maintenance and repair funds, got a huge dose of interfaith love and a new coat of paint over the preceding weekend.
- MMCC along with a coalition of interfaith partners showed up in force to organize the school library, clean and paint designated areas in the school, and work on the school's grounds.





# Detroit Free Press

## Jews, Muslims in metro Detroit address hate crimes: 'It's getting scary'

Niraj Warikoo, Oct. 5, 2017

Muslim and Jewish leaders gathered Tuesday in metro Detroit to find ways to work together amid growing concern about hate crimes and cultural bias.

Leaders with the National Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council visited Detroit and Dearborn, meeting with Arab Americans, African Americans, and other communities to find out how to better forge connections.

"The objective is to get the two communities together with one voice," said Farooq Kathwari, CEO of Ethan Allen Furniture and co-chair of the Muslim-Jewish council along with Stanley Bergman, CEO of Henry Schein. "The issue of hate crimes is something that really is an issue that affects both the Muslim communities and the Jewish communities. It's important we get the message across."

Kathwari and Bergman have met with members of Congress and Justice Dept. officials urging them to address hate crimes and strengthen laws against them.

"There is anxiety," Bergman said. "You can't possibly avoid being anxious if you're Jewish and you go to a synagogue and you see policemen guarding the synagogue. This was not the case in America not so long ago. In Manhattan where I live, there are policemen outside the synagogue on Jewish holidays. And if you're Muslim, you and your kids get threats at schools and mosques. It's getting scary. There is a heightened concern among people in those communities."

Created last year, the Muslim-Jewish council is supported by the American Jewish Committee and the Islamic



On left is Farooq Kathwari, President and CEO of Ethan Allen Furniture and co-chair of the National Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council, and Stanley Bergman, CEO of Henry Schein, and co-chair of the council. (Photo: Ronald Sachs)

Society of North America. The meetings they held in Detroit on Tuesday were the first outside the New York City area.

They gathered at the Northwestern Activities Center in Detroit to meet with students working on a mosaic with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech and visited the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, a city that is about 40% Muslim.

Metro "Detroit has been a beacon in Muslim-Jewish relations and engagement," Bergman said. "We want to learn what has happened in Detroit."

Kathwari said they're concerned about rising anti-immigrant sentiment.

"America is the land of immigrants," said Kathwari, an immigrant from India. "We all have contributed."

Tuesday's effort was the latest event in which local Muslims and Jews seek to forge ties. In recent years, they have volunteered on Christmas Day to volunteer to help the needy with food preparation and distribution.

The gathering comes at a time of concern in Michigan, which saw a spike in hate crimes after the November election, state officials have said. Michigan had the highest number of hate crimes in the Midwest, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Contact Niraj Warikoo: [nwarikoo@freepress.com](mailto:nwarikoo@freepress.com) or 313-223-4792. Follow him on Twitter @nwarikoo.

# Why This Woman Believes That Food Can Help Bring America Together

**Woman'sDay**

During the Islamic holy month, a Muslim community in Detroit provides for the hungry.

Hendley Badcock • Sep 27, 2017

Outside a Detroit mosque one night last summer, the scent of cumin and turmeric wafted through the air as volunteers served a long-awaited meal to members of the congregation who were observing Ramadan, the Islamic holy month. Each day, in one of Islam's most important practices, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. Also in attendance were needy members of the community who had been invited to join them for a free meal.

"Fasting helps Muslims understand the hunger that far too many people feel daily," says Nausheen Razvi, former coordinator of Ramadan Fight Against Hunger (RFAH), an annual food campaign that has benefited the poor in metro Detroit during the 29- or 30-day observation since 2012.

In addition to the free dinners offered at various mosques throughout Ramadan, Nausheen organizes the collection of shelf-stable food and its delivery to impoverished families. "Regardless of religion, ethnicity or socioeconomic status, food has a way of bringing us together," she says.

Nausheen, 38, grew up in India, where her parents were always offering support to friends, neighbors and strangers in need. "It was their way of telling us, 'You have all of this; now think about others who have less than you.'"

As an adult, Nausheen moved to the U.S., married a Michigan native and later settled in Canton, MI. She has volunteered nearby for over a decade, chiefly through the Michigan Muslim Community Council, a group connecting Muslims through service.

In 2015, she was hired as its administrative director to run several events, including RFAH. That meant mobilizing volunteers, teaming up with local humanitarian groups and food banks, assigning donation sites and making deliveries to recipients.



*Courtesy Christina Rountree*

Last year, Nausheen oversaw more than 400 volunteers and partnered with 21 local organizations to gather, sort, pack and distribute 50 tons of food. Though Nausheen stepped down from her post in March, she continues to help with RFAH as an advisory council member.

Young adults often volunteer with RFAH as a way to keep busy during the long month of fasting. Last year Mariam Sharaf, then a rising college senior, began sorting donations at food pantries after hearing about the effort from her mother. "Nausheen is a really good role model," Mariam says. "She's always trying to motivate younger kids to get involved."

Nausheen's children, who are 16, 11 and 6, also lend a hand at RFAH events. Nausheen hopes that service gives them the same sense of purpose it's given her. "The things you do for yourself, they're gone when you're gone," she says. "But the things you do for others become your legacy."



*Over 400 volunteers helped RFAH in 2016.  
Courtesy Michigan Muslim Community Council*



*Ramadan is all about giving, says Nausheen.  
Courtesy Christina Rountree*



# The Detroit News

## Muslims, Jews gather in Metro Detroit to forge bonds

Mark Hicks • Oct. 3, 2017

As hate crimes targeting Muslims and Jews rise across the United States, according to advocacy groups, the key to sparking change in Metro Detroit lies in forging ties and fighting back, activists said Tuesday.

"You've got to speak up," said Farooq Kathwari, president/CEO of Ethan Allen Interiors and co-chair of the national Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council. "Silence is not a good option."

That was the message leaders of the Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council shared with religious and community leaders during a town hall in Dearborn on Tuesday.

The invitation-only gathering at The Henry hotel coordinated by the Michigan Muslim Community Council and the Jewish Community Relations Council/AJC of Detroit, drew more than 150 from synagogues and mosques as well as community groups.

It capped a day of events for the council, which launched last year and unites business, political and religious leaders to advocate for common concerns, on the group's first visit to Metro Detroit. Members earlier joined Jewish and Muslim community leaders, visited the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn as well as attended a mosaic project unveiling at Detroit's Northwest Activities Center.

Since its founding last fall, the panel has met with senior officials in the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and called for passage of the bipartisan Protecting Religiously Affiliated Institutions Act.

"As a council, we're here to work together to combat hate crimes and put forward the reality of America and interfaith collaboration," board member Arsalan Suleman, former U.S. Special Envoy to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, told the gathering.

The council wants to curb incidents such as attacks or threats against houses of worship such as synagogues or mosques.

The Anti-Defamation League found that anti-Semitic incidents in the United States spiked 86 percent in the first quarter of 2017. The group also noted a spate of similar



Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council member Raheemah Abdelaleem, left, addresses the crowd as co-chairs Stanley Bergman, center, and Farooq Kathwari, right, listen. Abdelaleem is senior associate general council in the executive office of the president of the council. (Photo: Todd McInturf / The Detroit News)



Artists Dani Katsir, left, 71, of West Bloomfield, and Gail Rosenbloom Kaplan, 63, of Farmington Hills, carry their mosaic through the lobby to its display location on Tuesday at the Northwest Activities Center in northwest Detroit. (Photo: Todd McInturf / The Detroit News)

acts across the nation after the Charlottesville, Virginia, white nationalist rally in August that led to violent clashes.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations national headquarters in Washington, D.C., has noted "an unprecedented spike in hate incidents targeting Muslims and other minority groups" since the 2016 presidential election.

The current climate underscores the

importance of the council's push and why members are moving to spread the word "to ensure there's local engagement to draw attention to the sad increase in hate crimes," said council co-chair Stanley Bergman, CEO of health care product provider Henry Schein.

"It is important to make sure that local politicians understand us so that ultimately people in Washington will hear about the concerns the local community has. We need to do something and we need to use our platform to make sure the American people understand the impact. If you do not arrest the hate crimes, we have a real challenge in the United States."

The council was familiar with the strong interfaith collaborations in Metro Detroit and reached out, said David Kurzman, executive director of the JCRC/AJC. Tuesday's visit only underscores the success of local initiatives such as Mitzvah Day, through which Jews and Muslims volunteer in place of their Christian neighbors on Christmas Day, he said.

"There could be things we're doing here in Detroit that leaders in other communities want to take on there, and there are certainly things the council are doing that we could learn from and potentially implement here," Kurzman said.

Town hall participants asked about how to address challenges locally on issues ranging from enhancing interfaith work to reaching out to students on college campuses.

The visit inspired Noura Ali, a University of Michigan-Dearborn student, to explore connecting with other peers to create a Muslim-Jewish effort. She also was encouraged by the council's work.

"With this council, I definitely see bounds being made that are going to stir up American politics," she said.

The focus on issues affecting Muslims and Jews "shows a lot of the commonalities in both communities," said Shaffwan Ahmed, a Detroit revitalization fellow who has been active in interfaith and advocacy efforts. "We all have a responsibility in this to make a difference."

# OAKLAND PRESS

## Michigan Muslims celebrate Eid Al-Adha with service, prayer

By Nicole Robertson, The Oakland Press • 08/31/2017

Today, Michigan Muslims celebrate the most holy day of the Islamic calendar, Eid al-Adha.

The holiday, which begins at sundown on Thursday, Aug. 31, and ends at sundown Friday, Sept. 1, marks completion of the annual Hajj (pilgrimage) to Mecca, which more than 1,000 Michigan residents are expected to perform, according to the Michigan Muslim Community Council in Royal Oak.

Friday begins with prayer and continues with the sacrifice feast, which commemorates the Prophet Abraham's devotion to God. In the Bible story, God told Abraham to sacrifice his son, Ismaeel, to prove his obedience. When it was clear that Abraham intended to follow God's command, the Lord sent angel Gabriel to replace the son with a ram.

Therefore, each year at Eid, Muslims butcher an animal and divide the meat in thirds, keeping one-third for family and distributing the remaining thirds to friends and neighbors and to disadvantaged people.

"It's like Christmas," said Shereen Abunada, director of operations for the Michigan Muslim Community Council in Royal Oak. "Our Muslim community gathers together and we attend prayers in the morning, people get all dressed up, it's very celebratory, there's usually a festival or carnival afterwards."

She says it's a celebration "in remembrance of our faith and what our predecessors sacrificed before us."

In modern society, of course, few have their own animals to sacrifice, so "usually we're not actually going and



*Packaged halal meat is being distributed to families who need it during the Eid celebration of 2016. Courtesy Michigan Muslim Community Council*

doing the sacrificing ourselves," Abunada says. The MMCC is working in partnership with Mercy International, Islamic Relief USA and Gleaners Food Bank. People can donate money online toward the cost of butchering an animal in the proper, halal way, and distribution in the community.

"It is not just distributed to Muslims, but to all who need it in the Detroit Metro area," Abunada says. "We are working with Gleaners to distribute it with their trucks."

Michigan has an estimated 250,000 Muslims. This year, the MMCC expects to distribute about 65,000 pounds of meat to underprivileged families and local food pantries through the next two weeks. Families or agencies requesting boxes of meat should contact MMCC at 248-268-

2766, or [mmcc@mimuslimcouncil.com](mailto:mmcc@mimuslimcouncil.com).

Sacrificing and helping those in need are core beliefs of all Muslims. This year's charity work also includes relief for people in the Hurricane Harvey flood zone around Houston. Fundraising appeals are planned for Eid gatherings and Muslim relief agencies in Michigan are sending volunteers to help with cleanup efforts. You may donate or volunteer at [bit.ly/2wV4PDG](http://bit.ly/2wV4PDG) or [bit.ly/2glkHVf](http://bit.ly/2glkHVf).

For a list of prayer times and locations around Michigan, visit the MMCC website, [mimuslimcouncil.org](http://mimuslimcouncil.org).



# The Detroit News

## Metro Detroit Muslims give back during Ramadan

Mark Hicks • June 9, 2017

To many Muslims, the holy month of Ramadan revolves around charity, selflessness and giving back.

This weekend, Metro Detroiters are building on that theme through a host of events dedicated to helping others.

On Saturday, dozens of volunteers are gathering at Gleaners and Forgotten Harvest to sort and pack food collected for the Ramadan Fight Against Hunger initiative the Michigan Muslim Community Council leads each year. The group expects to garner some 120,000 pounds of food for distribution throughout southeast Michigan.

Interest has risen so much this year that volunteer slots have filled up, said Maisha Rahman, a project coordinator with MMCC.

And at a time when extremist acts abroad — including the recent deadly attacks in Britain — affect public perceptions of Islam, working to help others underscores followers' faith, she added.

"Giving back to the community is a part of our faith that we've always known," Rahman said. "Ramadan is a time for us to reconnect with



*MMCC volunteers worked with Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan in Detroit packing peppers June 3 as part of the annual Ramadan Fight Against Hunger. (Photo: Michigan Muslim Community Council)*

what it means to be a Muslim. Service is at the heart of that."

That tradition informs the Fasting 5K run/walk starting Saturday evening at the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs in Canton Township. It's the third year Metro Detroiters are joining in the multi-city effort to raise money for local and international charities during Ramadan, organizers said.

More than 100 expected participants have raised more than \$14,000 to support both Emgage Michigan, a nonprofit that aims to mobilize Muslim voters, as well as the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

Also Saturday, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's Metro Detroit chapter plans to collect money during a Ramadan open house in Rochester Hills as part of a National Donate a Lunch Day effort headed by the nonprofit Humanity First USA to combat hunger.

Muslims are called to abstain from food for many hours each day during Ramadan, which connects them with the struggles hungry people face throughout the year, said Pervaiz Khan, a volunteer manager with Humanity First USA and a member of the Ahmadiyya group.

Helping others was central to an iftar, or fast-breaking meal, the Islamic Center of America in Dearborn hosted Friday to support refugees resettled in the area.

# Interfaith Iftar

06.28.2017

The Detroit Jewish Community Relations Council/AJC joined with the Michigan Muslim Community Council, the Interfaith Leadership Council and Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom to hold an Interfaith Iftar in June at the Muslim Unity Center in Bloomfield Township. The Iftar is a sacred meal held at sundown daily after fasting during the holy month of Ramadan.

An evening of faith, friendship and food, the inaugural Interfaith Iftar brought more than 200 participants of many religions together to share the experience of this holy ritual. Members of the Muslim community shared the traditions followed during the month of Ramadan and explained the significance of their religious practice. During the program, representatives of several interfaith groups spoke about the importance of building relationships and dispelling negative stereotypes.

Several dignitaries, including Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein, attended. Justice Bernstein encouraged participants to appreciate and learn from their neighbors, and to have pride in their traditions.



*Justice Richard Bernstein offers remarks at the Iftar.*



*Iftar participants visit prior to the program.*



*Dr. Muzammil Ahmed, chair of the Michigan Muslim Community Council, visits with Bryant Frank, past president of AJC Detroit.*



*Saba Maroof and Kate Kurzmam of Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom offer remarks during the program.*



*Fatima Salman and Shereen Abunada, both from the Michigan Muslim Community Council, visit with Jewish Community Relations Council/AJC Officer Erica Peresman, Dr. Rouzana Hares of the Muslim Unity Center and Bob Brutel, chair of the Interfaith Leadership Council, prior to the program.*



# The Detroit News

## Bankole: Muslims are no less Americans

For many American Muslims, since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, being identified as an observer of the religion has become an albatross.

In a nation founded on a creed that all are created equal, Muslims say they have been victims of stereotyping and hate speech while being viewed through a lens that ignores their existence or treats them as “the other,” ignoring, questioning or minimizing their contributions to society.

And the ongoing political bickering about the place of Muslims in America today is even widening the divide.

Take, for example, the diabolical comments reported last week of Jeff Sieting, the Kalkaska village president in northern Michigan, who in a Facebook post called for “every last Muslim” to be killed and then refused to apologize for his comments.

A new study by the Washington-based Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, however, is seeking to counter that divide and the hatred spewed by the Jeff Sietings of the world by spotlighting the contributions of Muslims in Michigan.

The study, titled “Muslims for American Progress,” was launched “to provide a more accurate and dynamic portrayal of Muslim American life, and we do so by focusing specifically on the contributions of Muslims in Michigan,” said Rebecca Karam, principal investigator for the project.

“Coverage of Muslims has largely been determined by security issues and terrorism at the expense of stories about everyday religious and social life and therefore do not accurately portray the lived experiences of Muslim Americans,” she said. “This project begins re-writing these narratives.”

Why Michigan?

“We selected Michigan’s Muslim community to serve as a case study for the rest of the nation, and the findings from this project are in many ways indicative of Muslim contributions across the United States,” Karam explained. The state’s Muslim communities “closely follow national averages in terms of socioeconomic status, ethno-racial diversity, nativity status, and other demographic markers,” she added.

The Pew Research Center “estimates that Muslims comprise approximately 1 percent of the nation’s total population. In Michigan, we estimate that approximately 2.75 percent of the population are Muslim,” she said.

The study examined the roles of Muslims across the following areas: medicine, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), civics and



Muslims are also part of the greater American experience, Thompson writes. (Photo: Max Ortiz / The Detroit News)

democracy, philanthropy and nonprofit; education, economics, arts, entertainment and sports.

“In the field of medicine, for example, Michigan Muslims comprise more than 15 percent of the state’s medical doctors and more than 10 percent of the state’s pharmacists,” Karam said. “What’s more, many of Michigan’s Muslim doctors and nurses use their skills and expertise to remedy injustices by providing charitable medical care to those without insurance.”

The study found that in 2015 alone, Muslims in Michigan gave \$177 million in charity, and donated 1.3 million pounds of food, 14,000 gallons of water and 45,300 articles of clothing. In addition, Muslim household consumer spending that year totaled \$5.5 billion, while Muslim-owned businesses employed an estimated 103,000 workers.

Fatima Salman, a member of the Michigan Muslim Community Council board of directors, welcomed the project as a critical step to begin a dialogue.

“Dialogue building conversations and going out of our comfort zones to meet others of different faiths and races is going to be critical in countering stereotypes,” Salman said. “I can tell you that Muslims sure feel like they are doing a lot to counter these stereotypes.”

“However, we as Americans need to realize that when hatred affects any group of people, it will start affecting other groups as well.”

Salman said it is time for all people of conscience to stand up and speak out against stereotypes that are being propagated.

That is exactly the example that former boxing great Muhammad Ali, widely seen as America’s greatest Muslim ambassador, whom

Nelson Mandela once described as “an inspiration to me, even in prison,” set for many in this nation to follow.

Upon his conversion to Islam decades ago, Ali declared: “I believe in Allah and in peace,” and since then there was never any question that Ali proved that being American and Muslim are not antithetical concepts.

Years later, Ali would go on to be a champion of peace and tolerance, condemning the 2001 terrorist attacks as cruel acts by murderers.

“People say a Muslim caused this destruction. I am angry that the world sees a certain group of Islam followers who caused this destruction, but they are not real Muslims,” Ali told Reader’s Digest magazine at the time.

“They are racist fanatics who call themselves Muslims, permitting this murder of thousands.”

The MAP project is sure to ignite debate about the prism through which Muslims are seen. But let’s hope that the debate helps us separate fact from fiction as Ali sought to do.

Let us also hope that the debate becomes an enlightenment process, not the opposite, because all religions — whether Christian, Islam and others — uphold the indispensable value of humanity.

When asked about the religions of the world, Ali said they are like “rivers, ponds, lakes and streams. They have different names, but all contain water. Religions have different names but all contain truth.”

All the more reason we should anticipate that this instructive study reveals a truth that provides a stark contrast to the typical depiction of Muslims often seen in the media.

Because its findings reaffirm that Muslims also are part of the greater American experience, and, in the words of Langston Hughes, “I, too, sing America.”

bankole@bankolethompson.com

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The writer hosts “Redline with Bankole Thompson,” which is broadcast at noon weekdays on Super Station 910AM. This column appears Mondays and Thursdays.



## Local Jewish, Muslim Groups Team Up For Series of Talks On Xenophobia in 2017

The word “xenophobia” has had a resurgence in the American lexicon. Dictionary.com named “xenophobia” its word of the year after a huge spike in look-ups in 2016.

What does that term mean to specific minority groups in 2017 – especially in this political environment?

The Jewish Community Relations Council/AJC and the Michigan Muslim Community Council are holding a series of talks in the coming weeks about antisemitism and Islamophobia. “A Shared Future” is an interfaith dialogue series means to provide “a deeper comprehension of both forms of prejudice and discuss how a firm grasp of each enhances an understanding of both.”

The hosts of the talks join Detroit Today host Stephen Henderson to discuss the events, as well as the important of holding these dialogues in a public space.

“This kind of work is not easy. We certainly get our fair share of slings and arrows,” says Saeed Khan, an expert in Middle and Near East history and politics, who lectures at Wayne State University. He says the criticism comes from both outside and inside the Muslim and Jewish communities. “Fortunately, or unfortunately, [because of the current political climate] we figured people right now want to hear about how we’re going to move forward together.”



*Saeed Khan (left) and Howard Lupovitch (right)*

“I wouldn’t put it on the level of a think-tank yet, but it’s definitely moving in that direction,” says Howard Lupovitch, director of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University. He says he and Khan don’t view the world

and politics in black-and-white, right-and-wrong terms.

“We both prefer gray-area nuanced thinking,” he says, “to be constructively critical, and to learn from that criticism.”

There will be three opportunities to attend the “A Shared Future” program: February 15 at the Muslim Unity Center in Bloomfield Hills, March 1 at Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills, and March 22 at Wayne State University in Detroit. All programs will take place at 7 p.m. There is no charge to attend.



*Image credit: Jake Neher/WDET*



# Muslims in foster care need exposure

Afaf Humayun

BLOOMFIELD HILLS — The Muslim Foster Care Association (MFCA) is a nonprofit founded in 2015 by Ranya Shbeib and Sameena Zahoor that assists Muslims in the foster care system, and also facilitates licensure for parents wanting to foster children.

Two years ago, Shbeib, a former teacher and administrator, received her foster care license. She is a certified ING worker who volunteers her time to local causes.

Shbeib said that in the process of becoming licensed, she discovered that there weren't enough resources available for Muslims wanting to foster children or for connecting anyone in the foster care system to licensed families.

A mutual friend connected Shbeib and Zahoor, and Shbeib was able to get the support she needed since Zahoor had already been a foster parent.

Sameena Zahoor, shown with her husband and three sons, was already a foster parent when Ranya Shbeib connected with her. Together, they founded the Muslim Foster Care Association — Photo by Sameena Zahoor

"It [fostering] has roots in our faith tradition," Shbeib said. "However, when you talk to people about fostering it's something they're very unfamiliar with."

Additionally, Shbeib said she realized from her own personal journey of fostering that within the Muslim community there weren't many resources. This became one of the main reasons why Shbeib and Zahoor started the MCFA, which achieved nonprofit status this year.

"It's amazing how well received it's been with other foster care agencies," Shbeib said. "It's very obvious that we've been able to fill a gap that they haven't been able to fill because we're part of the Muslim community, because we're foster parents ourselves; so we get it."

Agencies outside of Michigan have contacted the MFCA from as far as California to connect with the programming it offers and to discuss the resources it provides Muslims in the foster care system.

Currently, the association is run only by Shbeib and Zahoor, and at times they have volunteers to support their needs when they do their Eid basket gifts for foster children.

The MFCA works with the Michigan Muslim Community Council (MMCC) to provide Eid gifts to local Michigan foster children. The MFCA also attempts to identify whenever a Muslim enters the foster care system so that the foster child may receive a welcome package from MFCA that contains personal items, such as faith-based items and a gift card.

This year, the MCFA had a LaunchGood crowdfunding campaign which brought in enough money to cover the costs for both holidays, Eid al Fitr and Eid al Adha. During Ramadan, the MFCA hosted its first iftar for children and families in the foster care system, which was very well received.

Shbeib and Zahoor have sat on discussion panels to spread awareness about how there are foster children who want to be connected to people that practice the same faith. The MCFA



Ranya Shbeib, co-founder of the Muslim Foster Care Association, stands with her husband and three children - Photo provided by Ranya Shbeib

provides information on how to become licensed as well ways people can help foster children, even if they don't plan to become licensed.

The U.S. Children's Bureau stated in 2015 that there were 427,910 foster care children in the nation. Shbeib said she believes that for every two Muslim foster care children there is only one parent or family licensed for foster care.

Zahoor, a Canton resident, said that through the MFCA she hopes to make an impact and not just create awareness.

When Zahoor took in her first foster child, he was 5, and she already had three sons of her own.

She said that before bringing a foster child into her home, she thought that since she had experienced parenting her own three children it would be similar.

"It was nothing like parenting your own children," she said. "These are children who are taken out of their own home, not willingly."

She said family dynamics shift when a family begins fostering.

"The child has, like, a Pandora's box," Zahoor said, adding that many of the children have faced challenges with abuse, different styles of parenting or neglect, and

that they bring all of the challenges with them to their foster home.

She said foster families may experience self-doubt and wonder why their child isn't adjusting, but her organization works to provide a space for foster families to see that they aren't alone in their challenges when helping foster children.

Another focus of the MFCA is to provide respite care for families. For example, if a foster child isn't allowed to leave the state, but the parents have an engagement out of town, the MFCA can help provide short term care for the child so the parent(s) may make it to the appointment.

One organization the MFCA works with is a social ministry called Samaritas, which works to connect people to services they need, such as for the elderly, behavioral health and foster care. The MFCA has worked with Samaritas on numerous occasions to connect with Muslims in the foster care system.

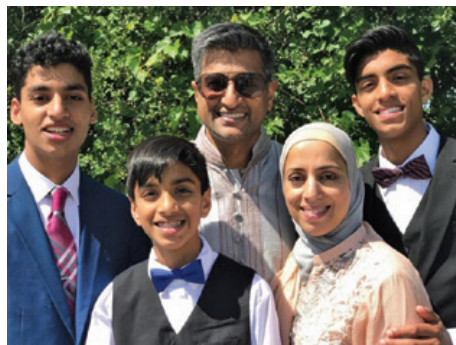
Shbeib and Zahoor said they hope to expand their nonprofit by adding programming and assistance for things like Big Brothers/Big Sisters, tutoring, college funds for foster children and transportation assistance.

Zahoor said many people began asking how to help Syrian refugee children, and that she was compelled to respond by reminding them that there have been children in their own backyard who have experienced trauma, perhaps not war in another country, but physical and emotional trauma. She also said that the community should feel responsible for these children.

"We should always think beyond the blessings that we have," Zahoor said. "We know we will be accountable for the blessings that we have."

The MFCA may be contacted by any community, as well as mosques, to set up informational events to bring more awareness to Muslims lost in the foster care system.

For information on how to help foster care children, licensing FAQs, and ways to donate to the MFCA, visit [www.muslimfostercare.org](http://www.muslimfostercare.org).



Sameena Zahoor, shown with her husband and three sons, was already a foster parent when Ranya Shbeib connected with her. Together, they founded the Muslim Foster Care Association — Photo by Sameena Zahoor



# Church on ICE raids: 'If you want these families, you're going to have to come through us'

By Dana Afana • dafana@mlive.com • Mar 14, 2017

DETROIT -- Faith leaders of six Metro Detroit congregations on Tuesday said they planned to act as "front lines of protection" against an apparent expansion of Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids.

They said in a Tuesday press conference at Central United Methodist Church in Detroit that they would provide "sanctuary for endangered immigrant families" in various ways, including in some cases housing families at risk of deportation.

"We believe that breaking families apart is wrong," said the Rev. Jill Zundell, pastor of Central United Methodist Church. "We will give comfort to the afflicted and shelter to those who suffer. No one will live in fear while under the protection of our church."

Zundell, who is currently housing a family from Africa in the Central United Methodist Church building, said her message to President Donald Trump is: "If you want these families, you're going to have to come through us."

The family she's housing is of a husband, wife and four children over the age seven who are seeking political asylum. The family hoped to go to Canada, but were stopped at the border, she said.

The children's father was murdered for speaking against their government in Africa, Zundell said, and the wife was thrown out of a second floor window but was recently released from a hospital.

Christian, Jewish and Muslim faith leaders took part in the announcement, complaining of more frequent ICE raids, an overall rise in hate crimes and xenophobia.

"Immigrant families are being treated by the government with hostility," said Rev. Paul Perez.

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said last month that Trump has sought to "take the shackles off" federal agents in the enforcement of immigration law.

"The president needed to give



guidance," he said, "especially after what they went through in the last administration, where there were so many carve-outs that ICE agents and CBP members had to figure out each individual whether or not they fit in a particular category and they could adjudicate that case. The President wanted to take the shackles off individuals in these agencies and say: 'You have a mission, there are laws that need to be followed; you should do your mission and follow the law.'"

The Birmingham Temple for Jewish Humanism in Farmington Hills was another religious center offering sanctuary.

"We have a choice in this country," said Rabbi Jeff Falick, "and we as secular humanistic Jews understand what happens to people who make the wrong choice. So I stand here today not only for my congregation but for millions of Jews who were left abandoned and whose legacy to us, whose lesson to us must be that we cannot abandon others at their time of need."

Sanctuary has a long history in the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths, said Zundell, who added "our spiritual ancestors knew what it was like to be on the run as refugees."

"These dreadful policies are against the spirit of America's most sacred beliefs and cannot be allowed to stand unchallenged," said Imam Mohamed Almasmari of the Michigan Muslim Community Council. "Moreover, the attacks on immigrants and refugees, Muslims, and recent violence against the Jewish community all branch from the same hateful root. We support sanctuary both to help families but also to stand up for America we believe in: strong, vibrant, multi-cultural democracy where everyone has the opportunity to flourish."

A march from Southwest Detroit to Dearborn, meant to bridge the Hispanic and Arab-American communities is planned April 2, starting 3:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church on Vernor Highway.

The group listed as "declared sanctuaries in Michigan: Central United Methodist Church in Detroit, First United Methodist Church in Ferndale, Birmingham Temple for Humanistic Judaism in Farmington Hills, First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo and Sunny Side United Methodist Church in Portage.



# The Detroit News

## Ramadan: A time to rejuvenate

Mark Hicks • May 26, 2017



Ben Rhouma, 50, of Roseville, reads the Quran before

### Muslims prepare for Ramadan

As the holy month of Ramadan begins for him and other Metro Detroit Muslims, Babar Qadri has noted among followers the same devotion but different begins.

Amid extremist violence abroad and nationwide spikes in anti-Islam sentiment, some have urged the Warren resident to exercise caution while pursuing the prayers and gatherings that mark the sacred period.

Yet for others eager to attend the community dinners his group, Muslims Building Bridges, plans in the next four weeks at area mosques, the time reveals another opportunity.

"Kids are saying: 'We're Muslims. This is the only month where we can really get to zone in hardcore on our spirituality and other people know it. We're going to take advantage of it and use it as a statement,'" Qadri said.

From Saturday through late June, Muslims across southeast Michigan are embarking on a quest to enrich their spiritual selves: praying constantly, fasting daily, reciting the Quran, devoting time to charitable deeds. And following months of rising hate crimes or targeting across the country, many worshipers see chances to fight the tide through Ramadan's call to connect with neighbors.

"We ask our congregations to take full advantage of the month to rejuvenate their soul and spirit so they can be better prepared after Ramadan to serve the community even on a larger scale," said Steve Mustapha Elturk, imam and president at the Islamic Organization of North America. "We encourage the people to remain resilient and hopeful and pray for peace and work for peace."

Whether falling in times of turmoil or strife, Ramadan typically revolves around reflection, sacrifice and giving back.

The inner struggle through self-denial also

accompanies a transformation in facing others and outside forces, said Imam Abdoulaye Ndaw, board president of Masjid Ibrahim in Ypsilanti. "We are more generous, more kind. It's a month of building up your piety."

In Metro Detroit's diverse Muslim community, some say furthering faithfulness can also offer other comfort.

"People are really looking for spiritual healing during these difficult times," said Dawud Walid, executive director at the Council on American-Islamic Relations' Michigan chapter.

CAIR's national office recently released a report showing anti-Muslim hate crimes jumped 44 percent in 2016 over the previous year. Meanwhile, citing a radical right "energized" by Donald Trump's presidential candidacy, Southern Poverty Law Center officials have found that anti-Muslim hate groups tripled last year, along with more crimes targeting adherents.

Michigan sites also faced targeting. Within weeks of investigators probing a fire at a Washtenaw County mosque this year, the American Moslem Society in Dearborn received a threatening message.

Members responded with an open house. Now they're inviting the public to an annual "Humanity Day" dinner on June 10 during which guests break their fast with Middle Eastern cuisine and discuss Ramadan's significance. Attendees also have a



Inaaya Ali, 2, plays with the ear of her father, Ibrahim Ali, 36, both of Sterling Heights, as he listens to the sermon of Imam Steve Mustapha Elturk. Hundreds of Muslims pray and listen to the sermon of Imam Steve Mustapha Elturk, of Troy, at the Islamic Organization of North America Masjid and Learning Center (IONA) on Ryan Rd. in Warren, Friday afternoon, May 26, 2017, as they prepare to start the holy month of Ramadan when Muslims fast from dawn through dusk each day, pray, reflect and pursue charitable efforts. (Todd McInturf / The Detroit News) 2017. (Photo: Todd McInturf / The Detroit News)

chance to inquire about Islam.

"It's all about education," said Mosad Algahmi, a longtime outreach committee member. "When they come to the mosque and meet Muslims and see what we do and see what we believe in — we're human beings just like themselves. They have a different impression."

A similar notion informs Qadri's Muslims Building Bridges effort, which is helping coordinate iftars — breaking-of-the-fast meals — at eight locations next month.

Though he launched the initiative with a goal of connecting followers across various divides, it has also drawn others who can learn more about Islam — an important development in today's climate, said his wife, Fouzia Mallick, who also attends. "With everything that's happening, we really need to strengthen who we are to non-Muslims around us and invite them to Ramadan. That is our goal: to bridge a road."

Elturk's mosque plans an iftar next week with interfaith, government and civic leaders. He recognizes, though, that the challenge is reaching out to others in the area who fear or reject Muslims.

"We hope that with time and networking and working with the interfaith community among others we can win their hearts," he said.

Helping others is a central aspect of the holy month. As such, the Michigan Muslim Community Council annually leads the Ramadan Fight Against Hunger campaign, which gathers food for people in need throughout the area. Last year's effort attracted more than 400 volunteers and netted about 50 tons of items, said Muzammil Ahmed, the group's board chairman.

Interest is high in 2017 due to the political climate, he said, adding it also dovetails with the holy month. "It really is part of the spirit of Ramadan: understanding sacrifice, being thankful for what we have and having empathy for people who do not have all the privileges that we might. ... Our faith and action are very much intertwined."

For Parwin Anwar, who has loved Ramadan ever since she was a child in Afghanistan, the next four weeks are as much about embracing identity as relying on faith.

The Sterling Heights resident anticipates reading books about the holiday with her twin grandchildren, cooking a rice dish for other families, and reading the Quran. News of other hijab-wearing women facing harassment upsets her, but she trusts in God for strength and the rewards the holiday brings.

"It's a beautiful, uplifting feeling," she said. "You feel refreshed."



# Protests Against 'Muslim Ban' Take Place At Detroit Metro Airport

January 29, 2017

DETROIT (WWJ) – Hundreds of people gathering at Metropolitan Airport who have no intention of traveling, demonstrating instead, their disdain with recent presidential orders that crack down on refugees and immigrants from certain countries.

Several organizations, activists and organizers joined forces at the airport protesting what is being called a “Muslim Ban” in the United States.

The federal court for the Eastern District of New York issued an emergency stay halting deportations under President Donald Trump's executive order.

Fatima Salman co-organizer Michigan Muslim Community Council says this ban will negatively affect thousand of families in the state.

“The stay was granted for those people only in transit, so this still doesn't – it's not a permanent stay first of all, it's a temporary stay, for those in transit –so anybody that's still trying to travel – they still can't come through and I don't know if it's been told the White House overruled the federal stay – late last night, early this morning,” says Salman.



*Protesters of a recent executive order restricting immigration of Muslims from some countries -- gather at Metro Airport. (WWJ/Lauren Barthold)*

Trump signed an executive order Friday setting “new vetting measures” to keep “radical Islamic terrorists” out of the United States.

The order indefinitely stopped Syrian refugee and immigrant entry into the U.S., suspended all refugee entry for four months and suspended refugee admissions for three months from countries with terror concerns, naming majority-Muslim nations including Iraq, Syria and Iran. The new president and his supporters say his measures are needed to strengthen national security.

Stephanie Kenner, of the Women's March in Michigan says people cannot

stay silent in the face of such egregious human rights violations.

We wanted to be able to stand in solidarity with the other protests – that spontaneously and organically occurred yesterday, the airport seemed to be a galvanizing space, and we've been in contact with DTW and they'll been very accommodating and supportive of this rally,” says Kenner.

She says the location of the protest is significant – “showing that we are a community that welcomes refugees and don't want them out.”





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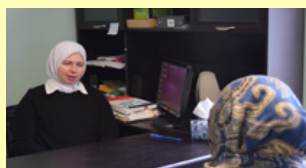
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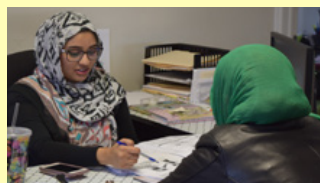
We offer Pre-marital, marriage, family, trauma, Islamic, substance abuse and youth counseling with our licensed social worker, as well as Islamic advising from our Sheikh Monday and Wednesday from 10-3. Please call for an appointment.

### TRANSITIONAL HOME



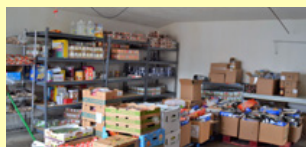
A transitional home for our displaced sisters in humanity. The home is designed to help displaced women become independent, productive, and contributing members of society

### INDEPENDENCY PROGRAM



We offer programs to give immigrants, refugees, and community members the opportunity to find and obtain work in order to make a better life for themselves. Programs include ESL, Financial Literacy, Computer Skills, Career Building, along with various workshops! We also help with utilities, rent, shutoff notices and eviction notices on a case by case basis.

### HUNGER PREVENTION



Muslim Family Services provides a food pantry open to low or no income families, hot meal distribution as well as a mobile food pantry. For more information or if you would like a mobile food pantry in your area, please contact our office at 313-366-6800.

### FOSTER CARE SERVICES



We serve as a liaison between our partner foster, social services agencies and the Michigan Muslim community. As a liaison, we recruit potential foster parents through our educational workshops and set them up with our partner agencies for training.

### JANAZA SERVICES



Our Janaza (funeral) service helps to preserve the dignity of our Muslim brothers and sisters by providing their families with the financial assistance to ensure that each Muslim receives a proper burial according to Islamic regulations.

### ADDITIONAL SERVICES



Sponsor-A-Family Ramadan Project (SAFRP), Health Fairs, Back-2-School Backpack Giveaway, City Clean Ups, Udhiyah/Qurbani Distribution, Educational workshops, and more!

12346 McDougall St. Detroit, MI 48212 Office Hours: M-Th from 10:00-4:00

Phone: 313-366-6800 Email: [office@mfs.icnarelief.org](mailto:office@mfs.icnarelief.org)



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(586) 427-6620

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## *Education for Life & for Eternity...*

### Highlights

- Nonprofit, college preparatory Islamic School
- International focus -- welcomes diversity
- The Tarbiyah Curriculum
- Enrichment Program during & after school hours
- Flexible tuition payment plans

### Program

- Montessori certified ChildCare & Preschool
- Nationally accredited K - 8 school
- Qur'anic Arabic & Islamic Studies
- Daily & weekly prayer services
- Strong focus on character education
- Electives include physical education, art & design, library media center, technology & computer training
- Small class sizes
- Halal hot lunch program

### Faculty & Staff

- Experienced, highly qualified teachers
- Motivational mentors
- Talented, creative & caring staff
- Full-time safety patrol

### Facilities

- Modern facility on ten-acre campus
- Academic & activities building
- Drive thru drop-off and pick-up queue
- Outdoor playscape, basketball court, sports field



## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN AN ISLAMIC ENVIRONMENT

Located just east of Palmer & Haggerty Roads  
Easily accessible from I-275, Michigan Ave. and Ford Rd.

For more information, call

**(734) 729-1000**

[www.crescentacademy.org](http://www.crescentacademy.org)



**Come Grow With Us!**

### Who we are

- Crescent Academy International is a fully accredited, college preparatory Islamic school distinguished for its excellence in education and service learning for over 26 years
- Students and staff thrive in a wholesome culture of integrated conceptual learning, project-based collaborative work, direct-explicit small group instruction, and service-oriented experiences
- CAI offers a rich range of academic and enrichment electives including art, technology, drama, and after school programming in addition to an early morning Hifz course

### Why consider joining our staff

- Staff are deeply valued. We believe strongly in a work/home life balance as part of an overall healthy lifestyle
- Well developed professional learning community with daily grade level collaboration and numerous opportunities for teacher leadership and mentorship
- Committed to professional learning and best practices
- Independent school culture not tied to government mandates
- Modern facilities on a beautiful 10 acre campus, clean and bright classrooms, peaceful and welcoming environment
- Excellent school culture, highly creative and collaborative environment, competitive salary and benefits

### What we are looking for

- Certified and/or endorsed in the relevant grade level/subject area
- Knowledge of Islamic principles, readers' and writers' workshop, Fountas & Pinnell reading benchmark assessment, Singapore math and small group direct explicit instruction are desirable
- Committed to professional learning in the areas of integrated, concept-based curricula, as well as experiential and transformative learning
- Dedicated to the growth and development of young people, no matter what it takes



# Tawheed Center

## Educational Programs

**Hifz** - Combined academic & Hifz for boys & girls, established in 2006

**Maktab** - Evening Qur'an Classes Monday through Wednesday from 5pm to 7pm

**Saturday Arabic School**

**Sunday School**

29707 W. Ten Mile Rd,  
Farmington Hills, MI

For More Info Contact  
[mail@tawheedcenter.org](mailto:mail@tawheedcenter.org)



القرآن الكريم



**TAWHEED CENTER**



## Weekend Quran School

Saturdays and Sundays  
11:00 – 2:00

### Subjects

- Tajweed
- Islamic Studies
- Quran Reading and Memorization for adults and kids

### Teachers

Sheikh Nafees has multiple degrees from the Islamic University of Madinah. He has spent more than 10 years studying and teaching Quran and tajweed to students in Madinah

Sister Rejan is a highly qualified teacher of Quran and Islamic Studies. She has studied with great scholars of Egypt, and she has experience with teaching Quran and Islamic Studies to children

Please contact Brother Hasan Shah or Sheikh Nafees for more information

(248) 219-0107

[hashmips@yahoo.com](mailto:hashmips@yahoo.com)

(860) 610-8181

[nafees\\_islahi@yahoo.com](mailto:nafees_islahi@yahoo.com)







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**Detroit Muslim Mission**

*Serving the community, in the name of Allah*

[www.DetroitMuslimMission.com](http://www.DetroitMuslimMission.com)



The Detroit Muslim Mission  
PO Box 23936  
Detroit, MI 48223  
[info@detroitmuslimmission.com](mailto:info@detroitmuslimmission.com)

### Detroit Muslim Mission

Our purpose is to "RE-MAKE" our  
community by pursuing the positive  
community development ideas.

### Soup Kitchen

Our purpose is to "RE-MAKE"  
our community by pursuing the  
positive community  
development ideas.

### Muslim Community Scholarship Fund

Striving towards the betterment  
of our community through  
supporting the pursuit of  
education.

### Muslim Community Political Action Committee (MCPAC)

The existence of The Muslim Community  
Political Action Committee rests in the  
understanding that The Muslim Community  
must play a role in the political process.

Community Services CDC, DBA, The Detroit Muslim Mission was established as a 501c(3) organization in 1989 to help eliminate the declining effects of urban decay in the surrounding Central Detroit neighborhood and to address the housing needs and living environment of the low and moderate income residents in the area. The target area has two mosques within its boundaries: Masjid Wali Muhammad & The Muslim Center, (Mosque and Community Center).





**DREAM OF DETROIT**  
A Detroit Revival Engaging American Muslims

**Congratulates the  
MICHIGAN MUSLIM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
for another successful year of uniting and mobilizing  
our communities

*DREAM is combining organizing with strategic community development to build a healthy community and empower a marginalized neighborhood near the Muslim Center of Detroit. While we continue to strive for a bigger and deeper impact, our work has been featured in The Detroit Free Press, The Guardian, and The Nation.*

**Sign up to stay in touch, join one of our teams, or make a donation today at:**

**[dreamofdetroit.org](http://dreamofdetroit.org) | [Facebook.com/DreamofDetroit](https://Facebook.com/DreamofDetroit)**



**[www.ingmidwest.org](http://www.ingmidwest.org)**

For more information or to request a speaker,

Contact us at: [info@ingmidwest.org](mailto:info@ingmidwest.org)

**ING MidWest** is a non-profit educational organization serving Michigan and Northern Ohio. Certified ING MidWest speakers offer complimentary presentations relating to Muslims and Islam to local public and private institutions. All ING MidWest speakers follow first amendment guidelines.

**Our Mission** is to promote religious understanding and cultural sensitivity through education and resource sharing by:

- Presenting accurate information about Islamic beliefs and practices
- Providing information about Muslims that is tailored to the specific needs of the audience
- Fostering a sustainable relationship between public institutions and the Muslim community

An affiliate of the Islamic Networks Group National | [www.ing.org](http://www.ing.org)

# Islamic Center of East Lansing

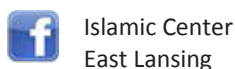
Serving Mid-Michigan since 1979

The Islamic Center of East Lansing is a house of worship and community gathering, open to everyone, making no distinction between any denomination or sects.



920 S. Harrison Rd  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Tel/Fax: 517.351.4309

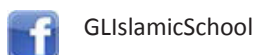
[www.LansingIslam.com](http://www.LansingIslam.com)  
[info@lansingislam.com](mailto:info@lansingislam.com)



Founded 1996  
Greater Lansing  
Islamic School

940 S. Harrison Rd  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Tel: 517.332.3700  
Fax: 517.332.7666

[k8.school.LansingIslam.com](mailto:k8.school.LansingIslam.com)  
[info@lansingislam.com](mailto:info@lansingislam.com)



The Islamic Center conducts its practices based on the Quran and the sayings and traditions of Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him.

## Services Offered:

- Daily Prayers in congregation (Five times a day)
- Jumua'h (Friday) Prayer
- Community Lectures
- Guest Lectures
- Workshops
- Interfaith activities and Outreach
- Marriage Services
- Family Counseling
- Youth Programs
- Community Service
- Social Gatherings
- Funeral Services
- Sunday School
- Greater Lansing Islamic School - Early Pre-K through Grade 8
- Dar Al-Quran (Quran Study Classes)
- Promoting brotherhood & sisterhood and unity in community

Worship Leader: Imam Sohail Chaudhry



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BECOME A MEMBER

[www.emgageaction.org/membership](http://www.emgageaction.org/membership)



*The Michigan Muslim  
Community Council  
would like to thank and  
acknowledge all the  
volunteers and staff  
who gave their time and  
dedication to make this  
annual banquet  
a success!*



# City of Detroit

## CITY COUNCIL

### Historic Designation Advisory Board

204 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit, Michigan 48226

Phone: (313) 224-3487 Fax: (313) 224-4336

e-mail: cc-historic@ci.detroit.mi.us

November 15, 2013

Dear Petitioner:

Congratulations! The Masjid Wali Muhammad/Temple No. 1 Historic District was officially designated by the City of Detroit as an official historic district on October 10, 2013 (Ord. No. 28-13, effective November 6, 2013); a copy of the ordinance of designation is enclosed. The district is comprised of one building located at 11529 Linwood Avenue, boundaries on the north, the centerline of Burlingame Avenue; On the east, the centerline of Linwood Avenue; on the south, the southern boundary line, as extended east and west, of Lot 2 of J. W. Lathrup's Lawrence & Collingwood Avenues Subdivision, Liber 33, Page 9, Wayne County Records; on the west, the centerline, as extended north and south, of the alley running north-south between Burlingame Avenue and Lawton Avenue. Lots 149-145 of Burlingame Park Subdivision as recorded in Liber 33 Page 11, and lots 1-2 of W. Lathrup's Lawrence & Collingwood Avenues Subdivision, Liber 33, Page 9, Wayne County Records; also known as 11529-11541 Linwood Avenue. The boundaries of the Masjid Wali Muhammad/Temple No. 1 Historic District are outlined in heavy black on the attached map.

In addition to the honors and benefits of an historic designation, there are also increased responsibilities toward adequately and appropriately maintaining or improving your property. The city agency responsible for overseeing all work to be performed is the Historic District Commission. For any questions you may have concerning building permit requirements, the appropriateness of work you may be considering on the exterior of your building, or your responsibilities in obtaining the proper building permits for various types of work, please contact the Commission's staff at (313) 224-6536. They will be happy to assist you.

The Historic District Commission's brochure outlining permit requirements for historic districts is enclosed for your information; note that the requirements generally apply to any alteration to the exterior appearance of the property. Be sure to inform any contractors you may hire of these special requirements. Contractors are often not aware that this type of permit is necessary. Please call the Commission's staff if you have any questions.

The members and staff of the Historic Designation Advisory Board are pleased to have been of service to your community during the designation process. The Advisory Board is particularly appreciative of the efforts of those associated with the study process and who were helpful to the Board in its deliberation on Masjid Wali Muhammad/Temple No. 1, particularly Imam Garrett Jihad and Imam Dawud Muhammad who acted as *ad hoc* representatives with the Advisory Board. If there is any way in which the Board and its staff can be of service to property owners in the Masjid Wali Muhammad/Temple No. 1 Historic District in the future, please contact us.

Once again, congratulations! We look forward to assisting you in the continued improvements of your neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Kwaku Atara, Chairperson  
Historic Designation Advisory Board



Devan Anderson, Chairperson  
Historic District Commission

Enclosure(s)



# OUR ACTION OUR IMPACT

**Nov. 16-18 | Dearborn, MI**

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MICHIGAN SCIENCE CENTER

# 1001 INVENTIONS

UNTOLD STORIES FROM A GOLDEN AGE OF INNOVATION

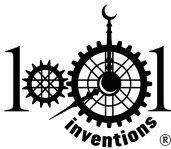
## OPENS OCTOBER 7 at the Michigan Science Center

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promoting the best Islamic  
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  @mimuslimcouncil

*k. مبارک*