



**Council on American-Islamic Relations**  
**Philadelphia Chapter**  
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**05/02/15**

**Delaware Valley Muslim Leadership Forum Agenda**

**Theme: Addressing Violence through Community Service,  
Muslims Interacting with Non-Muslims  
Meeting Minutes from All Presentations**

**1. Working for Equal Representation of American Muslim women**

**Presenter: Zehra Wamiq**

Women's representation in masjid, education, leadership, etc

plan of action: engagement, education, conversation

women's rights are human rights

youth groups/msa, etc

inclusiveness of society not reflected in masjid

data - what are the issues and concerns

bring the conversation to the masjid via khutbah and halaqa

Q&A

Dr. Mustafa Ahmed comments - islamic education is the key to inclusiveness; "make it easy"

Shirley Jones - WDM communities determined to be most friendly; cultural issues

Nicole - architecture/layout facilitates exclusion; space needs to be appropriate and welcoming for sisters and children

elders are unaccustomed to seeing women in the masjid; challenge is education/changing the mindset

Hayat - women don't know their own rights; need lectures to educate women about their rights

Iftekhar - need representative from Masjidullah (i.e. Shirley); who would be interested in

sponsoring a one day seminar - masjid and sacred space usage...women's rights

- Masjidullah
- Philadelphia Masjid
- ISCC
- FIE
- GCLEA

North Penn - are we following the true religion or just following some sheikh; great idea to get variety of imam together; stop blind following and follow true religion of Islam; Women's Center

Kenneth Nurridden - women in Mecca different from women in medina because culture is different; young women aren't going to accept cultural disenfranchisement; american environment - people are entitled to using cultural space; Malcom X - if we leave women out, that's half of the community, and we'll be hoping around on one leg

Marjana - needs addressing on larger scale; need a survey of mosques (i.e. unmosqued)  
(ie icna-mas separate conferences)

## **2. Mobile Health Screening Centers**

**Serving the underprivileged community**

**Presenter: Michael Rashid**

## **3. Establishment of a Community Health Center**

**Presenter: Dr. Mustafa Hussain**

Michael - Mobile Health Screenings

bring muslim community closer, increase dawn, engage with needs of community

Mustafa Hussein - health population of Philadelphia

thinking about baltimore...we have to get people out to vote; thinking about the demographics;

the people elect state attorney, judges, politicians who appoint the chief of police

philadelphia is the hub 2/3 poor & sick; opportunity to advance islam

we already have a model that's showing us what to do

Al-Shifaa Health Mobile Screenings - underserved of all faiths

Med students (temple school of med), doctors, masjid health care screenings

Mujahideen - screenings and feed philly

need greater outreach; knock on doors; education; social services; PCP; MSW

need a coordinator

Mustafa - Health Center

Health and well being

Health -economic and social opportunities and resources

health is only somewhat impacted by medical care; mostly behavior

Vicious circle of poverty and health; social disadvantage kills; medical care & social determinants of health

Fardh Kafa'i - we have to address the needs of community

Muslim social services unit; in tandem with health screenings' muslim mercy clinic

Possibly after friday prayers collect data; standardize social provision among masjids

masjid as hub;

identify hot spots; do a community survey

Q&A

Zehra - Chicago, Iman as a model

Sally - vaccum in the community, we now have plenty of masjid; Muslim Center for Family Life in NJ

Wasi Qureshi- Imana conference in Chicago (islamic medical society of north america); follow up to health screenings - legal obligations/malpractice i.e. icna is working on this issue

Hamza - malpractice through temple medical school; referrals - need specialists

COMBINING HEALTH CENTERS WITH SOCIAL;

Muhahideen - icpic - combine cultural issues with health, feeding, cultural behavior; need to develop districts and areas

Bilal - icna; May 16th New Africa Center

Rubina - Ummah Clinic in LA

Katera - send me your suggestions; Glen's Village example; zakat

Mustafa - poverty kills people

Iftekhhar - do we have a 10 hour per week volunteer to forward this idea;

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- Maaz
- Marjana - Dr. Hijaazi 215-324-5052 (referred by Marjie)
- Ryan Muhammad

Ryan Muhammad - Combine political outreach with health care services; political activism drives social activism, creates familiarity with community leaders

#### **4. American Muslims for Hunger Relief**

**Feed the hungry & spread peace, a Muslim obligation**

**Presenter: Hamza Sheikh**

Hamza - hunger; Feed Philly

Philadelphia is the poorest large city in America

Inspiration of the Prophet; established a masjid

we are establishing peace, feeding the hungry, making the masjid the center

American Muslims for Hunger Relief

Wants to add services to feedings

Ramadan & eid baskets i.e. Zubaidah foundation

Partner with everyone

Al Shifa - rotating medical, dental, podiatry clinic

**CAN WE CONNECT WITH HEALTH CENTERS**

finances - not getting many donations; mostly from nj

sponsor one event per year with funds and volunteers (\$3000); targeting the youth

Q&A

Sherin Abel Meguid (Exton) - poverty & education is a huge issue; other religions and groups - interfaith effort to improve effectiveness

Dr. Mustafa - islamic center should have a special department; put our islam into practice; take care of the practice of islamic obligations; one day per month to meet with lawyers to solve legal challenges

Katera - feeding, health, poverty...all structural economic issues; we have to get engaged as muslims...people are disconnected from broader structures

Zubaidah Foundation/North Penn Mosque - soup kitchen 2x monthly; trenton soup kitchen monthly; working with existing organization allows you to do more with less resources; looking for doctors to volunteer time for screening

Kenneth - interfaith; build relationships and infrastructure; dawah tool; university city effort demonstrate that muslims are involved

#### **5. Empowering Youth**

**Do It For the Deen Youth Symposium**

**Presenter: Dr. Katera Moore & Youssef Kromah**

Katera & Youssef

looking for mentors and spread the word

MIST partnership?

LAMP partnership?

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Prisons

Prison chaplain - need character building

Need volunteers for juvenile detention

North Penn Mosque - what are we doing to prevent our youth from going to the prisons

Islamic Relief

Eid awareness - negative lifestyle result of parenting; Hayat is a parenting educator

Shabazz - 5 factors that contribute to health issues; 20/80 rule; professionals/mentors "career day" to channel the youth to "stem" etc; dawah from stem leading to national defense;

simultaneous program in masjids; when Muslims are present, things should be better

## **6. Faith & Action**

**June 13<sup>th</sup> Muslim Community Service Day**

**Reaching out to your neighbors**

**Presenter: Osama Al-Qasem**

Osama - Service in the Delaware Valley

addressing the violence; marching, condemnation, etc...or take action so people know who we are

June 13th

Day of Dignity - Islamic Relief; Feed Philly

Monica

Distribution line

give people a way to volunteer within their capacity

find a service project in your neighborhood

## **7. Emerge-PA**

**Presenter: Abdulmughees Chaudhry**

Emerge

Justice For All

political engagement

4:135

Whoever wakes up in the morning not thinking about the affairs of the ummah is not one of us  
people are complaining because they never participated in voting/elections...not representing  
your interests

educating communities about how to engage in political process; what important election is  
coming up? 3 judges elected, on the bench for 10 years

Muslim Arab South Asian

emerging voters/leaders/data

need more than fundraising and personal connections

let folks know when elections are upcoming

register to vote

trying to establish 501c4

defeat anti-sharia bill

works with civil rights organizations

social media, word of mouth, educate & mobilize community

emerging data - using existing database with algorithm to identify the muslims

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youth leadership program; workshop about political process - university level  
united we can make a difference  
#imagine2016

looking for opportunity to present to community

- Masjidullah
- Gclea
- Rubina
- Mustafa

abdul.mughees@gmail.com

Dr Mustafa - engaging with broader community

It's not money, its leadership & engagement  
its about what you leave behind for your kids; why did we all come here, land of opportunity,  
equality, peace, and justice for all  
religious obligation to redirect the ship

## **8. Eid Awareness**

**Bringing awareness to Eid at public schools across USA**

**Presenter: Marjana NasrAllah**

Eid awareness

decorations, materials, etc for schools etc

information, books for schools libraries, arts & crafts; songs for winter concerts

looking to accomplish more - reach more people

get eid on calendars for philadelphia

muslim school holiday coalition

malcom byrd - interfaith initiatives

6/7 meeting

Zubaidah - what about the date?

Dr. Mustafa - 5 calculation methods; published a paper, accepted by fiqh council and saudi arabia

Sherin - isna has been using the calendar for start/end of ramadan

closing

next date mid september

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