



## 2012 Programs & Activities

**MMCC has established an office with part-time staff and dedicated volunteers.**

### Building a United Community

- **Imams' Council** - Co-chaired by Imam Mustapha Elturk and Imam Baqir Berry, the Council convenes Imams in southeast Michigan monthly to discuss the needs of the Muslim community and the community at large. Building on the historic document, the Muslim Code of Honor, signed by our imams, the Committee is non-sectarian. The Council organized an Imam Unity Day in September at Ford Field where many local Imams of all sects and ethnicities came with their families to get to know one another in an informal setting.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Diversity Forum** – Hosted in collaboration with the Islamic Society of North America, over a hundred participants came together for this two day conference, which has led to new projects and collaborations to explore and harness the strength of the metro-Detroit's diverse Muslim *ummah*.
- **Metro-Detroit Masjid Bus Tour** - In order to explore our rich heritage, presence and history, this popular tour offers participants an interesting way to visit and engage with members of other mosques, and bridge congregational distance.

### Civic Engagement

- **Annual Lansing Day** – The Council organizes this annual visit to Michigan's capitol with bi-partisan sponsorship to elevate community visibility and voice.
- **Voter Registration Drive** - Recognizing the need for increased voter registration and voter education during this election cycle, MMCC hired a civic engagement coordinator to support this effort.
- **Candidates Forum:** MMCC cosponsored events at MCWS and IAGD, where community members had an opportunity to meet local, county and state representatives running for elected offices.

### Government Relations

- MMCC participates in **BRIDGES**, a coalition comprised of federal agencies - Homeland Security, Justice Department, INS, FBI, TSA as well as Border Patrol and local law-enforcement – in order to protect our civil rights, while contributing to our country's security.
- MMCC is part of the **SE Sector Leadership Collaborative under the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.**

## Interfaith Relations

- MMCC is a member of the **Interfaith Leadership Council of Metro-Detroit** bringing area religious and lay faith leaders together to collaborate, raising a collective moral voice, standing up together for peace, harmony, justice and inter-religious cooperation. The Council participated in multiple interfaith forums, including the Diversity Summit sponsored by the Metropolitan Christian Council.
- MMCC organized 'Inter-Religious Dialogue in the Service of Peace,' a discussion on understanding *sharia* by the Chief Qadi of Jerusalem, Iyad Zahalka, and Rabbi Ron Kronish. The event involved Wayne State University, Birmingham Community Center and local churches, and was covered by the Detroit news and other media.

## Media Relations

- MMCC **Media Response team** works with print, radio and broadcast media outlets and meets with editorial boards of local media to help educate journalists on how to more accurately cover our diverse Muslim community. MMCC Senior Advisor, Ghalib Begg, was interviewed by Mitch Albom on WJR about the violence in the Middle East and the proposed West Bloomfield Islamic Center.

## Community Service

- The **Oudhia/Qurbani project** for Eid al-Adha collected over **10 tons of meat** and distributed it to hundreds of needy families around Michigan. This was done in partnership with Gleanor's Food bank, Mercy USA, and Islamic Relief.
- Over 10,000 people who live below the poverty line in Michigan were fed by the **Ramadan Fight Against Hunger Campaign** that MMCC spearheaded in partnership with the United Way of Southeastern Michigan, Zaman International and others.
- **Acts Of Kindness: 9/11 Day of Service:** MMCC joined in service projects with Focus Hope, ACCESS, DTE, Kids against Hunger, UM-Dearborn and others to turn this day of mourning into a day of service to the community. Hundreds came out for this important event in Dearborn.
- **HEARTS and MINDS** workshops: MMCC sponsored these self-esteem and leadership building program for teenage girls.
- **Family Seminars:** MMCC sponsored a family workshop led by qualified therapists, psychiatrists and counselors on practical approaches to strengthening families.

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