

Ramadan is the month in which was sent down the Qur'an, as a guide to mankind, also clear signs for guidance and judgment between right and wrong.
(Qur'an: 2:185)

Ramadan Mubarak
CAIR-PHILADELPHIA
Wishes You A
BLESSED RAMADAN.

Council on American-Islamic Relations
PHILADELPHIA

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A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends, As Salaam Alaikum:

I would like to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of CAIR Pennsylvania—Philadelphia chapter. My sincerest thanks and appreciation go to Justin Peyton, our outgoing Executive Director, for helping to ensure a smooth transition. We wish him the best in his future endeavors as he begins a Masters degree program in Islamic chaplaincy at Hartford Seminary in September.

I am excited to join the staff at such an exciting time in the development of the chapter. I look forward to using the experience gained during my time as an activist and community servant for 15 years to help achieve CAIR's noble vision and mission. During this blessed month of Ramadan, we are collectively reminded to reflect on our mission and purpose in life and what it truly means to be "a believer". The Qur'an states, "The (true) believers are those only who believe in Allah and His Messenger and afterward doubt not, but strive with their wealth and their lives for the cause of Allah. Such are the sincere" (Qur'an 49:15).

It is no coincidence that throughout the history of Muslim communities, some of their most important gains have been achieved during this month. Ramadan is a time for increased activism and giving; CAIR-Philadelphia has a goal of raising \$25,000 in this sacred month. We humbly seek your support to sustain and increase our work which empowers American Muslims in this time of change and opportunity. Highlights of our projects and achievements are outlined in this newsletter, as well as important information of Zakat-eligibility. More detailed information is available on our website as well.

Please remember us in your supplications this month and volunteer your time, talent and treasure to supporting the Muslim community. May the Creator reward you immensely in this most auspicious of months.

Sincerely,



Q. Amin Nathari

RAMADAN EVENTS

Tell Me About Islam:
Understanding Islam and the Muslims
in 21st Century America

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2009

Location: Parkway Central Library
Montgomery Auditorium
1901 Vine Street, Phila., PA

Time: 6pm to 8pm

The first-ever CAIR-Philadelphia program
at a public library will take place at the City's
Main branch location.
Join us at this important event!



Sharing Ramadan 2009:
Muslim Communities Sharing and
Celebrating the Importance of Ramadan
with Our Neighbors

8/22 and 8/23 at 7:30pm:
Foundation for Islamic Education
1860 Montgomery Ave, Villanova, PA

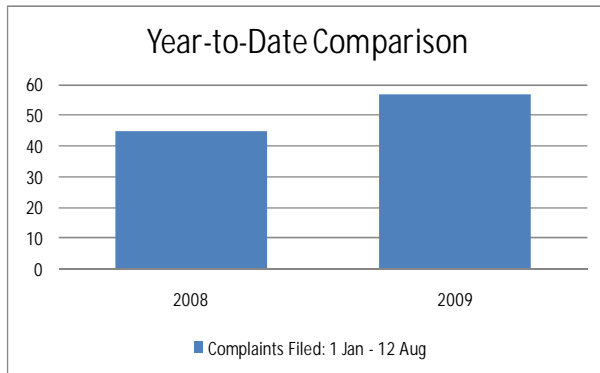
8/29 at 6:00pm:
ICNA Collegeville Dars
350 S. Lewis Road, Royersford, PA

8/29 and 8/30 at 7:15pm;
9/6 at 7:00pm;
9/12 and 9/13 at 6:45pm:
Foundation for Islamic Education
1860 Montgomery Ave, Villanova, PA

Additional dates and locations anticipated.
Visit <http://pa.cair.com> for most up to date listing.

Protecting Civil Liberties

◆ CAIR-PA counsels, mediates and advocates for those who have experienced religious discrimination, defamation or hate crimes.



Empowering American Muslims

◆ CAIR-PA is now offering quarterly conferences of a Muslim Youth Leadership Program (MYLP), our flagship initiative to prepare a future generation of community activists. Planned conferences will focus on civil rights, media relations, civic participation and more.



Enhancing Understanding of Islam

◆ CAIR-PA has provided some 40 individual units of educational programming about Islam and Muslims to groups around the region so far this year.



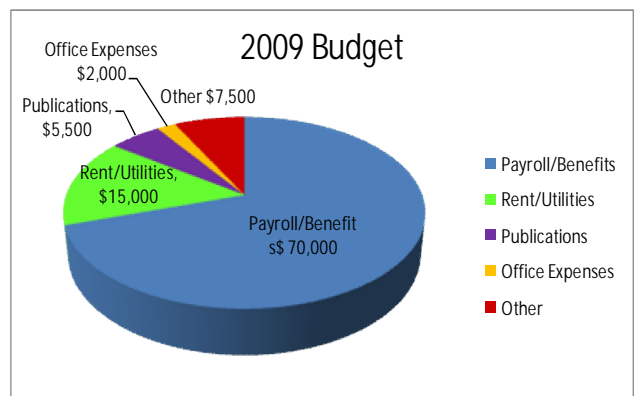
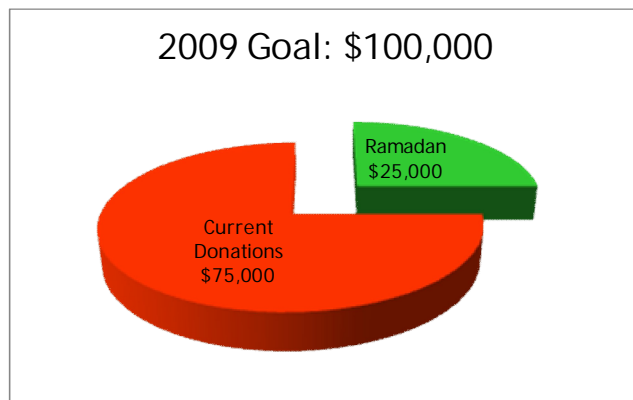
Building Coalitions

◆ CAIR-PA has been busy building relationships with mosques, churches, synagogues, interfaith, civil rights organizations, and government agencies such as: ACLU, NSC, ICNA, MAS, MSA, CAMP, The Shalom Center, Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia, US Citizenship and Immigration Services, PA Human Relations Commission, Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, PA Institutional Law Project (Legal Prison non-profit), Community Legal Services, Arab American Development Corps and many others. These relationships help us to better serve the Muslim community.

Your generous support of CAIR—Philadelphia in helping us reach our goal of \$25,000 during this Blessed Month will allow these activities and initiatives empowering American Muslims to continue and increase.

Your contributions are both tax-deductible (Tax ID #542174614) and Zakat-eligible.

Numerous Muslim scholars have confirmed that Zakat is payable to organizations that exist to serve the Muslim community by protecting their rights; the work of CAIR is classified as fi-sabilillah, which is one of the eight categories of Zakat recipients detailed in the Qur'an 9:30. (For more information go to: <http://cair.com/Zakat.aspx>)



Please donate today via check/money order, credit card or automatic deduction.
Thank you for your generous donations and continued support.

TO DONATE ONLINE, go to: <http://pa.cair.com/donate/>