



ASALAAM ALAIKUM (PEACE BE ONTO YOU) CAIR-PA Supporter:

A Pennsylvania public high school teacher taught his students that Islam is inherently violent and that *Shariah* law prescribes barbaric punishments. Traumatized by this repeated exposure, a Muslim student in his class told her parents that she no longer wanted to be a Muslim. Sure, this does not happen every day, nor is it widespread, but when it does, who has the resources for a professional response and the ability to bring about lasting change? CAIR-PA does.

We immediately informed the school district, and the officials suspended the teacher. CAIR-PA is currently working to include lessons on Islam and Muslims in that district's diversity training workshops.

CAIR-PA has had the responsibility, and opportunity, to assist many Muslim Americans facing troubling civil rights cases. All in all, CAIR-PA currently has 95 open cases of such magnitude. Multiply the story above by 95 and you can get a sense of just how much CAIR-PA is making a difference.

But how do we Muslim Americans push back against the propaganda that leads to a public school teacher so grossly misinformed? How do we prevent such a thing happening in the first place? Through continuous, relentless outreach, dialogue and conversations with everyday Americans. We regularly make presentations at schools, *Masajid*, public libraries, universities, churches, synagogues, and community centers; often at the rate of one per week. Only by directly engaging the public can we have a direct impact on the public sentiment towards Islam and Muslims.

This year, CAIR-PA accelerated its coalition building and outreach. Without allies and partners, none of our work could be accomplished. I am proud to say that CAIR-PA is constantly at the table with the city of Philadelphia and state agencies. Our outreach department visited numerous *Masajid* across the region, helped organize the first-ever Philadelphia Children's Interfaith Festival and participated in the Interfaith Peace Walk.

In 2010 alone, CAIR-PA appeared in over 30 unique media stories or interviews – via newspapers, television or radio. That's 30 times when there otherwise would have been silence, or worse, someone else speaking about Muslims and Islam.

Most importantly, we are convinced that the best way to secure a better future for us all is to empower the next generation with the skills they need to make a difference. In 2009 and 2010, our dedicated staff and interns prepared and conducted 3 successful Muslim Youth Leadership Programs.

The mission must continue, and indeed, this is only the beginning. As such, I cordially invite you to CAIR-PA's 5th Annual Banquet. Please come and celebrate with us, but also come to invest in us. CAIR-PA will be as successful as you allow it to be, and I am confident you are ready for the next level of advocacy on behalf of American Muslims. Please look at the other side of this newsletter for the banquet details, register as soon as possible, and I look forward to meeting you on March 12, 2011.

Sincerely,

Moein Khawaja
Executive Director

**REQUEST
Know Your Rights Workshop,
Muslim Youth Workshop, a
Course or Interfaith Dialogue
215-592-0509**



*Moein Conducts an Islamophobia
Workshop at Temple University*



*CAIR-PA Co-Sponsored the
Philadelphia Day of Dignity during
Ramadan*



*CAIR-PA participated in the
Mid-Atlantic Dialogue between
Catholics and Muslims*



*Moein discusses Qur'an Burning on
NBC-10*



*Rugiatu talks about Islamophobia
on Fox-29*

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PHILADELPHIA NEWSLETTER

Council on American-Islamic Relations Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER 5TH ANNUAL BANQUET



ADVANCING WITH CONFIDENCE MARCH 12 | REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 5:00 PM

FEATURING

DR. UMAR FARUQ ABDULLAH
CHAIRMAN AND SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE
NAWAWI FOUNDATION

IMAM JOHARI ABDUL MALIK
COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTOR
DAR AL-HIJRAH ISLAMIC CENTER

Children's Entertainment
KEN KAPLAN'S AMAZING VARIETY SHOW
CLOWN, BALLOON TWISTING AND MORE...

World-Famous Entertainer
DAVID LUCAS
COMEDY, JUGGLING AND MORE...

DATE Saturday, March 12, 2011
TIME 5:00 PM Registration & Reception
6:30 PM Dinner & Program
VENUE Springfield Country Club
400 West Sproul Road
Springfield, PA 19064
<http://springfieldcc.net/>

TICKETS \$60 per person (\$65 at the door)
\$35 per student/young adult
\$15 per child (4 years - 9 years)
\$600 for a table of 10

RSVP Phone: 215.592.0509
Online: <http://pa.cair.com/>

CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.