



**CAIR**  
CALIFORNIA

RESULTS THAT SPEAK  
FOR THEMSELVES

*2006-2007 Annual Report*

[www.ca.cair.com](http://www.ca.cair.com)



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CALIFORNIA

RESULTS THAT SPEAK  
FOR THEMSELVES

*2006-2007*

College and graduate students who participate in CAIR's annual internship program receive practical training in the fields of political advocacy, civil rights, media relations, and leadership training. Pictured here are CAIR's 2006 summer interns.



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At a dinner hosted by CAIR, Board Vice-Chair Ahmad Al-Akhras and Executive Director Nihad Awad welcome former Iranian President Mohammad Khatami to speak on the importance of civilizational dialogue.

**vision**  
TO BE A LEADING ADVOCATE FOR  
JUSTICE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

**mission**  
TO ENHANCE UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM, ENCOURAGE DIALOGUE,  
PROTECT CIVIL LIBERTIES, EMPOWER AMERICAN MUSLIMS, AND BUILD  
COALITIONS THAT PROMOTE JUSTICE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

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

## A MESSAGE FROM CAIR LEADERSHIP

### *Chairman of the Board's Letter*

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends:

*As-salaam alaikum (peace be to you).*

On behalf of the entire CAIR family, I thank you for your continued support. Your support is critical to sustaining our efforts to promote justice and mutual understanding. Together we have helped in enhancing understanding of Islam, promoting justice empowering the American Muslim community.

The past 18 months have been challenging not only for CAIR, but also for the American Muslim community.

Islamophobia continues to rise, assisted by a veritable cottage industry of extremists who pontificate with great certainty about the cause-effect relationship between Islam and terrorism, when none exists.

To enable us better project CAIR's message and mission, we launched our new brand.

Developing a new brand was not just applying a fresh coat of paint, but rather reorienting and reforming the organization to make its policies, attitudes and actions consistent with our core values and aspirations.

The new brand solidifies our attributes as an organization that is authentically Islamic and absolutely American. It also reaffirms our commitment to peace, justice and dialogue by remaining inclusive and balanced in our viewpoints.

President John F. Kennedy once said: "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." We did not want to miss out on making CAIR's future even better than its past.

As we go forward, we pledge to work harder and smarter to fulfill your aspiration to become empowered and enlightened citizens of America. Insha'allah, we hope that you will walk alongside us in the future, just as you did in the past.

We can only accomplish that goal with your continued support and prayers. Please take a moment to read our annual report. If you have any suggestions for improvement or comments please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D.



Parvez Ahmed  
Chairman of the Board



CAIR Tampa Executive Director delivers a \$5,000 check to the Catholic community on behalf of American Muslims to help repair churches damaged in the aftermath of the cartoon controversy.

# ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING

## *Promoting Education and Interaction*

**Our challenge:** Growing Islamophobic sentiments and a lack of awareness of Islam in society have led to many misperceptions about Muslims and our faith.

**Our goal:** To educate interested Americans about Islam and to provide them with opportunities to interact with everyday Muslims.

Polls consistently indicate almost half of all Americans continue to have negative views toward Islam. A 2004 Cornell University study showed that 49 percent of respondents polled nationally said they believe the U.S. government should in some way curtail civil liberties of American Muslims.

The same polls, however, also indicate that education is the key to improving public perceptions of Islam. For this reason, CAIR has focused much of its work on launching positive, proactive educational campaigns that address the growing tide of Islamophobia in our society.

### EXPLORE THE LIFE OF MUHAMMAD

When a Danish newspaper printed offensive cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), depicting him as a terrorist with a bomb in his turban, many in the Muslim world expressed outrage and threatened to boycott Danish goods. CAIR seized the opportunity to turn a negative incident into a teaching moment by decrying the violence and encouraging education about the life and legacy of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). CAIR declared 2006 the “Year of the

Prophet Muhammad” and launched the “Explore the Life of Muhammad” campaign, a major educational effort that offered people of all faiths a free book or DVD about the Prophet.

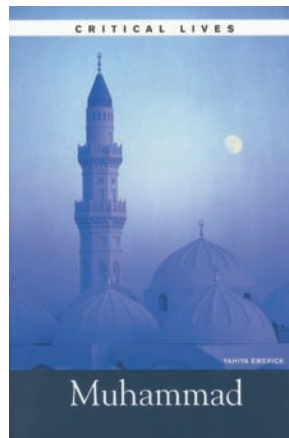
“Great chance to learn the life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), it equips us with the necessary look to eradicate the distorted image of Islam and Prophet Muhammad,” said Nay, a book recipient from California.

CAIR also encouraged increased interfaith dialogue and arranged for a series of interfaith open houses at local houses of worship across the country. In Washington, D.C., CAIR officials met with the Danish and Norwegian ambassadors to voice their concerns over the abuse of freedom of expression to hurt and insult.

The “Explore the Life of Muhammad” campaign is the third campaign of CAIR’s Explore series. The first, called “Explore Islamic Civilization and Culture,” was launched in response to America’s growing interest in Islam after the 9/11 attacks. Recognizing that there was a lack of balanced educational materials

available on the Islam, CAIR sent a compilation of books, tapes and videos about Islam and Muslims to more than 8,000 public libraries across the country.

Similarly, in 2005, in response to the Quran desecration controversy in Guantanamo Bay, CAIR offered free copies of the Quran to Americans interested in learning about Islam. To date, more than 30,000 people have received copies of the Quran through the “Explore the Quran Campaign” and have benefited from the opportunity to read the holy text. CAIR continues to receive requests for the Quran.



### POPE’S CONTROVERSIAL COMMENTS

In September, CAIR called for increased dialogue and understanding between Muslims and Catholics when Pope Benedict XVI’s reference to a medieval text during an academic lecture caused outrage across the Muslim world.

CAIR officials met with Vatican representatives in Washington, D.C., to discuss the remarks, and several CAIR chapters across the country even raised money to repair churches damaged in response to the Pope’s remarks.

# EMPOWERING AMERICAN MUSLIMS

## Encouraging Political Awareness & Civic Engagement



In the official swearing-in ceremony with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) for the 110th Congress, Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) placed his hands on a copy of the Quran once owned by Thomas Jefferson.

**Our challenge:** While the American Muslim community is becoming increasingly aware of its social and political potential, it still faces many challenges when it comes to changing public perception and policy toward Islam.

**Our goal:** To educate American Muslims about the political process and to encourage their civic participation so they can serve as advocates for positive change in our society.

The American Muslim community witnessed a historic event last year when Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) was elected as the nation's first Muslim member of the U.S. Congress.

"Tonight, we made history," Rep. Ellison said in a victory speech to supporters. "We won a key election, but we did much more than that. We showed that a candidate can run a 100 percent positive campaign and prevail, even against tough opposition."

Many commentators felt that Ellison's election victory reflected a larger trend: more American Muslim voters are turning out to make their voices heard.

Like other religious and ethnic minorities, American Muslims are becoming more engaged in the civic and political life of their communities.

In 2006, CAIR stepped up its efforts in educating its community about civil liberty issues and the political process. It equipped American Muslims with the advocacy tools and knowledge

they need to make their voices and concerns heard in the halls of Congress.

### VOTER EFFORTS

CAIR chapters in 11 states participated in non-partisan election efforts, including conducting town-hall meetings and voter registration drives throughout the year. CAIR also conducted and organized many lobbying efforts and actively monitored legislation and government activities on behalf of the American Muslim community.

CAIR's list of 400,000 registered American Muslim voters helped get out the vote nationwide in the mid-term elections and encouraged increased political participation in the community.

CAIR also surveyed registered Muslim voters about their demographic profiles, political views and levels of social participation. The results of the survey indicated that American Muslim voters are diverse in their religiosity, well-integrated in American society, and politically-active citizens.

### LEADERSHIP TRAINING

In order to continue to secure the success of today's advocacy work, it is vital to actively train the future leaders of the American Muslim community. At CAIR, this process starts by providing our youth with practical experience in public affairs.

*"We showed that a candidate can run a 100 percent positive campaign and prevail, even against tough opposition."*

*- Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN)*

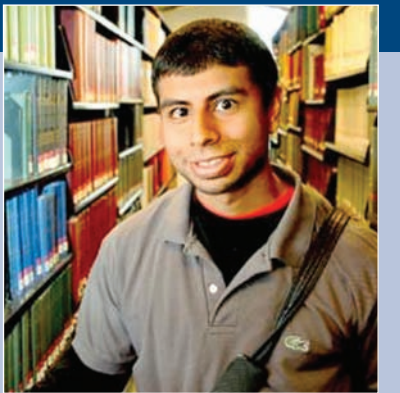
Every year, students from across the country apply for CAIR's annual internship program, one of the most competitive and sought-after internships in D.C. Interns receive practical training in the fields of law, civil rights, public and media relations, research and leadership training, community outreach and chapter development. Some of them

now serve on the staff of the White House, U.S. Congress, State Department and other government agencies, while others take their skills to benefit their respective communities.

CAIR also helps train the current leaders of our communities by hosting regular training conferences. In December, more than 40 imams, community leaders and activists participated in an imams' media training conference designed to teach them how to interact effectively with media professionals. *To organize a leadership training conference in your area, please contact your local CAIR chapter or CAIR National at 202-488-8787.*

*"Before the internship, I knew that many Muslims were discriminated against, but I had not realized the full extent and scope of this discrimination until I saw the sheer volume of incidents that were reported to CAIR."*

*- Nabeel Jawahir*



Nabeel Jawahir is one of CAIR's 2006 summer interns.

## Training Our Youth: Tomorrow's Leaders

Nabeel Jawahir, 22, a political science and history graduate of the University of Kentucky, was never really your typical youth. At an early age, Jawahir found himself devoted to civic service.

In middle school, he mentored elementary school students about the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. He also joined a social club that promoted the ideal of diversity and the protection of minority rights. In college, he volunteered for his local Habitat for Humanity chapter and at his university's Diversity and Engagement department, where he gained first-hand experience working with other minorities on campus.

So when many American Muslims were being adversely affected by discriminatory policies following 9/11, Jawahir felt compelled to put his experience and energy toward helping his community.

In the summer of 2006, Jawahir turned to America's leading Islamic civil rights group, CAIR, to gain professional experience in Muslim advocacy work. He interned in the civil rights department, researching legal cases and writing letters on behalf of the aggrieved parties.

"Before the internship, I knew that many Muslims were discriminated against, but I had not realized the full extent and scope of

this discrimination until I saw the sheer volume of incidents that were reported to CAIR," said Jawahir, who now serves as the executive director of the CAIR Kentucky chapter (CAIR-KY).

"Given that today's students will mature into tomorrow's leaders, it is imperative that they be mentored by the community to assume their future roles," said Jawahir. "Organizations like CAIR constitute an effective bridge toward furthering that ideal, and in turn, enhance the empowerment of American Muslims for generations to come."

Jawahir is one of many students from across the country who intern at CAIR to gain invaluable skills in advocacy work. Every year, CAIR interns receive practical training in the fields of law, civil rights, public and media relations, research and leadership training, community outreach and chapter development.

To learn more about CAIR's internship opportunities, visit: <http://www.cair.com/internship/>



Attorney Omar T. Mohammadi announces a lawsuit against US Airways on behalf of imams Ahmed Shqairat and Didmar Faja (back), who were removed from their flight in Minnesota earlier that year.

# PROTECTING CIVIL LIBERTIES

## *Upholding Our Constitutional Rights*

**Our challenge:** Post-9/11 government policies, particularly those based on ethnic and religious profiling, have adversely impacted American Muslim civil liberties.

**Our goal:** To increase awareness of the status of Muslim civil rights and defend the constitutionally-protected rights that all Americans hold dear.

The Indianapolis Star recently described CAIR as having “developed a reputation for being something of a pit bull in protecting the civil rights of Muslims.”

That is why many across the country regularly turn to CAIR to defend their civil rights. Most often, CAIR engages in public and private diplomacy to win relief for the aggrieved parties, but sometimes it litigates these cases and works to win settlements for the victims.

### PROFILING & SURVEILLANCE

In November, when six American imams were handcuffed and removed from a US Airways flight at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport for “suspicious activity,” CAIR was there to bring national attention to the case.

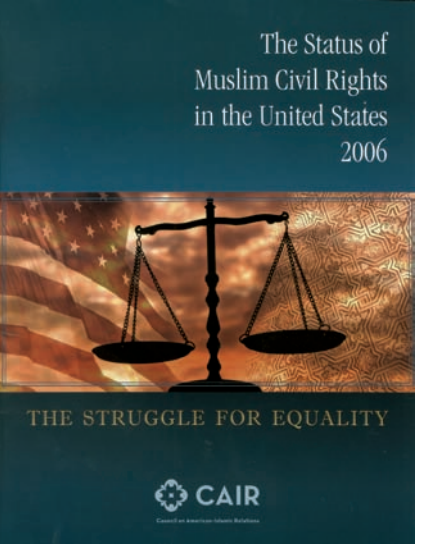
CAIR worked with the imams to secure their safe return home and later called for congressional hearings on religious and ethnic profiling at airports. CAIR was also retained as legal counsel to represent their interests in the matter. A lawsuit was filed on March 12, 2007. In the media, CAIR advocated for more effective law enforcement techniques in place of profiling at airports.

In August, CAIR and other civil rights groups scored a huge victory when a federal judge ruled that the U.S. government’s domestic eavesdropping program was unconstitutional and ordered it ended immediately. Earlier in 2006, CAIR joined an ACLU lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of this warrantless wiretapping program.

In May, CAIR also called for the appointment of a special counsel to investigate revelations that the National Security Agency (NSA) had built a giant database of Americans’ phone records. The phone records monitoring program, reportedly authorized by the president shortly after the 9/11 terror attacks, authorizes the NSA to bypass a secret court set up to provide warrants for such surveillance.

### 2006 CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT

Each year since 1995, CAIR has issued an annual civil rights report on the status of American Muslim civil liberties. The one-of-a-kind report outlined incidents and experiences of anti-Muslim violence, discrimination and harassment. According to the most recent study, “The Struggle for Equality,” there were 1,972 cases filed with CAIR in 2005; that figure is a



CAIR’s 2006 civil rights report, titled “The Struggle for Equality,” showed a significant increase in complaints of anti-Muslim harassment, violence and discriminatory treatment from the previous year.

29.6 percent jump over the preceding year’s total of 1,522 cases. In addition, CAIR received 153 reports of anti-Muslim hate crime complaints, an 8.6 percent increase from the 141 complaints received in 2004.

The study also recommends a number of actions designed to help reverse the tide of anti-Muslim discrimination. These recommendations include a public inquiry into post-9/11 policies impacting the Muslim community, legislative action to curb the use of profiling by law enforcement agencies, strengthening hate crime prosecutions, and modifications to the USA PATRIOT Act.

# PROMOTING JUSTICE

## Advocating for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution



TOP: CAIR held a panel discussion on the influence of the pro-Israel lobby, which aired live on C-SPAN. Participants pictured left to right are Corey Saylor, CAIR legislative director, Nihad Awad, CAIR executive director, John J. Mearsheimer, Univ. of Chicago.

BOTTOM: CAIR's panel discussion on the Iraq Study Group report aired live on C-SPAN2. Dr. Shibley Telhami, professor at the University of Maryland, Senator Larry Shaw and Dr. Imad Moustapha, Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic, presented Arab and Muslim perspectives on the issue.

**Our challenge:** Those who commit acts of terror, murder and cruelty in the name of Islam betray the values of our faith and add to the misconceptions many have about Muslims.

**Our goal:** To exemplify the true essence of justice in Islam through our words and actions and to repudiate any group, individual or state that commits acts of terrorism.

In Islam, one of the most important principles is to enjoin good and forbid evil. The Quran states: "O you who believe, stand up firmly for justice, as witnesses to God, even if it be against yourselves, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be against rich or poor; for God can best protect both. Do not follow any passion, lest you not be just." (4:135)

### CAIR'S PEACE DELEGATION

This moral command applies to all Muslims and is what drives CAIR's work. So when Jill Carroll, a freelance reporter for the Christian Science Monitor, was abducted while on assignment in Iraq in January 2006, CAIR was quick to issue an appeal for her immediate and unconditional release.

It said, in part: "We ask that her captors show mercy and compassion by releasing her so that she may return to her family. Certainly, no cause can be advanced by harming a person who only sought to let the world know about the human suffering caused by the conflict in Iraq."

CAIR also sent a delegation of its top officials to Iraq to person-

ally appeal for the reporter's release, while CAIR chapters held press conferences and translated their statements into Arabic for distribution in the region. Fortunately, through the combined efforts of all involved, Carroll was released after 82 days in captivity.

### ISRAELI WAR ON LEBANON

In July, when Israel began its bombardment of southern Lebanon, many in the global community condemned the military action and unanimously approved a UN resolution to end the hostilities.

CAIR called on the Bush administration to demand an end to Israel's campaign against Lebanon's civilian infrastructure and to protect the lives of American citizens trapped in areas under Israeli attack. CAIR used polling data to show that a cease-fire was supported by the majority of Americans of all faiths.

CAIR representatives also appeared before national and international television audiences urging for a just resolution and CAIR chapters hosted news conferences to give voice to those

families directly affected by Israel's aggression.

CAIR followed its media efforts with a panel discussion, "The Israel Lobby and the U.S. Response to the War in Lebanon," at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The panel, aired live on C-SPAN, featured the authors of a recent Harvard University paper titled, "The Israel Lobby."

### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

In September, CAIR hosted a dinner for former Iranian Presi-

*"O you who believe, stand up firmly for justice, as witnesses to God, even if it be against your selves, or your parents, or your kin..."*

*- Quran 4:135*

dent Mohammad Khatami to underscore the need for increased dialogue between the West and the Muslim world. His address, "Dialogue of Civilizations: Five Years After 9/11," called for respect and dialogue among the followers of the three Abrahamic faiths, Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

CAIR hosted another panel discussion at the National Press Club in December to offer the Arab and Muslim perspective on the findings of the Iraq Study Group report. The panel discussion included remarks by the Syrian ambassador to the United States, as well as comments from Middle East expert Shibley Telhami and CAIR officials. It was also aired live on C-SPAN.

## Serving as a Voice for Our Community

One early morning in June 2006, after dropping his wife and four children at the Los Angeles International airport, Mahmoud Tarifi promised his family that he would soon join them in Beirut for their summer vacation.

Tarifi, a Lebanese American and a dedicated father and husband, was excited to see his children finally on their way to Lebanon to visit their grandparents for the first time.

Little did he know that his dreams of a memorable family trip would soon turn into one of his greatest nightmares. A month after their arrival to Lebanon, a war between Lebanon and Israel broke out, leaving many civilians in a frenzy desperately trying to flee the country.

From July 12 to 22, Tarifi and his family lived in fear and sorrow. As cruise ships were ferrying thousands of Americans to safety in Cypress, Tarifi's wife and four children were repeatedly told they could not board because there was no room on the ship.

"I talked to my wife and children and they were all in tears," said an emotional Tarifi. "My wife was so frustrated. I was so frustrated, upset and angry."

Tarifi needed support and he didn't know what to do. Frustrated with all of the red tape and non-answers, he decided to call CAIR.

*"CAIR helped me get my family back. When somebody supports you on that magnitude, there are no words to express your gratitude. CAIR gave me family support. CAIR does a great job, they do their best to inform, educate and empower the American community. They help you learn how to become an active entity in the American community and how to handle crisis situations."*

*- Mahmoud Tarifi*



Mahmoud Tarifi and his wife, Faten.

"I had it on my mind that whenever you need help to call CAIR," said Tarifi. "I called them, they offered me full support and they asked me if I wanted to come to the press conference to tell my story."

In the press conference, Tarifi passionately pleaded to the American government to rescue his children, who are all United States citizens.

"My four kids have only American passports and only the American citizenship," he said.

Tarifi was finally reunited with his family ten days after the Israel-Lebanon conflict erupted. Although traumatized by the whole situation, the Tarifi family was thankful to be back home.

"CAIR helped me get my family back," said Tarifi.



# ON THE GRASS ROOTS LEVEL

## CAIR Chapters Step Up to the Plate



CAIR-Orlando and local law enforcement held a joint press conference to express concern over the mosque shooting.

CAIR relies on representatives from its 32 chapters to successfully replicate its national strategies to fit the needs of cities and towns across the country. CAIR's success on the grass roots level has helped secure its long-term stability and future success for years to come.

By 2010, CAIR hopes to have a chapter in every state in the nation. Below are a few examples of the cases that CAIR chapters worked on in 2006.

CAIR-Ohio reacted quickly to a proposed "jihad-themed" radio ad for a car dealer. The ads reportedly would have proclaimed a "jihad" on the U.S. auto market and offered "Fatwa Fridays" with sales representatives in "burqas" giving free swords to children.



After CAIR-Ohio intervened, an official with the Mitsubishi dealership offered an apology for any misunderstanding caused by "an attempt at humor that fell short" and decided not to air the spots.

In Florida, when a local pastor played on anti-Muslim sentiment and opposed the building of a mosque in his community, CAIR-Florida was there to defend the image and interests of the American Muslim community.



Through CAIR-Florida's work, the Governor of Florida re-

moved the pastor from the Judicial Nominating Committee and Attorney General Charlie Crist removed him from the Strengthening Florida's Families Council. The CAIR Orlando office hosted a press conference with law enforcement officials to express solidarity and concern for the community's safety after snipers shot at a worshipper outside a Melbourne, Fla. mosque.

In California and Chicago, CAIR offices joined other civil rights groups in filing a class-action lawsuit against the federal government for its practice of indefinitely delaying citizenship applications in violation of immigration laws.



CAIR-Michigan's chapter yielded successful results when a Michigan State University professor offered an apology for an Islamophobic e-mail he had sent to Muslim students.



In an e-mail reply to a person expressing concern over his offensive remarks, MSU engineering professor Indrek Wichman said: "I wrote my comments in haste to what I thought was a private organization and I used intemperate language. My apologies to you and other [sic] whom I have offended. I regret this very much and my comments have nothing to do with my classes or any research."

CAIR-MI also organized educational initiatives on the campus to foster better understanding of Islam and Muslims.

In October 2006, CAIR-Chicago announced that it had registered more than 1,000 new Muslim voters through the New Americans Democracy Project (NADP) in partnership with the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR).



CAIR-Chicago's governmental relations department also released the CAIR-Chicago Voter Education Guide, a guide that provided Illinois voters with information on all candidates running state and congressional campaigns.

CAIR-MD/VA has successfully implemented projects and initiatives to benefit its local Muslim community. Some of its 2006 highlights include an imams media training seminar, a presentation on airport profiling and airline travel safety, and a workshop on volunteer management. CAIR-MD/VA has also hosted several presentations on Islam and Muslims for schools, colleges and community organizations such as the Kiwanis Club.

*"Civil liberties at home and human rights abroad do not sacrifice, but strengthen, our security. We need the respected voice of CAIR more than ever now that this principle is threatened in libraries, military academies, and secret prisons all over the world."*

-Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA)



Congresswoman Barbara Lee praises CAIR for its work at the CAIR 12th annual Congressional iftar.

## What They Say: Politicians on CAIR

"I particularly want to commend CAIR for working to educate others about Islam, a religion of more than one billion people in the world. CAIR also has provided members of the Muslim community in the United States with an important voice in promoting social justice and mutual understanding. CAIR has 31 offices nationwide and in Canada and through your work you have helped promote a dialogue among employers, law enforcement officials, and government agencies. CAIR understands the importance of developing mutual understanding and trust."

-Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD)

"I applaud CAIR's mission to enhance understanding and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding."

-Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D-MD)

"In a difficult environment, CAIR has much to be proud of. On the key civil rights issues of our time, CAIR has been out front. Energetic, quick to enter the debate, vigilant, CAIR has earned a reputation as a force to be reckoned with. Good thing, as the stakes could not be higher."

-Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich (D-OH)

"CAIR has been a true leader in the community, promoting cultural and religious understanding and building coalitions between the non-Muslim and Muslim community. Your organiza-

tion has also provided opportunities and motivation for Muslim Americans."

-Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)

"Throughout its decade of existence, CAIR-LA has been instrumental in promoting cultural and religious understanding of the Muslim community. I am pleased that CAIR-LA has dedicated their efforts to building coalitions between non-Muslim and Muslim communities in an effort to eliminate stereotypes and promote tolerance, compassion and understanding. I look forward to a continued partnership with CAIR-LA as we strive for freedom and understanding among all who call America home."

-Rep. Gary Miller (R-CA)

"Far too often, the remarkable work and achievements of organizations such as CAIR are overlooked."

-Rep. Bob Filner (D-CA)



**CAIR**  
CALIFORNIA

A YEAR IN REVIEW

*2006-2007*

# A COLLECTIVE EFFORT

## A Sampling of CAIR's Media Endeavors



CAIR - Greater Los Angeles Area co-hosted a screening and panel discussion of "A Mighty Heart" along with Progressive Christians Uniting (PCU) and Paramount Vantage.

In 2006-2007, CAIR representatives were interviewed more than 1,200 times by national and international media outlets. CAIR organized more than 30 press conferences and published more than a dozen editorials nationwide.

### SAMPLES OF TELEVISION APPEARANCES:

**Feb. 3** – CAIR Communication Director Ibrahim Hooper discusses Danish cartoon controversy on MSNBC.

**Aug. 14** – CAIR Legal Director Arsalan Iftikhar discusses Bush's 'Islamic fascist' comment, Lebanon and racial profiling on CBS's "Up to the Minute."

**Aug. 22** – CAIR Communication Director Ibrahim Hooper debates profiling, "Islamic Fascism" on "Kudlow & Company."

**Sept. 26** – CAIR-OH President Dr. Asma Mobin-uddin discusses Jihad Ads on MSNBC's Tucker Carlson.

**Sept. 27** – CAIR Executive Director Nihad Awad discusses NY Congressman exploiting anti-Muslim bias on CNN.

**Oct. 3** – CAIR-Tampa Executive Director Ahmed Bedier shares his views on the Pope's remarks about Islam on Bay News 9.

**Jan. 8, 2007** – CAIR-SV Executive Director Basim Elkarra discusses the Senator Boxer Incident with CNN's Paula Zahn.

**Jan. 23, 2007** – CAIR-LA Communications Coordinator Munira Syeda debates the portrayal of Muslims on FOX's '24' on Cine Cinema (French TV).

**April 9, 2007** – CAIR-LA Executive Director Hussam Ayloush interviews with ABC 7 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the fall of Baghdad.

**July 11, 2007** – CAIR-SD Public Relations Director Edgar Hopida discusses Muslim prayers in school with CNN's Paula Zahn.

**Aug. 15, 2007** CAIR-SFBA Executive Director Safaa Ibrahim on CBS5 discusses the Antioch Mosque arson case.

### SAMPLES OF EDITORIALS

ISLAM-OPED is a national syndication service of the Council on American-Islamic Relations designed to offer an American Muslim perspective on current political, social and religious issues. Below are a few examples of CAIR op-eds published through ISLAM-OPED in 2006-2007.

**"Abraham's Devotion Inspires Muslims, Christians, Jews"**

Dr. Asma Mobin-uddin on Dec. 26, 2006.

**"Love For Jesus Can Bring Christians, Muslims Together"**

Ibrahim Hooper on Dec. 1, 2006.

**"Reject the Political Muslim-Bashing Smears"**

Parvez Ahmed on Oct. 20, 2006.

**"U.S. Muslims Seek Understanding, Acceptance"**

Hadia Mubarak on July 27, 2006.

**"Sen. Boxer's Decision un-American"**

Abdul Rahman Hamamsy on January 1, 2007.

**"Muslims Struggle to Teach the Truth of their Faith in U.S."**

Munira Syeda on Feb. 13, 2007.

**"Mend Growing West-Islam Rift by Reading, Taking Trips Abroad"**

Executive Director Hussam Ayloush on April 8, 2007.

**"In response to 'Multiculturalism's war on education'"**

Mai El-Sadany on Aug. 25, 2007.

### SAMPLES OF SEMINARS AND WORKSHOP APPEARANCES:

On Feb. 22, CAIR-Sacramento Valley hosted the Fourth Annual Media Reception to build and enhance relations with local media professionals.

On Aug. 17, CAIR-Michigan's Executive Director Dawud Walid spoke on the "True Face of Islam: Perceptions and Misconceptions," at the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

On May 3, CAIR-San Francisco Bay Area hosted First Annual Media Networking event "American Muslims, American Stories" to build and enhance relations with local media professionals.

On Dec. 12, CAIR Board members, Sen. Larry Shaw, Nihad Awad and Parvez Ahmed participated in the Muslim response to the Iraq Study Group report. The event was carried live on C-SPAN.

On Feb. 8, CAIR-SD held a meeting with the editorial staff of the San Diego Union Tribune.

CAIR chapters held nationwide workshops at Islamic Centers on the topics of: Know your Rights, Civic Engagement, and Media Relations.

*"I believe it's the call of our times. We need to be more educated, more enlightened and more aware of what's happening around us and what's being said about us."*

*- Shaykh Mohammed Faqih, Imam of the Islamic Institute of Orange County in Anaheim.*



## Building Better Relations: Imam Media Seminar

To encourage active media participation, 40 Southern California Imams and community leaders came together for a specialized media seminar on July 28, sponsored by the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Greater Los Angeles area and One Nation.

One Nation is a philanthropic collaborative that sponsors initiatives that challenge stereotypes and misperceptions of American Muslims and Islam by shining a spotlight on all Americans' shared values, beliefs, and responsibilities.

Media consultants along with CAIR National Communications Director Ibrahim Hooper conducted the seminar at the Chinese Cultural Center in Irvine. The seminar offered tools in media needed to present story ideas to editors, organize letter writing campaigns, and participate in radio call-in.

At a time when Muslims and Islam are frequently in the spotlight, organizers as well as community leaders stressed learning these tools to be able to engage with local media, tell the American Muslim story and provide an effective voice on behalf of the community.

"It is not only important for Imams to have a platform to come together and discuss these kind of issues, I think it's a necessity and I really thank CAIR for making this happen and taking the initiative in this field," said Shaykh Mohammed Faqih, Imam of the Islamic Institute of Orange County in Anaheim.

"I believe it's the call of our times. We need to be more educated, more enlightened and more aware of what's happening around us and what's being said about us. Getting the training that's necessary to represent ourselves as well as our communities in a more healthy, more positive fashion is a necessity, not only something that's important."

# CAIR CALIFORNIA: YEAR IN REVIEW

## *An Overview of 2006-2007*



TOP: CAIR California Staff and Board meet with the first Muslim Congressman Keith Ellison in Washington D.C.

RIGHT: CAIR Sacramento Valley Executive Director, Basim Elkarra receives Assembly Resolution at the Organization of Chinese Americans Dragon Boat Festival.

### GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Meeting and working with state, local, and federal officials strengthens the Muslim community's presence and stature in civil life. Part of CAIR's work involves working with government officials at various levels. CAIR-CA has been on the forefront of positive engagement with government officials.

Some highlights include: CAIR testified in the California Senate and Assembly Hearings on Assembly Bill 1595. CAIR also met with Congressional District offices for Immigration Reform in Washington D.C. and locally in California and was also invited to attend a joint session of Congress to hear the address of King Abdallah II of Jordan. Moreover, CAIR held its 3rd Annual Muslim Youth Leadership Program (MYLP) Conference at the California State Capitol allowing 35 high school students from across the state to learn about the political process and the importance of community organizing.

### PROTECTING CIVIL RIGHTS

Each year, CAIR continues to document and help resolve cases of discrimination and hate crimes, which are integral to protecting our civil rights. Some highlights of this department include CAIR participating in the Annual Pilgrimage to the Manzanar Japanese Internment Camp.

CAIR works with various law enforcement agencies across California to provide resources to handle matters relating to the American Muslim community. CAIR, along with the Asian Law Caucus, conducted a Customs and Border Protection training covering the basic Muslim practices. CAIR Greater

Los Angeles and Bay Area offices also worked on addressing effects of immigration policies on the Muslim community and helped launch the joint ACLU and CAIR lawsuits addressing Citizenship Delays plaguing the Muslim community. CAIR continues to empower the American Muslim community through education by holding meetings to discuss community policing issues and conducting sensitivity training programs designed to increase awareness and understanding.

CAIR also held the first ever Community Legal Day in Sacramento. The Legal Clinic helped over 40 community members with issues ranging from employment discrimination to citizenship delay. CAIR-SV partnered with immigration attorneys from the ACLU, Asian Law Caucus, and the Bay Area Association of Muslim Lawyers (BAAML) and held a forum to address the issues of citizenship delay.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH & DEVELOPMENT

CAIR strives to nurture a grassroots level activism through innovative strategies to inform the public about Islam and Muslims in America. These strategies are put to work through various methods such as workshops, forums, conferences, and interfaith dialogues conducted at various mosques, churches, synagogues, schools and universities.

Some highlights for this year are: CAIR coordinated Ramadan Open Houses throughout the Bay Area which was attended by 1,000 guests. CAIR California launched various healthcare campaigns, CAIR Sacramento Valley joined the Susan G. Komen 'Race 4 the Cure', in an effort to raise funds for breast

cancer. CAIR educated hundreds of healthcare professionals on basic Islamic and ethical principles and their relation to the healthcare field.

### MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

CAIR focuses on assisting the media in presenting accurate information about Islam and Muslims by providing interviews to radio, television, and print outlets. Every day, CAIR works on letter-writing campaigns, op-eds, and serves as a resource to different media organizations by becoming their chief resource on issues pertaining to Islam and American Muslims.

This year, CAIR along with Progressive Christians Uniting and Paramount Vantage hosted an exclusive screening in Los Angeles on "A Mighty Heart," which depicts the intense search for and subsequent horrific murder of Wall Street Journal writer Daniel Pearl in Pakistan, through the eyes of his wife Mariane Pearl. Some 300 people of diverse faiths and backgrounds turned out for the screening and panel discussion involving representatives of the three Abrahamic faiths and the film's producer.

"It is important to reiterate that Muslims all around the world condemned the horrific murder of Daniel Pearl... and it pains me to see that there are criminals out there who misuse the



name of Islam to justify violent acts against innocent people," said CAIR-LA Executive Director Hussam Ayloush, addressing the packed theater. "We need to use this film and the tragedy depicted in this film to spread the message that we need more dialogue, and end the culture of violence, the culture of bombs, the culture of occupation, the culture of torture."

Rev. Peter Laarman, executive director of Progressive Christians Uniting, agreed. "I think there is a need for people to respond in real time to canards, to slurs and to sweeping generalizations," he told the audience.

To build and enhance relations with local media professionals, a Media Networking event was held in the Bay Area and Sacramento to create an accessible network of reporters. The gathering brought together local media professionals with key leaders and activists from the Sacramento Valley Muslim community for mutual benefit of creating a more accessible network.

CAIR also helped launch the "Extraordinary Muslims" Campaign -- essentially a story bank collection of the life experiences of American Muslims with diverse talents. Basim Elkarra, CAIR's Sacramento Valley's executive director was also a weekly guest on Talk City's Christine Craft "Ask A Muslim" radio show. The hour-long segment has been a proactive way to clarify the misconceptions about Islam and is heard by thousands of people.



CAIR San Diego Public Relation Director Egdar Hopida holds annual civil rights press conference. This year's civil rights report showed an increase in anti-Muslim complaints from the previous year.

# PRAISEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## *A Sampling of CAIR's National Recognition*

PLEASE RESPOND TO:  
 WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
 1710 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
 WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2206  
 (202) 225-3481  
 FAX: (202) 225-4159  
 www.house.gov/meeks

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
 196-06 LINDEN BOULEVARD  
 ST. ALBANS, NY 11542  
 (718) 249-5600  
 FAX: (718) 249-5932

1821 MOTT AVENUE, ROOM 209  
 FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691  
 (718) 327-0791  
 FAX: (718) 327-4222

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

**GREGORY W. MEEKS**  
 6TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

October 26, 2006

COMMITTEE:  
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
 AMERICA, GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND  
 INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS  
 WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Mr. Nihad Awad  
 Executive Director  
 Council On American Islamic Relations  
 453 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
 Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Awad:

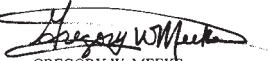
I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you and CAIR on your 12th Annual Banquet. The work that CAIR does on behalf of not only Muslim rights, but human rights is critical and I applaud your efforts.

CAIR is the largest Muslim civil rights advocacy group in the country with affiliates in 19 states and its headquarters strategically located just a few blocks south of the U.S. Capitol. Their vital work was never more apparent than after September 11, 2001 when the Muslim community came under severe scrutiny by law enforcement and acts of bias by the general public. Under much criticism, CAIR took the lead in standing up for the rights of the Muslim community from the offices of the White House to the countryside of rural America.

As an African American elected official, I know that I have benefitted from the struggles and sacrifice of those who came before me during the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. I encourage CAIR to continue fighting not only for the rights of the Muslim community in America, but to work with other civil rights organizations to protect the rights of all Americans. For as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once stated, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere".

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,

  
 GREGORY W. MEEKS  
 Member of Congress

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LORETTA SANCHEZ  
 47th District, California

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
 1230 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
 WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2946  
 (202) 225-7865  
 (202) 225-5859 FAX

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
 12307 LEWIS STREET, SUITE 101  
 GARDEN GROVE, CA 92640-4635  
 (714) 621-9102  
 (714) 621-0491 FAX

E-mail:  
 lsanchez@mail.house.gov

Website:  
 www.house.gov/sanchez

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

**Washington, DC 20515**

November 9, 2006

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
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 TOTAL FORCE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
 INFRASTRUCTURE AND BORDER SECURITY  
 CYBERSECURITY, SCIENCE, AND RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT RULES


Council on American-Islamic Relations  
 453 New Jersey Ave S.E.  
 Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Council of American-Islamic Relations:

On the occasion of CAIR's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet, I would like to applaud your efforts to educate all Americans about the religion of Islam. As the fastest growing religion in America, it is critical that organizations like CAIR continue working to promote cultural understanding between Muslims and those of other faiths. I am particularly impressed by CAIR's efforts to mobilize American Muslim voters in the recent midterm elections, as well as CAIR's continued leadership in the promotion of civil liberties.

My Congressional district in Orange County, California, is home to over 130,000 Muslims, and I have been honored to participate in roundtable discussions involving all of the cultural and religious communities in my district. I hope to continue being involved in the dialogue between all communities of faith. Again, I applaud CAIR for its contributions in developing mutual understanding between all of our religious communities.

Sincerely,

  
 Loretta Sanchez  
 Member of Congress

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

*Anna G. Eshoo*  
 Fourteenth District  
 California

November 11, 2007

Ms. Safaa Ibrahim, Executive Director  
 Council on American Islamic Relations, San Francisco Bay Area  
 3000 Scott Boulevard, Suite 212  
 Santa Clara, California 95054

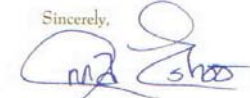
Dear Friends,

You have my very best wishes as you gather for the Council on American-Islamic Relations 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet.

I commend CAIR for its work in educating the public about Muslim communities, your defense of civil rights, and your efforts to seek justice for every member of the community.

I stand with you in opposition to any attacks on our civil liberties and you have my gratitude for your important advocacy for justice, tolerance and a better America.

Sincerely,

  
 Anna G. Eshoo  
 Member of Congress

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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Michael M. Honda  
 15TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

**Congratulations from Congressman Michael M. Honda**  
**on the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Banquet**  
**of the Council on American-Islamic Relations**

November 11, 2007

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations, San Francisco Bay Area (CAIR SFBA) on the occasion of its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Banquet. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize CAIR for its dedication to pursuing a mutual understanding between Islamic and American cultures.

Since its establishment in 1994, CAIR has been a leading advocate of justice and civil liberties. Now as one of the largest Islamic civil liberties groups in the nation, CAIR engages in political and social activism to ensure that Muslim voices are heard and to empower American Muslims. With affiliates in 19 states and more than 30 active chapters nationwide, CAIR educates Americans about Islam with programs such as "Explore the Quran" and open dialogue forums.

Today's Annual Community Banquet is a gathering of elected officials, community leaders, and members of the greater Bay Area Muslim community to encourage more civic, political, and social engagement. The theme "American Muslims - Shaping our Future" focuses on how American Muslims are defined in today's world; the event will include a review of current events, recognition of the year's achievements, and guest speakers on how American Muslims can promote an accurate image of Islam.

I am pleased to congratulate the Council on American-Islamic Relations, San Francisco Bay Area on its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Banquet. I wish them much success in this and all of their future endeavors.

Sincerely,

  
 Michael M. Honda  
 Member of Congress

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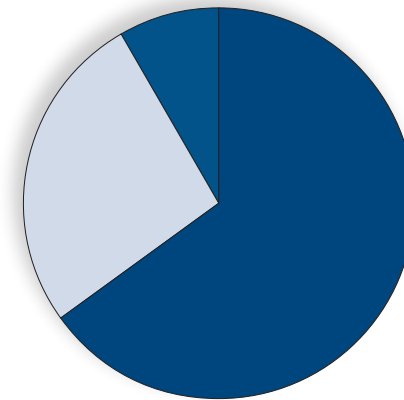
Every year, CAIR hosts leadership training seminars at its headquarters in order to empower its chapters with the tools they need to succeed on the grass roots level.

# CAIR-CA FINANCIAL ACTIVITY REPORT

## Sources of Financial Support

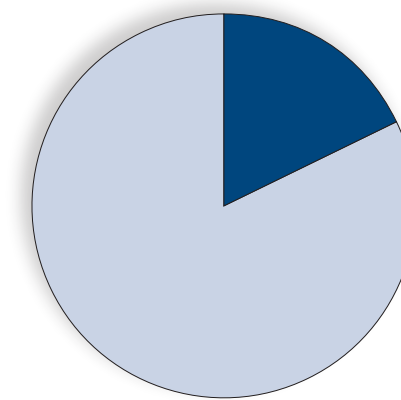
CAIR operating funds come from four main funding sources: donations, restricted income and other revenue. The following statement of activities is for the fiscal year of 2007 for CAIR chapters in San Francisco, San Diego, Greater Los Angeles Area and Sacramento Valley.

### Contributions



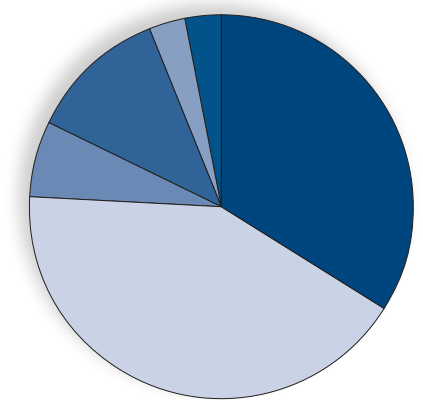
- Donations (\$1,033,585.00) **65%**
  - Other Revenue (\$130,882.00) **8%**
  - Restricted Income (\$425,475) **26%**
    - 37% "Explore Life of the Prophet" Campaign
    - 34% "Explore Quran" Campaign
    - 28% Other Outreach Projects
- TOTAL: \$1,589,942**

### Expenses



- Program Services **82%**
  - Fundraising & Management **18%**
- TOTAL: \$1,507,159.00**

### Expenses: Breakdown



- Payroll & Benefits **34%**
  - Outreach Activities Travel **42%**
  - IT & Supplies **6%**
  - Office Lease & Utilities **12%**
  - Legal/Accounting Fees & Depreciation **3%**
  - Taxes **3%**
- TOTAL: \$1,507,159.00**

# CAIR LEADERSHIP

## Board Members, Staff, California Chapters



CAIR CA hosts third annual Muslim Youth Leadership Program (MYLP) for California High School students this program focuses on the empowerment of the youth

### CAIR-CA BOARD MEMBERS

**Chairman:** Fouad Khatib  
**Vice Chairman:** Omar Hassaine  
**Treasurer:** Hamza El-Nakhal  
**Secretary:** Tahra Goraya  
**Members**  
Hussam Ayloush  
Omar Ahmed  
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### STAFF

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Hussam Ayloush

**Civil Rights Coordinator**  
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**Assistant to Director, Community Relations Manager**  
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Munira Syeda  
**Membership and Administrative Coordinator**  
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**Programs Manager**  
Alia Aboul-Nasr

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Ayaz Usman

### STAFF

**Public Relations Director**  
Edgar D. Hopida

**Administrative & Membership Coordinator**  
Homayra Yusufi

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Dina El-Nakhal  
Yousef Marmosh  
Najme Minhaj

### STAFF

**Executive Director**  
Basim Elkarra  
**Programs Director**  
Basma Marmosh

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**President:** Shafath Syed  
**Vice President:** Athar Siddiquee  
**Members**  
Omar Ahmad  
Razi Mohiuddin  
Khaldoon Abugharbieh

Malika Khan

### STAFF

**Executive Director**  
Safaa Ibrahim  
**Media Relations Coordinator**  
Asma Nemati  
**Government Relations Coordinators**  
Mahrukh Khan, Sameena Usman  
**Communications Coordinator**  
Shazia Jafri  
**Program Manager**  
Amina Ansari  
**Civil Rights Coordinator**  
Ursala Khan

### CONTACT US

#### CALIFORNIA

**CAIR - Los Angeles**  
2180 W. Crescent Avenue, Suite F  
Anaheim, CA 92801  
714-776-1847  
<http://ca.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Sacramento Valley

717 K Street, Suite 306  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-441-6269  
<http://ca.cair.com>

#### CAIR - San Diego

7710 Balboa Avenue, Suite 217  
San Diego, CA 92111  
858-278-4547  
<http://ca.cair.com>

#### CAIR - San Francisco Bay Area

3000 Scott Blvd., Suite 212  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
408-986-9874  
<http://ca.cair.com>

#### CAIR National

453 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-488-8787  
<http://www.cair.com>  
[info@cair.com](mailto:info@cair.com)

#### CAIR - Arizona

202 E. McDowell  
Suite 165  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
602-262-2247  
<http://az.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Connecticut

165 State Street  
Suite 515  
New London, CT 06320  
860-995-6628  
<http://ct.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Orlando

116 N. Parramore Ave.  
Orlando, FL 32801  
407-649-1660  
<http://fl.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Miami

1601 North Palm Avenue  
Suite 203  
Pembroke Pines, FL 33026  
954-272-0490  
<http://fl.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Tampa

8056 N. 56th Street  
Tampa, FL 33617  
813-514-1414  
<http://fl.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Georgia

3920 North Peachtree Road  
Suite 205  
Atlanta, GA 30341  
770-220-0082  
<http://ga.cair.com>

#### CAIR - Chicago

28 East Jackson Blvd.  
Suite 1410  
Chicago, IL 60604  
312-212-1520  
<http://chicago.cair.com>

## CONTACT US

*continued...*

### **CAIR - Kentucky**

P.O. Box 910831  
Lexington, KY 40513  
859-221-9081  
<http://ky.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Maryland-Virginia**

585 Grove Street, Suite G10  
Herndon, VA 20170  
703.689.3100  
<http://mdva.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Michigan**

21700 Northwestern Highway  
Suite #1199  
Southfield, MI 48075  
248-559-2247  
<http://mi.cair.com>

### **CAIR - St. Louis**

P.O. Box 739  
Manchester, MO 63011  
636-207-8882  
<http://mo.cair.com>

### **CAIR - New Jersey**

475 Wall Street  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
908.938.5990  
<http://nj.cair.com>

### **CAIR - New York**

475 Riverside Drive  
Suite #246  
New York, NY 10115  
212-870-2002  
<http://ny.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Ohio**

**(Cincinnati Regional Office)**  
10999 Reed Hartman Hwy.  
Suite 222  
Cincinnati, OH 45242  
513-281-8200  
<http://ohio.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Cleveland**

2999 Payne Ave, Suite 201  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
216-830-2247  
<http://ohio.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Columbus**

1505 Bethel Road, Suite 200  
Columbus, OH 43220  
614-451-3232  
<http://ohio.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Harrisburg**

903 Kent Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050  
717-7302-3330  
<http://pa.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Philadelphia**

1218 Chestnut Street, Suite 510-11  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
215-592-0509  
<http://pa.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Seattle**

12351 Lake City Way NE., Suite 103  
Seattle, WA 98037  
206.367.4081  
<http://wa.cair.com>

### **CAIR - South Carolina**

P.O. Box 806  
Lexington, SC 29071  
803-233-1809  
<http://sc.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Dallas/Fort Worth**

12200 Ford Road  
Suite 118  
Dallas, TX 75234  
972-241-7233  
<http://tx.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Houston**

5821 Southwest Freeway  
Houston, TX 77057  
713-838-2247  
<http://tx.cair.com>

### **CAIR - San Antonio**

3358 Tavern Oaks Street  
San Antonio, TX 78247  
210-378-9528  
<http://tx.cair.com>

### **CAIR - Minnesota**

1821 University Avenue,  
Suite 220  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
Phone: 651.645.7102  
<http://mn.cair.com>





