



CAIR
CALIFORNIA

Annual Report
2015-2016

ADVANCING
JUSTICE,
CHALLENGING
HATE



VISION

To be a leading advocate for justice and mutual understanding.

MISSION

To enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

On behalf of CAIR California (CAIR-CA), thank you for your unwavering support in sustaining our advocacy efforts to promote justice, challenge hate, and create a more inclusive nation.

CAIR-CA continues to grow as a leading grassroots institution in the state – by protecting civil liberties, raising our community’s stature among policymakers and government agencies, and preparing tomorrow’s leaders.

As 2016 draws to a close, I am tremendously proud to share some of our major victories: efforts by CAIR-CA and its partners to push legislation, recently signed into law by Governor Brown, to protect our children from bullying in schools; a strong community-wide, interfaith pushback against hate rhetoric voiced by some politicians; and expanded services for immigrants and refugees.

However, frequent hate and discrimination incidents remind us of the necessity of CAIR-CA’s continuing work and your support in creating a more just and equal society. In November and December 2015 alone, American Muslims witnessed an alarming 34 attacks against our houses of worship nationwide. Moreover, the climate of anti-Muslim bigotry is being fueled by a multi-million dollar Islamophobic industry. According to our latest Islamophobia report, “Confronting Fear: Islamophobia and its Impact in the U.S. 2013-2015,” an inner core group of 33 organizations was funded by an astonishing \$200 million-plus between 2008 and 2013.

However, with the blessings of Allah and your support, CAIR-CA will continue to work with both our community and partners to advance justice, challenge hate, and strengthen American Muslim engagement in the fabric of our nation.

On behalf of the CAIR-CA Board and the Executive Committees, I am thankful to our dedicated staff, interns, and volunteers who have given their time and energy to advance CAIR’s work. We are proud to serve you through our four offices in the Greater Los Angeles Area (CAIR-LA), Sacramento Valley (CAIR-SV), San Diego (CAIR-SD), and the San Francisco Bay Area (CAIR-SFBA).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Omar Hassaine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Omar Hassaine
Chair of the Board, CAIR California

STRENGTHENING OUR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



2015 GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Sacramento Valley	56
San Francisco Bay Area	69
Greater Los Angeles Area	32
San Diego	18
Muslim Day at the Capitol	75
Total	250

As a testament to our civic work, CAIR-SFBA Government Relations Coordinator Sameena Usman was invited by Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren (D-San Jose) to participate in President Obama's final State of the Union address. Elected officials called on their fellow lawmakers to invite American Muslims to make a political statement in light of rising anti-Muslim rhetoric and incidents.

The Muslim community is an important stakeholder in the civic process and a key contributor to positive change in our society. At CAIR-CA, we influence this positive change by sponsoring legislation that promotes freedom, justice, and equality. We further provide ongoing resources to educate our community on policy issues and galvanize their civic participation through various efforts such as voter registration drives, meetings with elected officials and candidates, hosting voter education and candidates' forums, and volunteering for critical bills.

Muslim Day at the Capitol: A Five-Year Snapshot

This year, we are proudly marking the fifth anniversary of one of our flagship civic engagement programs - the 5th Muslim Day at the Capitol (MDAC). The number of participants in MDAC has grown each year, from over 50 in 2012 to more than 600 this year. We have also supported and sponsored a number of key bills through MDAC - legislation that promotes just and equitable policies - that were signed into law. MDAC has also been an important opportunity to forge

key alliances with additional partners at the Capitol and throughout the state.

Our legislative successes demonstrate the need for this hard work and the strength of our community when we come together to advocate a better place for all Californians.

Fifth Annual MDAC

This year, over 600 participants held 98 meetings with elected officials at the annual event. Participants sought the support of their legislators on the following issues: protections for immigrants, measures to prevent school bullying, the right to engage in boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS), and police accountability.

AB 2844: This anti-BDS prohibits the state of California from doing business with those who boycott any recognized sovereign nation or peoples. Before submitting a bid or contract proposal to the state, the person must certify, under penalty of perjury, that no such boycott policies are in place. Unfortunately, AB 2844 was signed by the Governor in late September.

AB 2845: The Safe Place to Learn Act mandates that school districts provide school site and community resources for students who face discrimination and bullying based on actual or perceived religious affiliation. The bill, which was drafted by Assemblymember Das Williams, CAIR-CA, and its partners – Asian Americans Advancing Justice and the Sikh Coalition – was signed by Governor Brown in late September.

AB 2792: This bill seeks to establish a transparent process between people and the law enforcement. Local law enforcement assisting U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) would be required to obtain written consent from detained individuals that they have been explained their rights during the ICE interview process. AB 2792 was signed by Governor Brown in late September.

SB 1286: This bill seeks to build law enforcement accountability and transparency by allowing public access to information on police misconduct and creating civilian oversight bodies to help effectively monitor police conduct. The bill was under review in the Senate.

MUSLIM DAY AT THE CAPITOL: A FIVE-YEAR SNAPSHOT



2012



The Workplace Religious Freedom Act of 2012, AB 1964 | Ensures religious freedoms of California's minority employees.

2013



The TRUST Act, AB 4 | Limits California's compliance with the Secure Communities Program, which has resulted in many costly unjust detentions and deportations of undocumented immigrants.

Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, AB 241 | Strengthens labor protections for the state's domestic workers.

2014



The 4th Amendment Protection Act, SB 828 | Prohibits the state from materially supporting or assisting any federal agency in collecting data on any person without a warrant.

2015



California Electronic Communications Privacy Act, SB 178 | Protects against warrantless government access to mobile devices, including personal emails, text messages, digital documents, metadata, and location information.

Racial Profiling Act, AB 953 | Modernizes the definition of racial and identity profiling and requires state's police officers to document the race and gender of each person they stop.



During MDAC, participants also heard from a variety of speakers including California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood), Jewish Voice for Peace-Sacramento Chapter President David Mandel, and Muslim Student Association West Vice President Khwaja Ahmed.

California Assembly Passes Resolution to Recognize Muslims

The California Assembly passed a bipartisan resolution in August proclaiming this month as Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month. Assembly Member Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) – joined by Moïna Shaiq, one of the community leaders who advocated for the resolution, and representatives from CAIR-CA, the Afghan Coalition, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California, among others – introduced House Resolution 59 on the Assembly floor.

06 |

Assembly Member Quirk said it was important to recognize the many social, cultural and economic contributions of the state's and country's Muslims, particularly as they continued to face harassment and anti-Muslim rhetoric in this year's election. After the Assembly passed this resolution, the City of San Jose and Santa Clara County also followed suit with similar resolutions.

Capitol Hill Advocacy Day

CAIR-CA representatives participated in the second National Muslim Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. earlier

this year. Some 330 delegates from more than 28 states met with 225 elected officials and congressional staff during the lobbying effort. The largest congressional Muslim advocacy event in the country, the Advocacy Day was sponsored by the U.S. Council of Muslim Organizations (USCMO), a coalition of leading national and local American Muslim organizations, including CAIR.

Delegates participating in this year's event met with a third of the House of Representatives and almost half of the Senate. Participants posted photos and commentary about the Advocacy Day on social media using the hashtag #MuslimHillDay.

Delegates promoted a legislative agenda in support of equality and social justice, and outlined the following domestic priorities of the American Muslim community:

- Support for House and Senate resolutions recognizing and condemning Islamophobia.
- Support legislation that enables individuals to build a credit history without taking on credit debt.
- Support legislation that promotes greater access to fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthy foods in impoverished areas.
- Address American Muslim community concerns regarding the oversight, management, and approach of federal Countering Violent Extremism (CVE).

IMPACTING THE 2016 ELECTION

This year's election cycle has been one of the most disconcerting elections for American Muslims and other minority communities. In national debates and in town halls, presidential candidates delivered soundbites on major issues ranging from immigration, to the economy, to foreign affairs. However, no candidate created as much discord as the GOP nominee Donald Trump. Not only did Trump disparage Latinos and use derogatory language about women, but he also called for a ban on Muslims entering the country and implied closing mosques.

CAIR and its allies' responses were swift and categorical - we will not stand for any rhetoric that aims to undermine the U.S. Constitution and its promise of freedom and equality for all Americans. To make sure American Muslims had their voice heard in the 2016 election, CAIR-CA offices mobilized staff and volunteers to conduct major grassroots advocacy that included the following efforts:

“Meet the Candidates” Forums: This year, CAIR-CA offices held over two dozen “Meet the Candidates” forums throughout the state, enabling our community to hear directly from the candidates on key issues affecting California and engage them on the best course for our state and its diverse residents. The forums featured candidates running for various city councils, school boards, state legislative offices, and Congress.

Voter Registration Drives: CAIR-CA staff and volunteers, in partnership with Rock the Muslim Vote, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and other organizations, were present at mosques throughout the state - registering new voters, advising those who needed to re-register, and answering questions about the voting process. We also imparted to community members the importance of voting to affect change and use their vote to counter bigotry by supporting



candidates who are committed to our founding values of pluralism and equality.

Community Town Halls: In light of the heightened Islamophobia during this year's election, CAIR-CA offices held several “Islamophobia and 2016 Election” town halls. In these community events, staff discussed American Muslim voter participation in elections, general civic participation, and its impact on election climate and rhetoric.

2016 Voter Website: CAIR-CA created a comprehensive website, muslims.vote/ca/, to provide detailed information to the state's Muslim population on voter registration, key deadlines and other various resources, including a 2016 Voter Guide.

2016 Voter Guide: CAIR-CA published its 2016 Voter Guide to assist Muslim voters in making informed choices before casting their ballots. The voter guide is a compilation of resources that consisted of a Congressional scorecard, a state legislative scorecard, and a state proposition guide. The scorecards shared the voting records of members of congress and state legislators on key civil rights and human rights legislation. The voter guide also featured CAIR-CA's recommendations on ballot propositions in this year's election.

ELEVATING OUR VOICES



2015 MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Sacramento Valley	99
San Francisco Bay Area	157
Greater Los Angeles Area	147
San Diego	105
Total	508

Over the past 22 years, CAIR-CA has become a leading resource for reporters and journalists in presenting the authentic images and voices of American Muslims. We have helped media professionals write comprehensive stories, conducted in-depth interviews on national TV and in leading print publications, and organized media campaigns to showcase American Muslim lifestyle and practices.

A Strong Response to San Bernardino Shootings

Following last December's tragic shootings in San Bernardino, CAIR-LA quickly mobilized to present a balanced American Muslim perspective in the media. At a news conference, CAIR-LA Executive Director Hussam Ayloush and other Muslim and interfaith leaders

condemned the shootings, promoted unity and offered solidarity with the victims and their loved ones on behalf of the American Muslim community. CAIR-LA's news conference was livestreamed and covered by almost all major international, national and local news outlets reaching over 18 million views nationally.

In the following days, CAIR staff received over 250 media inquiries from television, radio and print sources from around the world to respond to the tragedy and the ensuing bigoted remarks of GOP nominee Trump about banning all Muslims entering the U.S.

CAIR Releases Islamophobia Report

In June, CAIR released a comprehensive report titled "Confronting Fear," identifying 33 Islamophobic groups, which had access to at least \$205 million in funds between 2008-2013. The report was published in partnership with the Center for Race and Gender at UC Berkeley.

The report also noted that the negative impact of Islamophobia resulted in 78 anti-mosque incidents in 2015 (34 of them in November and December alone), anti-Islam bills becoming law in 10 states, and school textbooks being revised in Florida

and Tennessee due to anti-Islam campaigns. The report further presented a four-point strategy on achieving a shared American understanding of Islam in which the faith has an equal place in society and being Muslim carries a positive connotation.

In addition, CAIR-SFBA hosted community events at Yaseen Foundation and the Muslim Community Association on deconstructing the Islamophobia industry and how community members can help mitigate the impact of Islamophobia. Corey Saylor, director of CAIR National's Department to Monitor & Combat Islamophobia, presented at the two events.

Peace Rally Held to Counter Islamophobia

Last December, CAIR-SV hosted a Unity and Peace Rally in partnership with interfaith groups, elected officials and community leaders. The event brought together about 400 people from the Sacramento Valley area and was co-sponsored by over a dozen organizations, including the Interfaith Council of Greater Sacramento, MLK365, Sacramento Area Congregations Together (ACT), and the Sacramento Regional Coalition for Tolerance.

The event was organized in solidarity with the San Bernardino community as well as to show unity against hate. Participants used the hashtag #United4HumanitySac to express unity and solidarity on social media. Several elected officials gave touching speeches on the importance of standing together in the face of bigotry. They included Darrell Steinberg (former President pro-Tem of the state Senate and currently Mayor-elect for the City of Sacramento), Assemblymen Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova), Jim Cooper

(D-Elk Grove), Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento), and former Assemblywoman Mariko Yamada (D-Davis). The rally was covered by local media outlets KCRA3 and ABC10.

Event Recognizes Business for Challenging Bigotry

In May, CAIR-LA hosted an "Ice Cream & Unity" event to recognize the owners and an employee of a local business, Andrew's Ice Cream and Desserts, for supporting two Muslim women who were berated by another customer at the shop. The customer yelled "I don't want them in my country" at the women who wore hijab. The owners and the employee responded by escorting him out of the shop. The video of this incident went viral on social media. The unity event was covered by media outlets such as the Huffington Post, FOX11, KCAL9, ABC7, CBS2, and Rising Up and received over one million views nationwide.

Groups Issue Statement in Support of Diversity

Last October, CAIR-SD joined the San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium (SDIRC) and many other community leaders, faith representatives and civil rights organizations at a news conference and issued a strong statement in support of targeted communities -- Latino, Muslim and others. The statement condemned hate rhetoric spewed by politicians and other high-profile officials, warned against its potential harm, and offered guidelines for public officials, faith leaders, law enforcement, and other community leaders to treat all residents with dignity and respect, and to refrain from divisive language.



PROTECTING OUR FREEDOMS



2015 CIVIL RIGHTS CASES

Sacramento Valley	122
San Francisco Bay Area	295
Greater Los Angeles Area	554
San Diego	179
Total	1150

10 |

The core of CAIR-CA's work is defending the First Amendment rights of all Americans. Each year, we handle hundreds of cases that vary from employment discrimination, to school bullying, to individuals encountering travel delays or being visited by the FBI simply because of their First Amendment activities.

In addition to ensuring we handle our clients' complaints diligently, we have worked to empower our community through civil rights workshops and presentations and continuously strive for laws and policies in our nation that ensure the equality of all people.

» Muslim Women Denied Access to Ride at Amusement Park

CAIR-SD filed public accommodation complaints with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) against Belmont Park on behalf of two Muslim women, who were allegedly denied access to one of the rides because the women were wearing hijab.

The complaints state that the amusement park's denial of access to the ride was a violation of California's Unruh Civil Rights Act, which protects Californians from discrimination based on religion or religious dress in places open to the public. The DFEH accepted CAIR-SD's filing on behalf of the two women and filed against Belmont Park in April.

» CAIR-CA Releases Annual Civil Rights Report

CAIR-California published its 2016 Civil Rights Report, which shows that reports of anti-Muslim bias incidents increased significantly from the year before.

The report summarizes and analyzes all civil rights complaints received in 2015 by CAIR-CA's four offices. A total of 1,150 incidents were reported to CAIR-CA over the course of 2015 and included complaints involving employment discrimination, federal law enforcement questioning, hate incidents, school bullying, and other discrimination cases.

The report's key highlights include:

- Reports of bias incidents spiked by 58% between 2014 and 2015, attributable to public hostility generated by international acts of violence and hateful rhetoric used by political candidates during the election.

- Reports related to immigrants' rights almost doubled between 2014 and 2015.
- CAIR-CA intervened on behalf of individuals fired for praying and those who faced hostile work environment in retaliation for reporting alleged discrimination to the EEOC.

The categories receiving the most incident reports were employment discrimination, hate incidents and Islamophobia, immigration, and law enforcement interactions.

CAIR-CA encourages all Californians to gain a better understanding of their civil rights and to engage community leaders and public servants in dialogue about how they can better serve the state's Muslim community.



» College Agrees to Accommodate All Religious Holidays

In April, CAIR-LA assisted a Jewish graduate student, Liat Klopfer, who was penalized for missing her exam on a religious holiday. The student had requested a religious holiday exemption before the start of the semester to observe two Jewish holidays, both of which fell on exam days. The first exam day fell on Yom Kippur and the makeup exam was scheduled on Sukkot. Her pharmacy school, however, did not fulfill her request – resulting in a grade reduction and placement on academic probation for the student.

CAIR-LA worked with the school to revise the policy and exempt all religious holiday absences without penalizing students and further sought a resolution to credit Liat with the grade she had earned. The school released its calendar for the 2016-2017 academic year, in which it has recognized all major religious holidays, including Eid.

» Southwest Discriminates Against Muslim Passenger

In April, Southwest Airlines removed passenger Khairuldeen Makhzoomi from the plane after a nearby passenger heard him talk on his phone in Arabic. Khairuldeen, who is of Iraqi descent and pursuing a degree at UC Berkeley, was talking to his uncle over the phone about an event in which he heard the U.N. Secretary General speak. The nearby passenger became frightened by his conversation and reported him to a flight attendant.

Khairuldeen was then approached by an Arabic-speaking flight attendant who admonished him for speaking Arabic and escorted him off the plane. He was first searched by police officers publicly, and then questioned by the FBI in a private room. He was finally cleared after the FBI's interrogation.

CAIR-SFBA and Khairuldeen are seeking an apology from the airlines and a change in policies so Muslim travelers are not needlessly harassed or discriminated against.

OUR WORK WITH IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



We believe our civil rights advocacy extends to American immigrants and refugees, two segments that tend to be marginalized in our society. In the past year, we took on a number of measures and joined several advocacy efforts to ensure immigrants and refugees are treated with dignity and afforded their civil rights.

Assisting Immigrants With Citizenship

CAIR-LA's Immigrants' Rights Center (IRC) assisted 406 individuals with their immigration needs during the course of 2015.

Along with various other nonprofit and civil rights organizations in Los Angeles, IRC hosted a Mega Citizenship Workshop and Fair, aimed at providing free legal consultation and application services to some 3,500 permanent residents seeking citizenship. The event, held in April, included a citizenship workshop and was co-convened by the mayors of Los

Angeles and Long Beach. CAIR-LA attorneys, staff, law clerks, and volunteers joined IRC in assisting individuals at the event.

Additionally, CAIR-SD recently expanded its legal services to include assisting community members with immigration matters. Since last year, CAIR-SD has assisted with over two dozen immigration cases, which includes processing applications for citizenship and family-based permanent residency petitions.

Media Work on Refugees

Over the past year, CAIR-CA spokespersons conducted 29 media interviews on the Syrian refugee crisis, to help dispel the Islamophobia associated with the anti-refugee rhetoric. In these interviews, CAIR representatives countered alarmist narrative from officials - for instance, a Virginia mayor justifying the internment of refugees, similar to that of Japanese Americans during WWII, to



Sacramento Sheriff Scott Jones questioning the screening process used for refugees. CAIR representatives emphasized that, like all American immigrants, these refugees deserve freedom and a secure future.

Moreover, CAIR-SD rallied with community partners for a resolution issued by the San Diego Community College District in support of refugee students. The resolution encouraged compassion and standing by the human rights of all students, refugees included. CAIR-SD Executive Director Hanif Mohebi spoke before the college district's board to advocate for refugee rights and thanked the board members for their support.

Advocating for a Double-Amputee Refugee

IRC advocated on behalf of a Syrian refugee who was granted a visitor visa to receive medical treatment in the U.S. Morhaf Alkordi, who lost

both legs after a missile hit his business in Homs, had tried multiple times to receive treatment in Germany, where he was seeking asylum, but was unsuccessful. IRC advised Morhaf's family on the application process until Morhaf was able to obtain a visa. He was set to receive prostheses and physical therapy at a Southern California clinic, free of charge. However, on his arrival to the U.S., a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agent erroneously concluded that he planned to stay in the U.S. and denied him entry, sending him back to Germany after many hours of questioning. Following the CBP's actions, CAIR-LA held a news conference calling on the CBP to bring Morhaf back to receive much needed medical treatment. IRC is also assisting his family in applying for humanitarian parole, which is sought in cases where a visitor visa has been denied and there is an urgent humanitarian need.



MOBILIZING OUR YOUTH



» Muslim Youth Leadership Program

14 | CAIR-CA has dedicated significant resources into shaping our young leaders. We organize a variety of trainings and programs to instill leadership skills, team-building skills, and civic pride in our youth. This year, we continued with a number of our ongoing youth programs and expanded other youth services.

CAIR-CA held its 12th Annual Muslim Youth Leadership Program (MYLP) at the State Capitol in August. The annual conference brought together 41 Muslim high school students from across the state.

The four-day political immersion and leadership-building retreat featured workshops on community organizing, leadership development, and public speaking. A recurring highlight of the annual program was a 'Mock Legislature' session, in which participants served as legislators and debated public policy issues – ranging from elections, to education and public safety – and prepared bills to be presented on the Capitol building's senate floor. The mock legislature session allows participants to gain a deeper, practical understanding of how bills are reviewed and laws are passed in the California Legislature.

This year, workshops also included elections strategy and voter engagement. The opening night keynote speech was given by AJ+ Producer Sana Saeed who also conducted a workshop on strategic communication. The closing night keynote speech was given by Imam Mohamed Abdul-Azeez, president of the Tarbiya Institute.



» CAIRTalks

Last August, CAIR-SV held a first-ever conference called CAIRTalks for over 200 people at the Memorial Auditorium in Sacramento. The goal of the event, which was inspired by TEDTalks, was to create a safe space for Muslim youth to come together and learn from the young leaders who are making a vital impact on the broader society and to find creative ways to improve our neighborhoods and communities.

The event's speakers were social entrepreneurs, involved in professional areas ranging from mental health, to business, to politics. They included Imam Mohamed Abdul-Azeez, president of the Tarbiya Institute; spoken word artist and educator Mark Gonzalez; Sadia Saifuddin, former UC Student Regent; Hussein Silmi, founder of ThePeopleOfSacramento.com; M. Rahmatullah Wahdy, CEO and managing director of WA Financial; Areeba Siddiqui, co-founder of Amala Hopeline; Hammad Khan, M.D. candidate and Huffington Post contributor; and Hamza Siddiqui, founder of UXTree.



» Muslim Gamechangers Network

CAIR-LA hosted its third annual Muslim Gamechangers Network (MGN) program this year, with over 50 high school students participating. The extended social justice training program was hosted in conjunction with the Islamic Center of Inland Empire. CAIR-SFBA also completed its second annual MGN program in partnership with the Shia Association of the Bay Area and graduated 40 high school students.

The program equips high school students with the tools to challenge injustices and build legacies of positive change in our communities. Weekly interactive sessions are held, along with fieldtrips, centered on themes of identity, history, social responsibility, and community organizing.



» College and Career Fair

CAIR-SV held its fifth annual College and Career Fair last November to help students navigate the college and career-seeking process. At the fair, over 70 high school students had an opportunity to meet college admissions personnel and financial aid outlets to guide them with college admissions. Representatives from various universities, including Zaytuna College, University of the Pacific, and California State University, Sacramento, gave presentations.

This year included a special panel on college life. Three college students studying engineering,

economics and business gave insights into their diverse college experiences and held a Q&A with the students. Additionally, to help familiarize students with diverse career paths, CAIR-SV invited Muslim panelists from traditional and nontraditional fields such as healthcare, education, and government to address the students. Moreover, MYLP alumna Nida Ahmed gave a presentation on transfer from a community college and CAIR-SV Executive Director Basim Elkarra guided students in building a professional social network to help secure internships and jobs.

OUR ANTI-BULLYING CAMPAIGNS



Through reports, community outreach, media interviews, and support of relevant legislation, we have actively sought to address and prevent bullying of and hate incidents against our youth.

Last year, we released our second comprehensive report documenting the experiences of Muslim students. This one-of-a-kind report, titled “Misabeled: The Impact of School Bullying and Discrimination on California Muslim Students,” has become a leading resource on this subject for media and academics. It surveyed more than 600 students between the ages of 11 to 18 and showed that bullying of the state’s Muslim students was twice the rate of the national average.

16 | Additionally, more than half of California’s Muslim students were found to be victims of faith-based bullying. Other key findings of the report were:

- 55% of all California Muslim students have experienced biased-based bullying in schools.
- Of the female respondents who wear hijab, 27% reported being discriminated by their teachers.
- The most common type of bullying American Muslim students faced was verbal at 52%.

One of the students bullied was Bay Area resident and seventh grade student Nikki Hussein, who was called a “terrorist” and had her hijab tugged at by a classmate. Another youth, Inland Empire resident and high school student Bayan Zehlif, was pictured with the false name “Isis Phillips” in her school yearbook.

In the greater Sacramento area, fifth grade student Yasmine Nayabkhill, who had recently started wearing hijab, was called “ugly” and a “terrorist.” Following the incident, Yasmine courageously testified at the State Capitol in support of The Safe Place to Learn Act - legislation aimed at addressing bullying in California schools. Sponsored by Assembly Member Das Williams and supported by both the House and the Senate, this bill will ensure that school employees are provided the necessary resources to assist students who have faced bullying and discrimination.

Outreach to Educators and Administrators

CAIR-SD launched a campaign last year to reach out to school administrators and educators, teaching them about incidents of bullying against Muslim students and providing them with resources to help their students learn in a safe school environment.

ENHANCING OUR GRASSROOTS WORK

At CAIR-CA, our work centers on engaging and empowering our community. Thus, we strive to instill the importance of grassroots activism through workshops, forums, and opportunities for community engagement.

13th Annual Capitol Iftar

CAIR-CA proudly hosted its 13th Annual Capitol Iftar in June. The evening drew more than 200 lawmakers, community advocates, and interfaith leaders to break the fast with one another at the California Capitol.

This year's event was co-hosted by more than 30 assembly members and senators, who also co-authored a members' resolution congratulating the American Muslim community on the commencement of Ramadan and for our community's contributions to the fabric of the state of California. State Controller Betty Yee also presented a separate resolution.

The reception included addresses by Assembly Members Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento), Jim Cooper (D-Elk Grove), Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova), and Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) along with several other legislators.

47th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage

In April, CAIR-SV and CAIR-LA offices led 33 representatives and community members on the 47th Annual Pilgrimage to the 'Manzanar War Relocation Center' – one of 10 incarceration camps that held about



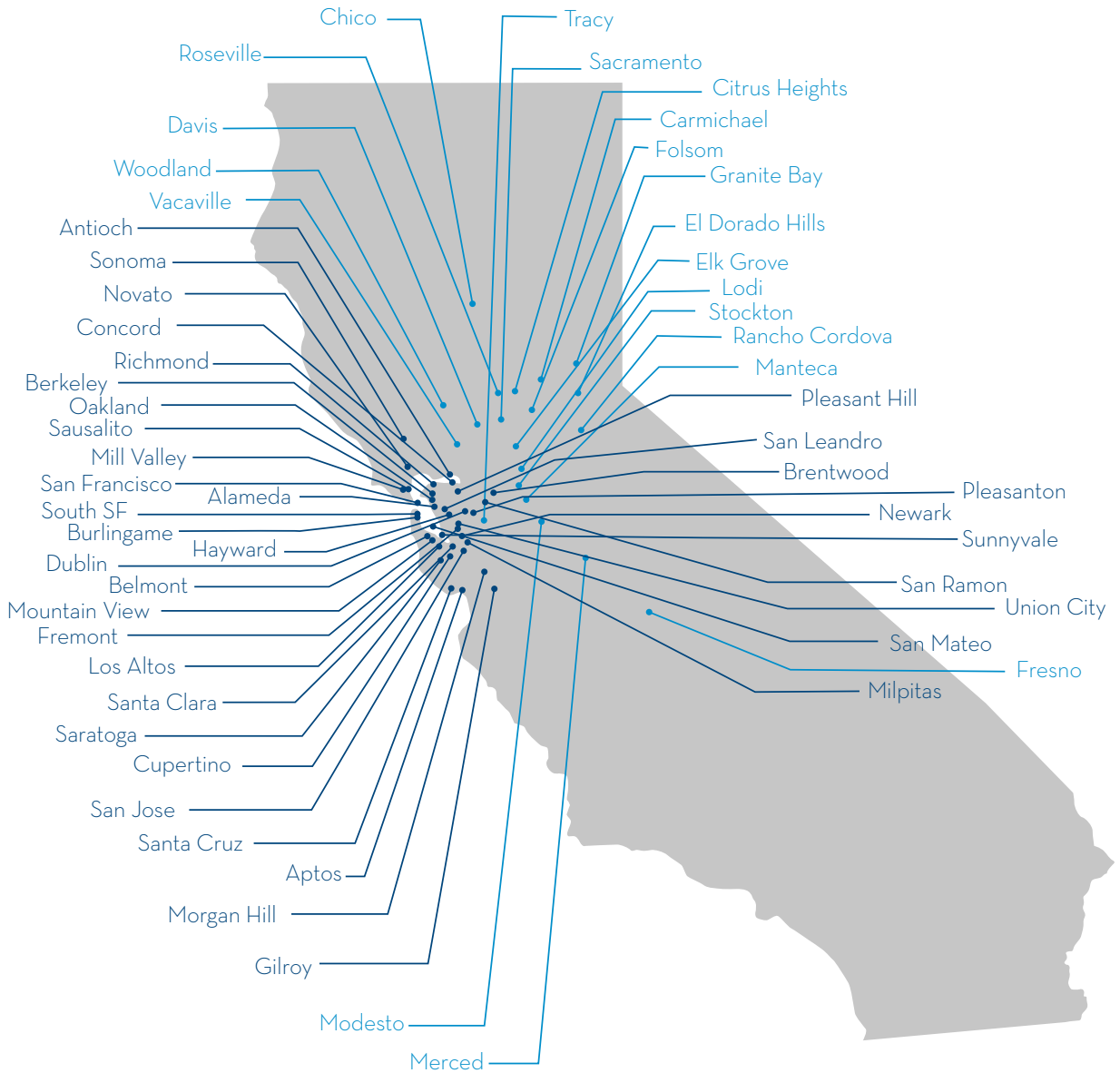
10,000 Japanese American men, women and children during World War II. Manzanar was the first camp to be established.

Some 1,500 participants from across the state partook in the pilgrimage. The daylong program featured talks from camp survivors and their children, as well as interfaith leaders and activists at the Manzanar cemetery. Maytha Alhassen, the provost and Ph.D. fellow in American Studies and Ethnicity at USC and a contributing author of "I Speak For Myself: American Women on Being Muslim," gave an inspiring address about the importance of protecting the civil rights of all minorities in our country.

The various addresses were followed by an interfaith prayer service involving Buddhist, Christian, Muslim and other faiths. Participants also enjoyed a drum performance by Daion Taiko from the Orange County Buddhist Church. Later in the evening, participants joined in a program called 'Manzanar at Dusk' featuring inter-generational discussions on the parallels between Japanese incarceration and Islamophobia. This year also marked 11 years of CAIR-SV and Florin Japanese American Citizens League's joint participation in the program.

2015 OUTREACH CITIES

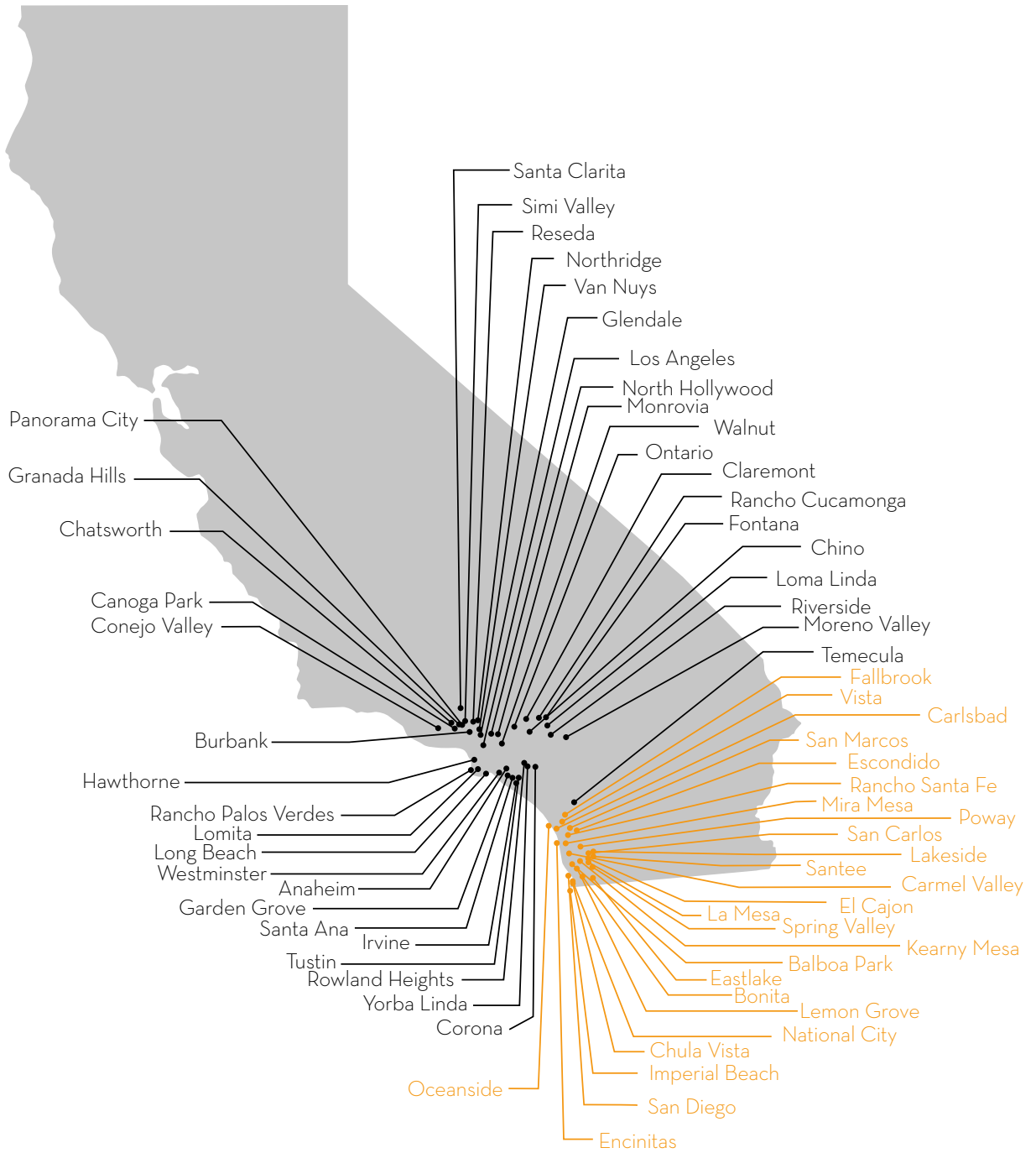
CAIR-CA staff conducted presentations, workshops, and other outreach events in the following communities:



CAIR Sacramento Valley



CAIR San Francisco Bay Area



CAIR Greater Los Angeles Area



CAIR San Diego

CAIR-LA: CELEBRATING

1996

Opened its doors to Southern California Muslim community.

YEARS OF SERVICE

With the grace of God and the community's support, CAIR-LA is proud to celebrate 20 years of service to the greater Los Angeles Muslim community.

The CAIR-LA office, today the largest office in the country, was founded in 1996 by a small group of dedicated volunteers – including current Executive Director Hussam Ayloush, two years after CAIR headquarters was founded in Washington D.C. CAIR-LA's work has ranged from protecting the civil liberties of American Muslims, to empowering hundreds of youth and activists in the civic and media arenas and launching national campaigns to combat Islamophobia and disseminate the authentic image of Islam and Muslims.

2006



Facilitated a lawsuit to challenge the FBI's unlawful delay of naturalization of Muslim immigrants.

2005



Along with other California offices, CAIR-LA launched the Muslim Youth Leadership Program (MYLP), a groundbreaking civic engagement and leadership development retreat in Sacramento.

2007



Ensured withdrawal of the ill-advised LAPD Muslim mapping project; organized the first LA Muslim participation in a visit to the Manzanar incarceration camp; held an exclusive screening of the film, "A Mighty Heart," at Paramount Pictures.

2008



Launched the annual Bridging Communities program with NCCR & JACL to bring Muslim and Japanese American youth together in a learning exchange.

2016



Facilitated local and national media coverage for two major Islamophobic incidents – one involving a high school senior who was falsely labeled "Isis Phillips" in her school yearbook and another incident involving two young Muslim women who were harassed at a local ice cream shop.

2015



After the tragic San Bernardino shootings, CAIR-LA was at the forefront in the media to promote unity, convey grief and offer solidarity with the victims and their loved ones on behalf of the American Muslim community. CAIR's message reached over 13 million views nationally.

1997



Over 200 attendees helped raise \$40,000 at CAIR-LA's inaugural banquet held in Buena Park.

1998



Organized a comprehensive grassroots community response to negative depictions of Muslims in the film, "The Siege."

1999



Organized a community meeting and tour of the Orange County Register offices.

2000



Expanded and moved into its newly purchased building in Anaheim.

2004



Initiated the first-ever live radio broadcast from the Orange County Islamic Foundation with KFI radio and engaged the public in a discourse on Islam.

2003



Organized Southland Muslims' participation in a fundraising drive for KOCE-TV; consulted on the film, "Line of Fire."

2002



Challenged the INS detentions of Muslim immigrants; developed the Halal Food Bill, which was signed into law by Gov. Gray Davis.

2001



Following the 9/11 terror attacks, CAIR-LA strengthened its outreach with law enforcement; launched a national Library Project to inform Americans about the Islamic faith and its teachings.

2009



Represented the case of seven Southern California Muslim men who were detained by Henderson Police officers for praying in a parking lot in Henderson, Nevada.

2010



Secured a Disneyland intern's right to wear hijab at work. After CAIR-LA's intervention, Disney revised its policy to meet Muslim women's religious requirements and uniform guidelines.

2011



CAIR-LA, with ACLU/SC and law firm HSKRR, filed an unprecedented class-action lawsuit against the FBI for continued illegal surveillance of American Muslims; held an all-day leadership conference for 250 young professionals, activists, and Imams.

2014



Launched an Immigrants' Rights Center (IRC) to provide naturalization services to non-citizens; launched the Muslim Gamechangers Network (MGN), a comprehensive social justice training program for high school students.

2013



CAIR-CA published a groundbreaking report on the experiences of Muslim youth at school, regarding bullying, harassment, and religious accommodation; established CAIR's first youth development department.

2012



CAIR-CA launched its first Muslim Day at the Capitol (MDAC) to take the voice of California Muslims directly to the state government. Over 50 participants met with their legislators to advocate for issues pertaining to education, immigration, and healthcare.

2015 FINANCIAL REPORT

The statement of financial activities below is for the fiscal year 2015 for all CAIR California offices.



OPERATIONAL INCOME		
CAIR Sacramento Valley	\$472,088.31	15%
CAIR San Francisco Bay Area	\$795,794.90	25%
CAIR Greater Los Angeles Area	\$1,509,318.01	48%
CAIR San Diego	\$395,534.57	12%
Total	\$3,172,735.79	100%



DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$2,076,471.16	78%
Management	\$569,661.45	22%
Total	\$2,646,132.61	100%



LIST OF EXPENSES		
Services Administration	\$1,368,171.03	52%
Events and Projects	\$743,732.44	28%
Employee Benefits	\$191,614.61	7%
Office Administration and Supplies	\$226,155.67	9%
Occupancy and Utilities	\$116,458.86	4%
Total	\$2,646,132.61	100%

Note: The selected financial data were derived from CAIR-California's financial records. Audit and tax reports are available upon request.

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

We are tremendously thankful to our generous donors, staff, interns, and volunteers who have contributed their efforts, time, and money toward the advancement of the American Muslim community and CAIR-CA. Please continue to support and pray for us.



“But whatever thing you spend [in His cause] - He will compensate it; and He is the best of providers.”

(Quran 34:39)

» Show Your Support

1. **Sign up** for your local office’s mailing list to stay informed.
2. **Follow us** on social media.
3. **Respond** to action alerts.
4. **Attend** workshops and seminars and invite others to join.
5. **Host** a gathering about CAIR-CA for your family, friends and community.

» Donate Your Money

1. **Make** a donation.
2. **Become** a Champion of Justice monthly donor by donating \$1 or more a day.
3. **Donate** stocks.
4. **Designate** CAIR-CA as a beneficiary in your will.
5. **Double** your donation through your employer’s matching program.
6. **Host** a fundraiser to benefit CAIR-CA.

» Donate Your Time

1. **Volunteer** with your local CAIR office.
2. **Participate** in the internship and law clerkship programs.

» CAIR Greater Los Angeles Area
ca.cair.com/losangeles

» CAIR San Diego
ca.cair.com/sandiego

» CAIR Sacramento Valley
ca.cair.com/sacval

» CAIR San Francisco Bay Area
ca.cair.com/sfba

“As a dedicated organization to defend the rights of Muslims and to promote a better understanding of Islam, it (CAIR) is eligible to receive part of the zakat funds for its programs and services.”

Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi, Chair, Fiqh Council of North America

As always, your donations to CAIR-CA are tax-deductible. Our tax ID is 77-0411194.

OUR TEAM AT YOUR SERVICE

CAIR CALIFORNIA



Board of Directors

- Omar Hassaine → *Chair*
- Haitham Abulhaija → *Vice Chair*
- Salman Razi → *Secretary*
- Eyas Abdeen → *Treasurer*
- Hussam Ayloush, M.B.A. → *Staff Representative*
- Afshan Keval
- Asif Harsolia, M.D.
- Fahad Ahmad
- Fawad Shaiq
- Omar Milbis
- Sabir Ibrahim, Esq.
- Spojmie Nasiri, Esq.
- Imam
- Taha Hassane

Staff

- Arefa Simjee → *State Chapter Coordinator*
- Natalya Galchenko → *State Chapter Bookkeeper*

CAIR SAN DIEGO



Executive Committee

- Fahad Ahmad → *President*
- Hani Eltalmas → *Vice President*
- Noha Salem, Esq. → *Secretary*
- Tahzeen Nizam → *Treasurer*
- Edreace Purmul
- Lallia Allali
- Ziad Ashgar

Staff

- Hanif Mohebi → *Executive Director*
- Fayaz Nawabi → *Public Relations Representative*
- Nasreen Amira → *Administrative Coordinator*
- Patricia Sosa → *Finance Consultant*
- Susanne Arani, Esq. → *Civil & Immigrants' Rights Attorney*

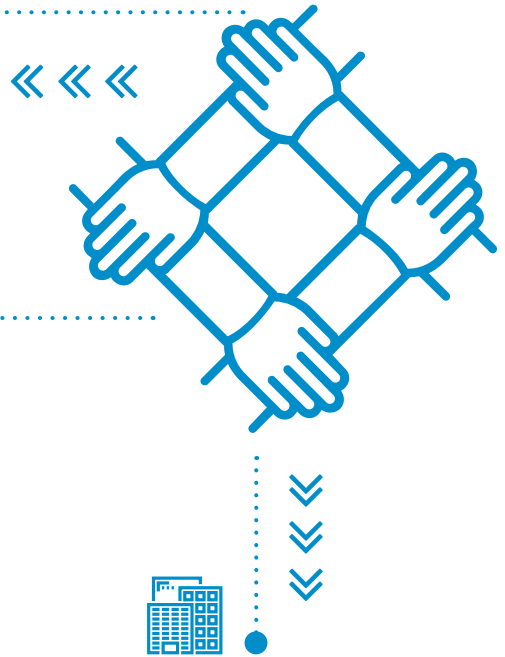
CAIR SACRAMENTO VALLEY

Executive Committee

- Eyas Abdeen → *President*
- Haitham Abul-Haija → *Vice President*
- Fawzia Keval, Ed.D. → *Secretary*
- Sameera Ali → *Treasurer*
- Atthar Mohammed
- Aliane Murphy-Hasan
- Kamran Malik
- Masood Cajee, D.D.S.
- Nassrine Nouredine, RN, MSN, Ed.D
- Rafat Razi, D.M.D., M.P.H.
- Tawfiq Morrar, Esq.

Staff

- Basim Elkarra → *Executive Director*
- Danna Elneil → *Operations Coordinator*
- Maheen Ahmed → *Programs Consultant*
- Saad Sweilem, Esq. → *Civil Rights Attorney*





CAIR GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA

Executive Committee

- Asif Harsolia, M.D. → *President*
- Fawad Shaiq → *Vice President*
- Yasir Mahar → *Secretary*
- Hafez M. Hafez → *Treasurer*
- Hammad Alam, Esq.
- Rania Elbanna
- Roohe Ahmed
- Sameera Dadabhoy
- Shamel Abd-Allah, M.D.

Staff

- Hussam Ayloush, M.B.A. → *Executive Director*
- Aabru Madni, J.D. → *Immigrants' Rights Advocate*
- Ali Mir → *Outreach Manager*
- Cecilia Peralta → *Operations Director*
- Farida Chehata, Esq. → *Immigrants' Rights Attorney*
- Jacqueline Bruce → *Administrative Coordinator*
- Masih Fouladi, J.D. → *Legal Advocate*
- Maureen Dadabhoy, M.A.Ed. → *Legal Coordinator*
- Mostafa Mahboob → *Development Manager*
- Ojaala Ahmad → *Communications Coordinator*
- Sherrel Johnson → *Community Relations Manager*
- Syed Hussaini → *Outreach Manager*
- Yalda Satar, Esq. → *Civil Rights Attorney*



CAIR SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Executive Committee

- Spojmie Nasiri, Esq. → *President*
- Ihab Badr → *Vice President & Treasurer*
- Aliah Abdo, Esq. → *Secretary*
- Abdelhamead Ibrahim
- Adil Syed
- Afshan Keval
- Maleeha Haq, Esq.
- Musaab Attaras
- Rami Elkinawy
- Patricio Pace

Staff

- Zahra Billoo, Esq. → *Executive Director*
- Amina Abid → *Operations Manager*
- Lucy Porras → *Programs & Development Manager*
- Nashwah Akhtar → *Communications & Outreach Coordinator*
- Saba Maher → *Civil Rights Coordinator*
- Sameena Usman → *Government Relations Coordinator*

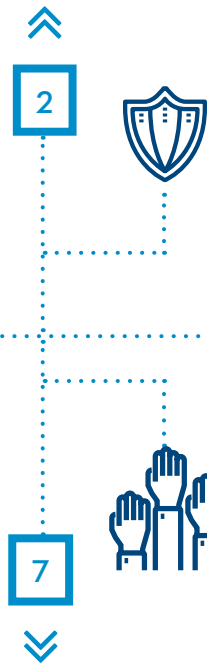
OUR CORE VALUES

CAIR supports
free enterprise,
freedom of religion
and freedom of
expression.



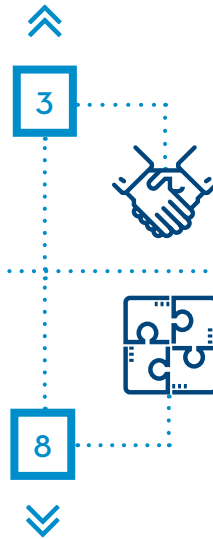
CAIR supports
foreign policies that
help create free
and equitable trade,
encourage human
rights and promote
representative
government based
on socio-economic
justice.

CAIR is committed
to protecting
the civil rights of
all Americans,
regardless
of faith.



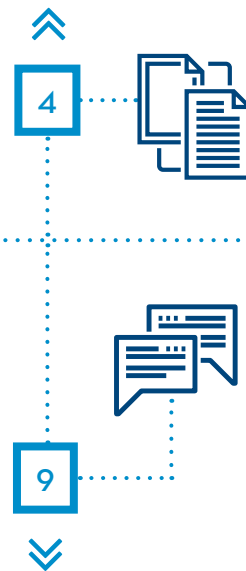
CAIR believes
the active practice of
Islam strengthens the
social and religious
fabric of our nation.

CAIR supports
domestic policies that
promote civil rights,
diversity
and freedom
of religion.



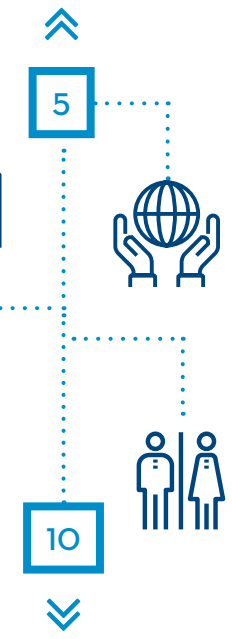
CAIR condemns
all acts of violence
against civilians by any
individual, group or
state.

CAIR opposes
domestic policies
that limit civil rights,
permit racial, ethnic
or religious profiling,
infringe on due
process, or that
prevent Muslims
and others from
participating fully in
American civic life.



CAIR advocates
dialogue between
faith communities
both in America and
worldwide.

CAIR is a natural
ally of groups,
religious or secular,
that advocate justice
and human rights in
America and around
the world.



CAIR supports
equal and
complementary rights
and responsibilities
for men and women.

CONTACT US



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CAIR OFFICES ACROSS THE NATION

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CAIR Cincinnati	CAIR Kansas	CAIR Orlando
CAIR Cleveland	CAIR Kentucky	CAIR Philadelphia
CAIR Columbus	CAIR Massachusetts	CAIR Pittsburgh
CAIR Connecticut	CAIR Michigan	CAIR San Antonio
CAIR Dallas/Fort Worth	CAIR Minnesota	CAIR South Florida
CAIR Georgia	CAIR Missouri	CAIR Tampa
CAIR Houston	CAIR New Jersey	CAIR Washington

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