

Islamic Center of Indiana

AL-HUDA

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2024
VOLUME 1 ISSUE 8



Welcome

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

In the final issue of our newsletter's first volume, we are thrilled to introduce the new board at AlHuda Foundation.

Join us in celebrating their fresh perspectives and innovative initiatives. Let's wholeheartedly support them as they begin this journey of service. We pray that Allah SWT assists them in fulfilling this Amanah and enables them to be instrumental in our community's flourishing.



Mohannad

Editor-In-Chief



Omar

Director of Content



Ziad

Director of Visuals



Amal

Editor

Leadership is a weighty trust, a burden not easily borne.

Guiding Our Leaders: Upholding Unity Under Leadership



As a Muslim community, one of our key responsibilities is to assist our leaders in fulfilling their duties with sincerity, wisdom, and patience. Allah commands in the Qur'an: "O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you" (4:59). Obedience to our leaders, within the bounds of what is lawful, nurtures unity and strengthens the community.

However, this obedience comes with the duty of sincere advice. The Prophet ﷺ said: "The religion is sincere advice." When asked for whom, he replied: "For Allah, His Book, His Messenger, the leaders of the Muslims, and their common folk." (Muslim).

Such advice should be offered with humility and in private, for public correction may breed discord.

Patience is key when leaders falter. The prophet ﷺ instructed: "Whoever sees something they dislike from their leader, let them be patient, for whoever separates from the community even a hand span dies a death of ignorance." (Bukhari, Muslim).

By supporting our leaders with respect, patience, and gentle counsel, we fulfill our duty and help carry the trust of leadership, uniting us under the banner of faith and justice.

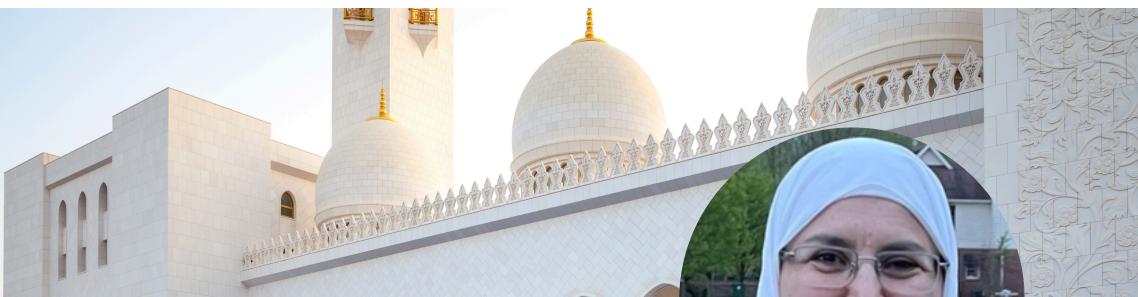
Meet The **BOARD**



Moayyed Moallem
President

My name is Moayyed Moallem. I have been in the community for 15 years. I was honored to serve at Alhuda Foundation for 12 out of the last 15 years. I believe in empowering the youth to be the future community leaders. I believe in diversity and inclusiveness. I would like to get the Masjid to be self sustained by generating revenues through different ways other than fundraisers. I would like to see the Masjid as a Community Center for all age groups and backgrounds. I would like to see more interfaith activities and converts in our Masjid as part of our Daawa mission. The priority for the next three years is to work on the youth and have more programs for them, create an endowment fund, have a stronger and better relationship with our neighbors and surrounding churches, and to add more programs for the adults.

I am a physician specialized in pulmonary and critical care. I am married with three children ages between 8 to 18. I believe in supporting Islamic schools and all my children go to Eman school. I'm asking Allah to use me to serve our Muslim community and to purify my intention.



Mountaha Yasin-Kassab

Vice-President



Dr. Mountaha Yasin Kassab. An OBGYN physician by training, she practiced in Syria and Saudi Arabia before moving to Indiana with her family. Prioritizing her children's Islamic identity and Arabic-Quranic language, she dedicated herself to volunteering in Islamic schools and masjids since 1995.

Dr. Kassab has been an invaluable asset to the Alhuda Foundation since its establishment in 2002, serving as a curriculum planner and Arabic Quranic teacher. Her commitment extended to leading Quranic tafseer classes for 16 years and conducting Friday youth halaqas since 2009. She achieved significant milestones, including her license in Annurania in 2015 and her license in Quran recitation with Tajweed in 2018. Elected to the Alhuda Foundation Board of Directors in 2018 and re elected in 2021, Dr. Kassab tirelessly works to ensure our masjid remains a safe, welcoming, and educational environment. As a board member, she champions the voices of our sisters, fostering connection and encouraging new initiatives. She envisions a thriving community with students who are moral and spiritual leaders.



Majdi Abu-Salih

Treasurer

My name is Majdi Abu-Salih, MD. I am a pediatric Gastroenterologist at community Health Network in Indianapolis and I currently serve as President of Al Huda Foundation. I have lived in Fishers since 2011, I am married with four children, three of whom are adults.

I have served in the board of directors for the last 6 years, initially as a treasurer where I was tasked with managing all financial aspects of the foundation and making sure the construction of our Masjid went smoothly. Since 2021, I have served as President and in that role helped achieve many goals for our community, most importantly focusing on our youth with a huge increase in activities and the hiring of a youth director and a girls youth coordinator. My plan is to continue focusing on the youth and at the same time maintain the continued smooth operation of our facilities as we try to meet the demands of our rapidly growing community. I hope you will entrust me to continue serving our community for the next three years and offer me your vote.



Amanda Adhami

Secretary

My name is Amanda Adhami, I moved to the Fishers community in July of 2019 and joined the Eman School family as both a parent and the School Social Worker. I served two years in the role as Social Worker and moved to Canada for a year. Upon my return in 2022, I began the ESTEEM program for MS/HS girls through Al Huda Foundation, facilitating skills groups for our Muslim youth. Through that role, I have trained young Muslim adults to serve as mentors for the ESTEEM program girls, by engaging them in Emotional Intelligence activities, Motivational Interviewing skills, and creating and delivering curricula. This Fall, the mentors and I have added the EMERGE program for the middle school boys.

My goals for AICI are:

1. To engage youth in the Masjid and cultivate future leaders with a strong sense of their Muslim identity in both the Masjid and Western society.
2. To continue to raise awareness and break the stigma of mental health and addictions in our community, in hopes of preventing and preserving our youth, our families, and our Ummah.

Finally, I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has specialized in substance use and gambling addictions with 10 years of experience.



Aziz Bhai



My wife, Rozina Noorani, and I embraced Islam back in the mid-1990s, and since then, we've truly enjoyed being part of Muslim communities near various mosques across different states.

I was born in Bangladesh in 1966 and moved to the United States in 1986 to pursue higher education at the State University of New York. Before the COVID pandemic, I earned a certification in AI and Machine Learning from MIT.

I strongly believe that our children are our future and the best investment we can make. I also see that behind every seemingly annoying or misbehaved child, there are unique qualities and potential that often go unnoticed due to our biases. I am committed to providing these children with a platform and an environment where they can truly thrive. Mash'Allah, the resources and talented individuals in our mosque and community are ideal for this noble cause.

As a revert, I particularly want to foster a sense of inclusivity in our mosque, welcoming not just Muslims but people from all backgrounds. Ultimately, I know that these visions can only come to life with the help of Allah (SWT) and then your support.



Abdul Munaf Shafiudin

My name is Abdul Munaf, and I have been a committed member of this community for over 20 years, witnessing our masjid's growth from a small warehouse to a thriving Islamic center Alhamdulillah.

I am an IT professional with a Bachelors in Electronics Engineering and an MBA in Health Care Management.

During my recent term on the board, I contributed to introducing youth programs, hiring a full-time youth director, and organizing fundraisers to support our masjid's financial stability. I also coordinated Islamic seminars and programs, partnering with renowned Islamic institutions.

I plan to empower our youth to take leadership in event planning and organization, with the board providing guidance. I am also committed to creating programs for Quranic literacy accessible to all community members. I would work with the board to establish endowments (wakf) to ensure our masjid's financial self-sufficiency for generations to come
Insha Allah



Ishaq Mehr

I have lived in Fishers for the last 7 years. I am married with two children. I do not believe a board position is a pre-requisite to serving the community or implementing a vision. Alhamdulillah this community is blessed with great people and I feel honored to have worked with many of them on several endeavors (youth, interfaith, open houses, etc).

A few things that the board could focus on are improving transparency, communication, and analyzing existing programs to maximize efficiencies. Lastly I think the key to any organization is to invest and focus on human capital as opposed to physical capital.



Marwan Tayeh

I would like to begin by thanking Allah and then expressing my gratitude to all of you for the warm welcome we have received since moving to Indiana three years ago. As a family, we were initially hesitant to leave Ann Arbor, Michigan, where we had lived for 10 years. When I received a job offer from Indiana University, we wondered about the Muslim community here. A quick search led me to the Al-Huda website, where I was pleased to find a mosque and a full-time Islamic school. On my second visit to IU in May 2021, I brought my family along and we visited Al-Huda. We were fortunate to meet one of the community members who shared information about the mosque and the school. That visit left us with a positive impression and played a key role in our decision to move to Indiana.

Over the past 22 years, I have been part of several American-Muslim communities. When I arrived in the U.S. in 2002 as a graduate student at the University of Iowa, I initially felt the loss of community. I quickly realized how vital an active mosque and community are for personal and spiritual growth. The Iowa City mosque became my second home, where I spent much of my free time learning and teaching. Although I wasn't officially on the board, I was deeply involved in the mosque's activities, including planning and fundraising for a larger building.

When we moved to Michigan in 2011, I became actively involved in the Muslim Community Association of Ann Arbor (MCA) mosque and school. I was elected to the Education Board of the Michigan Islamic Academy in 2012, where we expanded educational services, adding classrooms, a laboratory, and a gym. I strongly believe that the mosque should be the center of Muslim communities, which is why I have always chosen to live near a mosque and have made it a priority to bring my children to the mosque at an early age.



Saimir Qalliu

Saimir Qalliu is the Managing Director at Colliers International – Indiana, where he leads high-performing sales teams and fosters a collaborative, results-driven culture. With over 15 years of experience in the commercial real estate industry, Saimir has a strong background in business operations and strategic leadership.

Saimir has been a member of Fishers Muslim community since 2002, and is actively engaged in community work, having served on various boards, including AlHuda Foundation and Umoja Partnership, where he has contributed to social and educational initiatives. He also plays a leadership role in the Indiana Chapter of SIOR (Society of Industrial and Office Realtors), where he has progressed from Secretary to President, focusing on advancing the commercial real estate profession. His academic background includes a BA in Political Science from Ball State University and an MBA in Finance from Butler University. Saimir's passion for civic engagement, mentorship, and championing social justice fuels his involvement in organizations like the Indiana Muslim Advocacy Network. Through his work and volunteerism, Saimir demonstrates a commitment to building bridges across communities and driving positive change.

A message from The Board



It is with immense gratitude and excitement that we introduce the newly elected Board of Directors for Al-Huda Foundation. We are honored to serve this vibrant and growing community, and we approach this responsibility with humility, dedication, and a shared vision for a brighter future, InshaAllah.

Over the next three years, we are committed to continuing the legacy of excellence and service that defines Al-Huda, while embracing new opportunities to enhance our facilities, programs, and outreach. Together, we aim to create an environment where every member of our community feels connected, supported, and inspired.

Our goals for this term include:

- Youth Empowerment:** Empowering our Youth Director and Youth Council to expand activities and programs that inspire, educate, and engage our younger generation.
- Sunday School Growth:** Enhancing the smooth operation and quality of our Sunday School to better serve our younger community members.
- Digital Outreach:** Strengthening our online and social media presence to keep the community informed and connected.
- Community Engagement:** Hosting memorable community iftars, Eid festivals, and expanding summer camps to foster connection and joy for families.
- Interfaith Initiatives:** Building bridges with our interfaith neighbors to promote mutual understanding and collaboration.
- Sports and Wellness:** Elevating our sports programs, from basketball tournaments to new activities like pickleball, volleyball, and martial arts.
- Support for Converts:** Coordinating programs to welcome and integrate new Muslim converts into the community.
- Muslim Business Engagement:** Launching initiatives like in-masjid advertising and “Shop-Muslim” campaigns to support and strengthen the Muslim business community.
- Educational Programs:** Continuing to host national and international scholars to provide enriching educational opportunities for our community.

We also plan to enhance the beauty and safety of our facilities and work toward streamlining and increasing masjid membership. With these goals, we hope to better serve the diverse needs of our community and foster an environment where faith, learning, and unity flourish.

AlHuda is more than a masjid; it is a home for all of us. Together, let's work hand in hand to make these goals a reality and leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.



HELP SUPPORT MASJID AL-HUDA

Become a
Member



Scan
Now

AND CONNECT WITH US



Do you have any questions for our team? Ask us at
AlhudaTimes@gmail.com



www.alhudafoundation.org

