

Asma Al Wahsh Inspiring Leadership

Asma came to Canada from Jordan in 2012. She has a Bachelor's Degree from Jordan University, and a certificate in Volunteer Management from Conestoga College. Asma is currently working on her Masters of Integrated studies while working at YMCA as Program Lead for the Healthy Lifestyles Program.

Asma is an inspiration to immigrant women as someone who never really sees obstacles and boundaries and always finds a way to get things done. While still on her own resettlement journey, Asma founded the Canadian Arab Women's Association (CAWA). CAWA connects Arab women in KW, especially those who are isolated, to each other as well as to community networks and resources. Leading the work of CAWA, Asma has raised funds, secured other resources, and created an enthusiastic team to help her out.

Asma has served the community in KW in many capacities including volunteering countless hours for the Volunteer Action Centre, Immigration Partnership, Focus for Ethnic Women, YMCA, and Carizon.



Dr. Iram Abbasi Community Services

Dr. Iram Abbasi is a local family physician. She completed her Residency from the University of Saskatchewan in 2006, where she served as Chief Resident and received the Award for Outstanding Resident in Rural Family Medicine. Iram has demonstrated care and passion for several causes including humanitarian relief, public health and refugee health.

Iram's passion for helping others and contributing to her community led to her involvement in several projects and events throughout the years, including chairing the inaugural Parent Council at MAC Maple Grove School. She and her team have worked tirelessly to support the school by executing social and fundraising events for the school and its students.

Iram took leadership roles in Eid Festivals, Child Sponsorship program, Qurbani Program, Multicultural Food Festivals, Fundraising Dinners for Kitchener Mosque, Friday Night Youth



Fran Pappert Shannon Advocacy & Activism

Fran Pappert-Shannon uses these words to describe herself: grateful servant of Allah, devoted mother of Wynston, UNICEF ambassador, Romper Room host, enthusiastic CMW supporter, dedicated feminist, vocal vegetarian, communications specialist, and passionate community activist committed to upholding justice, LGBTQ rights, gender equality and women's rights in Islam.

As one of the founding members of the Coalition of Muslim Women of KW, Fran has devoted countless hours to help develop the organization and raise its community and media profile. Fran's many roles with CMW include Board Director, Event Coordinator, Content Writer, and Media and Community Relations.

Fran is also the Coordinator of the K-W El-Tawhid Juma Circle, a group of Muslims and spiritual seekers, providing a gender equal and LGBTQ affirmative space to practice Islam. A talented writer and editor, Fran now runs her own company, Fran Pappert Proofreading. Fran hopes to spend the rest of her life in the service of Allah and humankind.



Humera Javed Professional Excellence

Humera Javed is the Education and Inclusion Coordinator in the Diversity and Equity Office for Wilfrid Laurier University. In this role Humera works to foster equity and inclusion through the development and execution of a diversity education strategy, including educational events, training sessions and awareness campaigns. She is a Board Member of Muslim Social Services.

Humera earned a Master of Arts in Cultural Analysis; a Bachelor of Business Administration; and a combined Bachelor of Arts Honours in Global Studies and Women's Studies. She has made academic contributions through original research on Muslim Women, and is currently a doctoral student at University of Toronto learning about equity in education. Humera shares her experience and knowledge through many conference and workshop presentations.



Soheila Esfahani Artistic Accomplishments

Soheila Esfahani, an internationally known artist, moved to Canada from Iran in 1992. She has a B.A. and Master's in Fine Arts. Soheila's work is represented in public collections including the Canada Council's Art Bank, as well as private collections in North America, Europe and the Middle East. Her work has been reviewed in diverse publications such as the Grand Magazine, and The Islamic Arts Magazine. Soheila won a nomination for the Jameel Prize at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, UK in 2015.

Through her work, Soheila navigates the terrains of cultural translation influenced by her experience of living in-between cultures of her country of birth, Iran, and present home in Canada. Through her teaching in local galleries and universities she shares her knowledge of cultural translation and Islamic artistic traditions, educating children, youth, and young adults about the artistic and cultural traditions that are part of her identity as an immigrant woman.



Meena Waseem Outstanding Youth

Meena Waseem is a very well-known and respected student at Cameron Heights School. Meena received the Ontario Principal's Choice Award for her outstanding character and involvement. She was a valedictorian and received the Community Contribution Award from KYAC Youth Awards in 2016 for leadership. Meena has helped organize bake sales for disadvantaged families in Kenya, and helped fundraised for the Canadian Landmine Foundation and its landmine removal projects.

Meena's most recent project was the "Henna for Hurricane Relief in Puerto Rico", which was organized alongside her fellow leadership-oriented students in the school. As an executive on Student Council, Meena has created original promotional videos/posters, planned assembly skits, and organized fundraisers.

Meena is kind, caring, and compassionate. Above all else, however, Meena is incredibly driven. Meena's goal is to break the stereotype around youth and around Muslim women; through all her community services, Meena is an inspiration to her friends, family, and everyone else around her.



5 YEARS SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Kitchener Masjid “Friend of CMW Award”

Kitchener Masjid is the place where founding members of CMW were welcomed to host community gatherings to plan the “Let Us Talk” community forum in response to the Bill 94 in Québec in 2010. The success of the forum inspired the founding members to form the organization now known as the Coalition of Muslim of KW. Over the years, CMW has enjoyed a welcoming space at Kitchener Masjid for many community gatherings and events.

Kitchener Masjid has always eagerly joined hands with CMW for the community service projects such as Give 30 KW and Blood Donation Drives.

Thank you Kitchener Masjid for the tremendous support that you have been to CMW!



Anneke
Van Den Berg



Amira Sadia



Farah Raouf



Jumana Alsabah



Minal Farooqi



Nermin Ozdemir



Nasteexo Muse



Rozina Shaheen



Safia Muse



Sawaiba Sial



Sepideh Samandari



Wisam Osman