



EST 1983
Dar Al-Hijrah
Islamic Center

ANNUAL REPORT

2024





GALLERY



Dar Al-Hijrah
Islamic Center

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Board	04
Executive Summary Report	08
Financial Report	10
Communications	20
Social Services Report	25
Outreach Report	38
Religious Affairs	45
HAWA	64
Youth Report	69
Maintenance Report	87
Weekend School	90
Grow & Learn	92

2024 Board Message

***Assalamu alaikum wa Rahmatu Allah
wa Barakatu dear member of the Dar
Al-Hijrah Islamic Center***

As we close an extraordinary year and look toward the road ahead, our Board of Directors has prepared the following message to share 2024's key milestones, outline the exciting expansions now under way, and invite every one of you to help shape the next chapter of our community's growth and service. We encourage you to read it carefully, reflect on the progress Allah (SWT) has enabled, and join us in the work that lies ahead.

New Board Transition and Five- Year Strategic Plan Milestone

Year 2024 was a monumental year for the Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center community as part of the greater Muslim American community and the Ummah. This year 2024 accompanied the transition of the old board and instituting the new board of 2024-2028. The new board was elected and officially began its work in September of 2024. It also included the near completion of the 5-year strategic plan for the Dar and it is ushering in the beginning of the next phase of growth and strategic planning that we are about to embark upon in the upcoming year.



Dr. Esam Omeish
Board chairman





Transformative Expansion Through Br. Mohamed Hawa's Gift

Never before in the long-blessed history of Dar Al-Hijrah since its inception have we witnessed a phase of potential growth more than we are witnessing today and beyond. An amazingly generous gift from one of the founders and stalwart honorable members of our community, brother Mohamed Hawa and his foundation, ushered a period of expansion of Dar Al-Hijrah like never before. A new Dar Al-Hijrah Fairfax center is purchased and initiated in this year and beyond. The plans for a new center and expansion in Centerville are also put in motion where a new Islamic center and a community are being developed along with a stand-alone, fully Youth-focused new center is being launched over the next few years.

Main Center Renovations and Vision for a Larger Campus

Dar Al-hijrah completed in 2024 a large project of renovations at the Main center along with expansive plans to acquire and set the foundations for a much larger main campus at the main center once all its steps of expansion are launched and completed. This large growth Alhamdulillah was witnessed and launched this past year and its completion and development are going to be part of the important work of the next few years as we build the Dar Al-Hijrah community and solidify the successes and contributions of its members





Holistic Roadmap for Building a Model Muslim Community

Building on the successes of the past and the completion of strategic landmarks, we are now embarking on the plans to set the roadmap for next steps into the next phase of growth and development. Along with the physical expansion of the Institution, comes the more important arduous task of building the community needed to thrive in the new spaces. Driven by a mission to worship and serve Allah SWT through the service of His creation, our members must be afforded the services needed to develop them spiritually, educationally, intellectually, mentally, socially, economically, civically, and physically. Developing a model community is a crucial step towards serving our greater society and contributing to the well-being of our country and the world.

Staff and Executive Committee Serving Every Sector Daily

Our staff and executive committee members continue their selfless efforts to serve and uplift our community and its members in all important sectors. From religious affairs to outreach and governmental affairs to social services to refugee services to weekend school activities to youth work and development and a wide array of services in Ramadan and beyond, our staff and executive committee members are working every day to implement the strategic objectives of our institution and contribute immensely to the stability and future growth of the Dar Al-Hijrah community.



Global Challenges: Strengthening Justice-Driven Community Resilience

Finally, we can not forget the tumultuous nature of this past year as we witnessed the genocide of our people in Gaza and Palestine, the restlessness and frustration of our students and universities as they tried to raise the voice of reason and humanity in America and beyond, the contradictions and failed promises of our political leaders and officials to do right by history and the dignity of life and the utter grave concern and uncertainty about the future of our nation and its people as well as the world in the face of savagery and the dismantlement of the world order. All these challenges make it more imperative than before to build our virtuous community one individual at the time with Divine Guidance, imbibe our communities with a sense of purpose rooted in justice and human dignity and cultivate and build community power and resilience so that we can contribute positively to the well-being of the community at large and build a world worthy of the values of humanity we espouse and the traditions of the Divine that we are endowed with in this journey of life.

**MAY ALLAH'S PEACE AND
BLESSING BE UPON ALL,**

Collaborative Strategic Assessment and Future Planning

As we celebrate ongoing success and steady traditions, we are also recognizing future challenges and needed changes. Strategically assessing our past, present and future will help us embark on a process of change and improvement as we listen to our community members, increase our engagement of our constituents with their feedback and input and as we together develop our next phase strategic plan and build its infrastructure and collect needed elements to ensure its success. As the new board members embrace their responsibility to provide leadership and vision as well as oversight and accountability along with fiduciary obligations, we look forward to a collaborative process with members of the executive committee, staff, members of the general assembly, volunteers and congregants of the greater Dar Al-Hijrah community to build the best community of service and God-Consciousness.





Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT

Morris Charts

Line Chart



Area Chart



Bar Chart



Donut Chart



Sparkline Charts

Line Chart



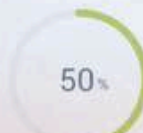
Bar Chart



Pie Chart



Easy Pie Charts



Executive Report Summary 2024

Alhamdulillah Rabbil 'Alamin, and peace and blessings be upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم), his family, his companions, and all those who follow his path with sincerity until the Day of Judgment. O Allah, accept from us our efforts, forgive our shortcomings, and continue to bless this center and its community. Ameen.

As we reflect on the year 2024, I am filled with deep gratitude to Allah (SWT) and to every member of our Dar Al-Hijrah family. This past year was one of growth, perseverance, and resilience. It tested our capacity and renewed our sense of purpose. Despite the disruptions caused by building renovations, shifting funding priorities, and global crises that diverted attention abroad, our staff, volunteers, and community rose to the occasion with unity, dedication, and faith.



Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center continues to serve as a cornerstone for thousands of individuals and families across Northern Virginia and beyond. From our prayer halls to our classrooms, from food distributions to spiritual counseling, from youth programs to interfaith partnerships, we remained active, present, and engaged in nearly every aspect of community life.

This work could not have been accomplished without the generosity of our donors, the steadfastness of our volunteers, and the trust of our community. To each of you who gave your time, your resources, or your support: thank you. You are the reason this institution continues to thrive and evolve. May Allah reward you immensely.

This Executive Report provides a transparent look at our achievements, challenges, and future goals across every department. It is a reflection of our collective effort and a reminder of what we can achieve, together, when we are united in faith and service.

As we look toward 2025, we remain committed to building an Islamic Center that not only meets the immediate needs of our community but also prepares the next generation to lead with wisdom, compassion, and confidence.

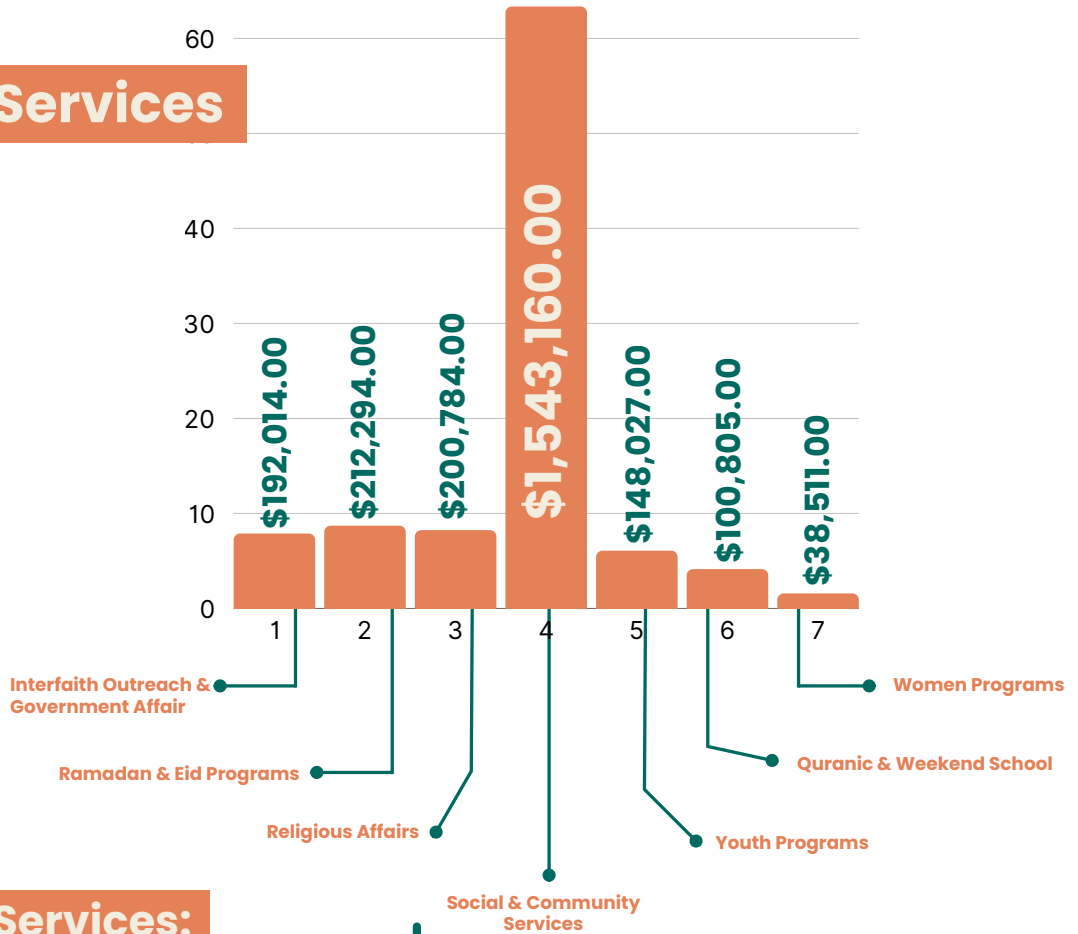




Program Expenses:

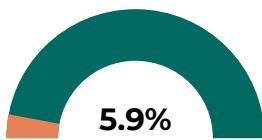
Functional Expenses 2024

Program Services



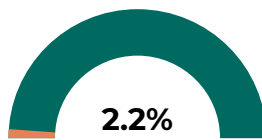
Supporting Services:

Disaster Relief & Other Charities



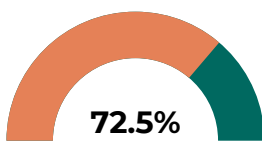
\$174,152.00

Minara Café



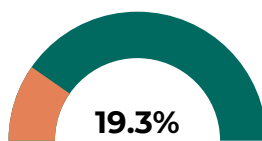
\$65,713.00

Management & General



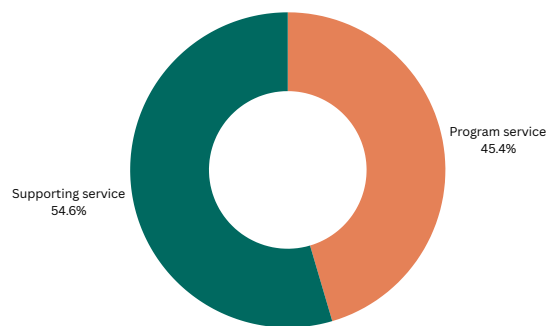
\$2,121,682.00

Fundraising



\$565,441.00

Final:



Total: \$5,362,583.00

Religious Affairs Department

Following the integration of Family Services and Women's Programming amid staffing transitions, the Religious Affairs Department emerged as the leading programmatic contributor, delivering 41.3% of all events throughout the year.

Strategic Progress:

- Achieved 68% progress on 23 SMART goals
- Strengthened education and engagement; counseling systems improved

Challenges:

- Staff vacancies, especially Deputy Director and Muqim al-Sha'air
- Overburdened team, need for Imam accessibility

2025 Goals:

- Expand retreats and focused programming
- Improve volunteer management and succession planning

Key Activities:

Religious Services:

Daily prayers, Friday khutbahs, 39 marriages, 12 divorces, and counseling

Education:

Courses on Tazkiyah, Sahih Muslim, Qur'anic recitation, and the "Essence" series

Ramadan:

Taraweeh, tafsir, tahajjud, daily videos, and youth nights

Community Engagement:

Family programs, sports events, nature outings, and bulletin board (1.8K users)



Social Services Department

In 2024, the Social Services Department remained committed to serving the community with dignity and compassion, despite facing considerable challenges. Renovation projects at the masjid, delayed funding for key programs, and a shift in donor attention toward international crises placed strain on core services. Nonetheless, the department maintained critical operations and laid the groundwork for future growth.

Self-Sufficiency Programs:

- **Pathway to Empowerment (P2E):** Supported 130+ individuals before being paused; renewed for 2025.
- **Sewing Academy:** Trained over 250 women.
- **CPR Training:** 150+ community members certified.
- **Job Programs:** 1,300+ job opportunities shared; 330+ attended the job fair.
- **Education & Literacy:** ESL referrals, parenting workshops, and financial literacy sessions provided.
- **Community Programs:** Legal clinics (250+ clients), Ramadan iftar distribution (30,000 meals), diaper and Eid toy giveaways, and Qurbani meat for 1,300+ individuals.

2024 Highlights:

- Maintained services during renovations
- Secured 2025 renewal for the P2E program
- Improved internal systems, staff training, and workflows

2025 Priorities:

- Relaunch and expand P2E
- Grow volunteer engagement
- Ensure leadership continuity

Key Services and Achievements:

Emergency & Family Assistance: Over 30 financial aid cases processed, with support extending to health, legal, and employment resources. Funeral services were also coordinated.

Health Access: 120 individuals re-enrolled in Kaiser CHAP; 200+ served by MAP Clinic screenings; 430+ blood units collected through drives.

Food Security: 2,200+ individuals from 800 households received halal food and essentials. Safe Haven served over 1,200 hot meals, while mobility restricted individuals benefited from weekly deliveries.

Thrift Shop: Operated daily, providing low-cost goods and voucher assistance for vulnerable populations.



Youth Department

The Youth Department empowered Muslim youth through programs that foster spiritual growth, identity, and leadership. In 2024, it served over 8,400 individuals across 238 events and 32 ongoing programs.



Challenges:

- No dedicated youth lounge/storage
- Program Sustainability is reliant on a few individuals

2025 Priorities:

- Develop youth spaces and infrastructure
- Expand staffing and leadership capacity
- Improve outreach, especially to young professionals and families

Signature Programs:

Jr. Stars & Rising Souls:

Islamic education and activities for ages 5–13

Spiritual Warriors:

Leadership and service training for ages 14–17

Fast & Learn & Neighbornet:

Youth mentorship and discussion forums (14–22)

MSA Engagement:

Collaboration with GMU, GWU, and Howard

Sisters' Programs:

Basketball, wellness, and leadership spaces



Outreach, Interfaith & Government Affairs

Following a strategic merger, this department engaged diverse sectors through Dawah, civic advocacy, interfaith work, and public health outreach.



Communications Department

In 2024, the Communications Department advanced Dar Al-Hijrah’s digital capabilities, creating innovative platforms to improve outreach, accessibility, and brand visibility.

Major Accomplishments:

- Launched a redesigned, user-friendly website and upgraded mobile app with integrated prayer times, donations, and events.
- Introduced a 24/7 virtual assistant and expanded access to membership and giving data.
- **Enhanced livestreams and media production:** 267 videos, 164 graphics, support for 138 events.
- **Grew digital footprint:**



Facebook:

870K
impressions
18,754
followers



YouTube:

2.5M
impressions
27,900
subscribers



Instagram:

214K
impressions
7,949
followers

2024 Highlights:

Dawah: 32 shahadas, 96 Islamic classes, 12 brunches, 50+ counseling sessions

Distribution: 900 Qur’ans, 3,800 brochures/cards, 100 Islam books

Ramadan Iftars: 5 tailored events for interfaith and public partners

Chaplaincy & Community Support: 120 patient visits, workshops, life coaching

Public Health: Managed CDC and NNPHI campaigns (COVID/flu awareness) with multilingual outreach

Civic Engagement: Forums, rallies, voter education, and partnerships with 15+ organizations

Government Relations: Advocacy meetings and community safety wins (e.g., Route 7 speed sensors)

Institutional Representation: Strong partnerships with civic, health, legal, and interfaith bodies

- Sent 1M+ emails with a 315K+ open rate
- Improved visual branding and engagement via WhatsApp Looking Forward: Continued focus on expanding creative storytelling and digital engagement tools to better serve and connect with the community.

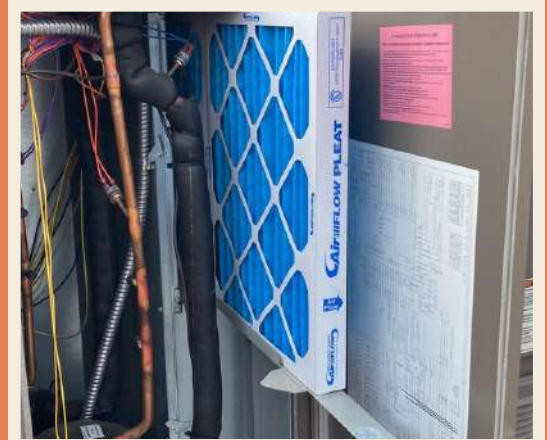
Maintenance Department

The Maintenance Department executed extensive upgrades across multiple sites, enhancing safety, accessibility, and service delivery.

Key Projects:

- **Facility Enhancements:** Youth lounge, Musalla expansion, new storage rooms, raised courtyard, kitchen, repolishing the minaret, New out-door lobby entrance and bathroom renovations
- **HVAC & Plumbing:** New systems installed; major repairs at main center and HAWA Center.
- **Electrical:** Upgraded lighting, sound systems, and emergency power
- **Safety & Compliance:** Fire systems tested and repaired
- **Cost-Saving & Services:** Contracted efficient waste services and executed landscape improvements
- **HAWA & MAS/WIA Support:** Supported buildouts, licenses, drainage solutions & AC repairs

This work reflects the department's strategic foresight in meeting the Center's growing operational needs.



Dar Al-Hijrah – Fairfax Branch

The launch of the Fairfax Branch in Ramadan 2024 marked a new chapter for DAH, creating a spiritually vibrant and community-centered space.

Ramadan Programs:

- Taraweeh and Tahajjud with renowned reciters
- Quran reading and nightly reflections
- Youth Qiyams and middle school halaqas

Year-Round Services:

- Daily and weekly prayers and classes (Hadith, Seerah, Qur’anic Arabic)
- Youth activities (Stories of Light, Salah is Light, Prophetic Manners)
- Monthly Community Nights and town halls
- Family workshops and marriage support programs
- Sports and social events, including soccer leagues and picnics

A strong sense of ownership, leadership, and participation defines the growth of this branch.

Weekend & Quranic School

Serving 160 students across two weekend sessions, the Weekend School continued to offer holistic Islamic education with a strong focus on identity, discipline, and academic excellence.



Curriculum:

- Qur’an Studies, Arabic, Islamic Studies, and Seerah
- Enrichment through crafts, fundraisers, trips, Qur’an competitions, and Islamic projects.

The school remains a cornerstone of faith formation for Dar Al-Hijrah’s young generation, with planned program expansions for 2025.



Grow and Learn Program

Overview:

Established in 2018, Grow and Learn Daycare offers a nurturing, faith-based environment for children ages 1 to 5. Operating weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, the program provides both part-time and full-time enrollment options to meet families' diverse needs.

2024 Highlights

The daycare operated at full capacity in 2024, serving 6 toddlers and 6 preschoolers. Key achievements included:

- **Curriculum enhancements** in English and Math
- **Quran memorisation milestones** among preschoolers
- Noticeable **growth in children's social and emotional development**, as reported by parents

Curriculum and Staffing

Grow and Learn offers a bilingual curriculum that includes English, Math, Arabic, and Quran. The program is led by one full-time and two part-time teachers dedicated to fostering both academic and spiritual growth.

2025 Priorities

In the coming year, Grow and Learn aims to expand enrollment and introduce more individualized learning strategies to support each child's development.

Commitment

Grow and Learn remains deeply committed to preparing young learners for academic success while instilling strong values and a lasting love for learning.





Resource Development

By the grace of Allah, Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center (DAH) continues to thrive through the unwavering support and generosity of its community. These contributions sustain and expand the Center's wide range of programs, services, and activities that serve thousands throughout the year.

Building Donor Trust

The Resource Development team worked in close partnership with **community leaders, volunteers, & staff** to cultivate meaningful relationships with donors. From Ramadan campaigns and youth activities to major events & one-on-one meetings, every interaction reinforced the **vital role of community giving** in advancing DAH's mission.

In addition, several initiatives were launched in 2024 to enhance communication, outreach, and donor engagement:

Website Redesign:

We redesigned the DAH website to make it easier for the community to search for programs and services & to streamline the donation process through multiple secure platforms.

DAH Mobile App Update:

The DAH app was updated to provide faster access to information, events, & services, ensuring the community remains connected and engaged.

WhatsApp Groups as a Communication Channel:

We expanded the use of WhatsApp groups to share important updates, strengthen community connection, and facilitate donations directly through this platform.

Strengthened Social Media Presence:

We continued working with a professional marketing company to enhance DAH's visibility across social media platforms, ensuring that our message and activities reach the community effectively and consistently.

Increased Partnerships:

We prioritized building new partnerships and strengthening existing relationships with local community organizations, creating collaborative opportunities that benefit both DAH and the wider community.

2024 Fundraising Highlights

In 2024, DAH leveraged all available channels to maximize fundraising efforts, including:

- Community-wide events and targeted campaigns
- Online giving platforms
- Direct personal outreach and engagement

These strategies ensured that the Center's programs and facilities across all locations remained strong and impactful.

Major Capital Achievements in 2024:

- We successfully **completed** the renovation of the **Dar Al-Hijrah – Falls Church Facility**, improving the functionality and appearance of the main Center.
- We also completed **80%** of the renovation of the **Dar Al-Hijrah – Fairfax Branch**, further enhancing the services and programs available to the community.
- We closed on the **purchase of the Centreville property** (formerly a church under construction) for \$1.55 million. All necessary plans for the **Dar Al-Hijrah – Centreville Branch** have been finalized, and we are now awaiting county approval to begin construction.

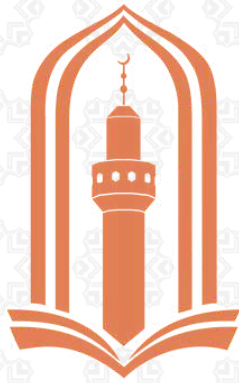


Challenges :

Like many non-profit organizations across the United States, DAH faced significant financial challenges in 2024. **Donations became increasingly difficult** to secure as many individuals lost their jobs or faced financial uncertainty. Others were reluctant to give due to the shifting political environment, which has impacted donor confidence.

Additionally, grants that were previously more accessible during the **COVID-19 pandemic** became much harder to obtain, placing **added pressure** on our Resource Development efforts.

Despite these challenges, **DAH remained committed** to its mission and worked tirelessly to find **innovative ways** to **sustain** its programs and services.



Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

DAH COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT



DAH Communications Department

The Role and Importance of Communication

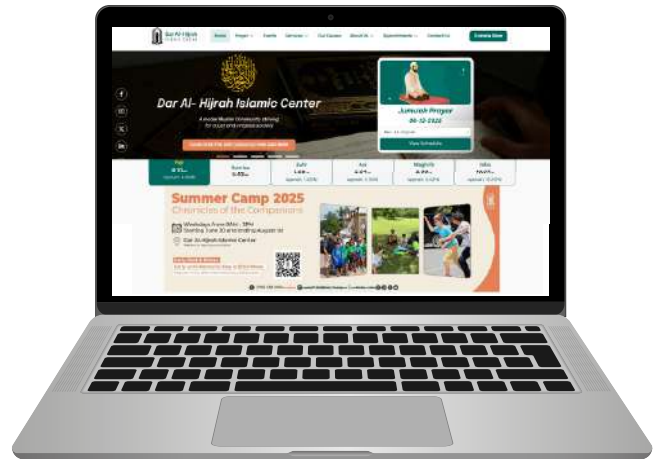
In an era defined by digital connection and rapid information exchange, communication has become a cornerstone of organizational success. At Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center, the Communications Department plays a vital role in bridging the gap between leadership, staff, and the diverse communities we serve. By ensuring timely, accurate, and inspiring communication, we help foster trust, engagement, and unity within our community and beyond.

Our mission is not simply to inform, but to connect, to translate the vision of the center into compelling messages, vibrant visuals, and accessible tools that reflect our identity, our programs, and our values. In 2024, the Communications Department advanced this mission through innovation, strategic development, and a strong commitment to excellence.

Highlights and Key Achievements in 2024

1 - Website Redesign and Functionality Upgrade

We launched a redesigned website that is modern, user-friendly, and fully optimized to highlight the full scope of Dar Al-Hijrah's programs and services. It now includes an integrated, multi-platform donation system that makes giving easier and more secure, while also supporting dynamic content, event updates, and a full activity calendar.



2 - Virtual Assistant Launch and Expansion

A new virtual assistant was created and continuously updated to serve the growing needs of our community. It now provides accurate responses to a wide range of inquiries, including prayer times, event details, donation options, and scheduling appointments; offering 24/7 support and convenience to all community members.



3 - Digitalization of Center Functions

In 2024, we made significant progress in digitizing our internal and external processes. Community members can now access their records, membership information, donation history, and event registrations more quickly and efficiently through our updated system, making the center more accessible and transparent.

4 – DAH Mobile App Enhancement

We upgraded the Dar Al-Hijrah App to become a comprehensive portal for all things related to the center.

The app now includes:

- Daily prayer and Jumua times
- Upcoming events and activity listings
- Annual reports and publications
- Direct donation tools
- Appointment scheduling with the Imam

These updates have made the app a vital resource for on-the-go access to everything happening at Dar Al-Hijrah.



5 – Brand Identity & Visual Communication

The Communications Department continues to refine and strengthen our brand identity. By maintaining consistency across all platforms, we reinforced the organization's image while ensuring our messaging remained relevant, engaging, and impactful.

Our commitment to branding was evident in how we expanded our creative media content, leveraging new technologies and fresh design approaches to keep our visual identity dynamic and appealing. This year, we also fine-tuned our social media strategy, optimizing engagement techniques and incorporating innovative storytelling elements to deepen our connection with the community.



6 – Live Streaming and Media Production

We improved our live streaming infrastructure by adding new interactive features that enriched audience participation. These advancements elevated the viewer experience and made our events more accessible and inclusive—strengthening our digital presence both locally and globally.

7 – Social Media Growth and Storytelling

The department provided high-quality graphic design and content creation for flyers, campaigns, banners, and more. Our creative work supported fundraising initiatives, educational events, youth programs, women's events, and interfaith efforts—ensuring every project reflected our core identity and goals.



8 - Creative Design and Marketing Support

Through thoughtful content creation, increased video production, and active community interaction, our social media platforms have grown in reach and engagement. Platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube became tools for storytelling—highlighting personal journeys, community impact, and program successes.

9 - WhatsApp Community Engagement

Our WhatsApp group emerged as the most utilized platform for organic community engagement. This space allowed for rapid information dissemination, real-time interaction, and a strengthened sense of connection among members. By leveraging WhatsApp’s capabilities, we ensured that our messaging reached the community efficiently, reinforcing our commitment to accessible and impactful communication.

A Year of Strategic Progress and Innovation

The year 2024 marked a turning point for the Communications Department at Dar Al-Hijrah, a year of innovation, digital transformation, and strategic growth. From launching a more advanced website and mobile app to enhancing our branding and improving accessibility, every achievement was guided by our mission to better serve our community.

As we look ahead to 2025, we remain dedicated to evolving our communication tools, refining our message, and strengthening the digital and personal connections that unite our community. We thank all the staff, volunteers, and community members who helped make these accomplishments possible. Together, we continue to tell the story of Dar Al-Hijrah in ways that inform, inspire, and connect.





Communication Department Statistics:



Instagram

1. Interactions: **6610**
2. Average Reach per post: **802**
3. Total # of Followers: **7949**
4. Impressions: **214.24K**



Facebook

1. Average Reach per post: **1513**
2. Content Interactions: **35.81k**
3. Total # of Followers: **18,754**
4. Impressions: **870k**



Youtube Stats for 2024:

1. Watch Time (hours): **15,043**
2. Number of Views: **177,077**
3. Total Subscribers: **27,900**
4. Number of Impressions: **2,495,295**



Mailchimp Stats 2024:

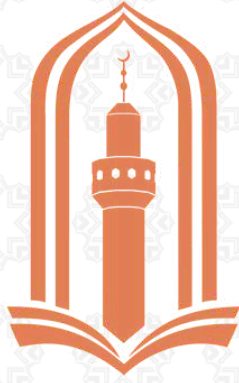
1. Emails Sent: **1,042,370**
2. Emails Opened: **315,676**



Content Production Stats 2024:

1. Unique Graphic Designs Produced: **164**
2. Videos Produced: **267**
3. Number of Event Requests Processed: **138**
4. Sessions Live Streamed: **145**





Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Social Services – Refugee Services

In 2024, several of the Social Services programs were impacted by the conflation of many factors. The long-awaited renovation work in the masjid affected the kitchen and courtyard for more than five months, **causing us to pause** our weekly food distributions, hot meal delivery to Safe Haven, regular blood drives, MAP clinic days, annual eyeglass clinic and entrepreneurship boot camp for women.

Likewise, our **Pathway to Empowerment (P2E) program** was paused when the renewal of funding for that program took longer than expected.

Although we did re-enroll over 120 people in the **Kaiser Permanente Charitable Health Access Plan (CHAP)**, Kaiser announced late in the year that the program was at capacity, and they would not open new enrollments in 2024.

And lastly, as the focus of donors turned to the **heart-wrenching events in Gaza** and Lebanon, at the same time that financial assistance requests were increasing in frequency and amount needed, we had to pause that program as well.

Still, in spite of these factors, our work to provide **services of faith and care** to the community **did not stop**. Although the numbers of programs and people served may be lower this year, there were many who benefited from early food distributions, community health outreach, workforce support programs, legal and tax clinics, personal finance classes and other programs.

The following is a recap of our work in 2024.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE

We serve an immigrant and refugee community that often experiences barriers to accessing the resources and services available to them. We know that when in need, the masjid will be the first stop for many of them. So, we work to distribute Zakat, offer programs and connect them to other community services beyond what we can provide.

Emergency Assistance Program

In spite of having to temporarily close the financial assistance program in 2024, like many other agencies in the area, still over 30 cases, for single mothers, the elderly and chronically ill and others, were processed before doing so. Additionally, our office staff was able to connect families with health insurance, public benefits, job assistance, legal assistance and medical care.



Funeral Emergency Fund

The Funeral Assistance Program helps low-income families cover burial costs and organize the arrangements after the death of a family member. We also continue to work with families after their loss of a loved one to provide emotional support and whatever assistance is needed as they transition to their new normal.



Food Bank

We have always provided **Halal** chicken, bags of fresh vegetables and bread. Our continued partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank allows us to receive many supplemental items at no cost, including fish, eggs, fresh fruit, oil and rice.

We distributed food to over **2,200** unique individuals in **800** unique households this year.

In October of last year, we successfully renewed a **grant** from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Bishop's Storehouse, which allowed us to distribute pantry items, and cleaning supplies and hygiene items, which SNAP does not cover, throughout the year.

Weekly Food Delivery

With the help of our volunteers, we continued to deliver food to those who are not able to come to our distribution due to old age, disabilities, or having younger children, among other reasons.

Safe Haven: Feed the Needy

Through this decade-long partnership with First Christian Church, on the fourth Thursday of every month, we provide hot lunches to homeless and low-income families of all faiths and backgrounds in the neighborhood. Over **1,200 hot lunches** were served in 2024.

DAH Thrift Shop

Our Thrift Shop is open seven days a week. We accept donations of new or like-new clothing and small household items and sell them at a low cost to help clients in need of these basic necessities. For individuals who are transitioning, out of a shelter, for example, or after release from prison or escaping a domestic violence situation, we provide vouchers ranging from \$25-\$100 so they can obtain these items at no cost whatsoever.



Access to Care

As one of the local community partners with Kaiser Permanente, who helps those without access to health insurance enroll in the KP Charitable Health Access Plan (CHAP), we re-enrolled over 120 people in 2024.

Community Health Outreach

In partnership with George Mason University, we host their MAP Clinic one day a month allowing us to provide blood pressure and glucose screenings, Tele-health sessions with a doctor, prescription services, free school/sports physicals for kids and COVID vaccines. In spite of this program being paused this year, over 200 people have now accessed these services.

Blood Drives

In service to the larger community, over 430 units of blood have been collected at DAH, and immediately distributed to those in critical need at local hospitals. These drives were impacted by the construction in 2024, but will restart in February, 2025.

Dental

In 2024 we continued our partnership with the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, which will offer a full range of services, in six state-of-the-art dental suites, to low income, uninsured adults referred by DAH, for just \$25 per visit.



SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND EMPOWERMENT

Pathway to Empowerment (P2E)

There are many women in the community, often widowed or divorced, who need help upskilling and securing a job, and there are many men and women who were educated, skilled professionals in their home country, but whose credentials often don't transfer to the US, so they end up working in low-wage survival jobs. And because it's such an expensive place to live, they have to work many hours just to make ends meet. They don't have the luxury of focusing on the training and certification needed to secure a good job.

Close to 150 people have interviewed for the program, and two dozen have earned certifications in their fields and secured professional positions with living wage salaries, benefits, and pathways for advancement.

This program was paused in 2024 when the renewal of the funding took longer than expected, but in'sha'Allah, we anticipate restarting it in 2025.

In 2021, with IRUSA's help we were able to build a program where these clients can be paid stipends to ease their expenses and let them focus on their training. They have to apply, and interview to be accepted into the program. Once accepted they agree to an action plan developed just for them based on their situation and needs, and as long as they continue to show progress on their plan, they are paid stipends for up to a year.



The success of this program has been recognized in the community as well.

In 2022 and 2023 we received additional funding of \$100,000 from Kaiser Permanente to support career pathways for refugees by funding certification classes or exam fees. By the end of 2024, over 130 individuals had benefited from this grant.

ESL Classes

We refer clients to both **virtual and in-person** ESL classes offered by the World Education Center (WEC), English Empowerment Center (formerly LCNV), AAMU Group and others depending on the **student's need** and preferences. To supplement them we help clients to register for **USA Learns**, a self-paced, platform that offers free, on-demand ESL practice videos.



CPR Certification

In partnership with Khals CPR, we offer on-site Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED classes in multiple languages at a cost 25% below the average in our area. This program is beneficial to many women in the community who work in healthcare or childcare, and can earn a higher position and better pay with the certificate. We also offer group classes for other organizations and businesses in the area. Over 150 people have been certified at DAH since classes began.

Entrepreneurship Boot Camp

We continue our years-long partnership with Empowered Women International, a program of the Latino Economic Development Center, to offer a yearly entrepreneurship bootcamp for women who want to open a small business. Entrepreneurship is an important path to self-sufficiency for many in our immigrant community who might face barriers to traditional employment. The 2024 bootcamp was postponed to the Spring of 2025 due to the construction.

DAH Sewing Academy

Over **250 women** have now graduated from our sewing program, in which students receive **100 hours** of hands-on instruction and a **new sewing machine** they can keep so they can begin work as a seamstress from home. Beginners focus on the basics like common **stitches, cutting patterns and fabric**, and making simple items like an abaya or tote bag. Advanced students learn more in-demand items like **alterations, commercial draperies and cushions**. This program creates community for the women, helps build their confidence and teaches an **income-generating skill** for those who are under-skilled and minimally educated, and due to language barriers and raising their families, have been severely financially handicapped.



Job Connect

As a result of coordinating and hosting large Job Fairs in recent years, we have worked very closely with local workforce centers and employers, and we receive many notices of current opportunities for jobs, paid apprenticeships, training programs and job search workshops. Job seekers who are registered in our Job Connect program receive 2-3 emails each week, containing 25-30 current opportunities. There are over 650 job seekers now registered for this program, and in 2024, and over 1,300 opportunities have been sent to them.



Job Fair

In 2024, we partnered with TENT and the local workforce centers in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria for the fourth year in a row, to collaborate on a two-day Spring Into Work event, where Day One offered a series of short prep sessions with guest speakers from Upwardly Global, local recruiters, and others, and ended with a mock job fair where the job seekers could practice their pitch on the live, virtual platform. Day Two was the actual Job Fair. Over 40 employers and training partners participated, and over 330 job seekers attended.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

We host a variety of programs and events that include information sessions, Ramadan and Eid Al-Adha services and special distributions. In 2024, they included the following.

Legal Clinics

In partnership with Just Neighbors, we continued to host pro-bono attorneys for assistance with immigration issues on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Over 250 clients have had access to an attorney through this program.

Parenting Classes

We partner with Family Services Network to offer the popular Strengthening Families sessions for parents of 10-14-year-olds. Over 40 parents have now accessed these classes.



Ramadan Food Boxes

With support from Islamic Relief USA, we were able to distribute nearly 300 Ramadan food boxes to families in 2024.



Personal Finance Classes

We partner with Britepaths to offer a variety of free personal finance and career building sessions on topics like creating a budget, managing credit, banking, buying a used car, starting a small business, and more. Over 50 people have accessed these virtual classes.

Diaper Distribution

With a generous donations from the LDS church, we have been able to distribute over 900 cases of diapers and wipes to mothers in the community.

DAH Ramadan Iftar Program

Our wonderful kitchen team prepared nearly 30,000 Iftar meals for congregants who gathered to break their fast each night of Ramadan.

Remembering the Imprisoned

Each Ramadan, we coordinate with the Chaplain's Office at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center to provide needed Qurans, prayer rugs and kufis to Muslim prisoners. This year, over 50 incarcerated brothers and sisters were supported.



DAH Ramadan Iftar Delivery Program

Our volunteers delivered Iftar every day to families who could not pick-up because of age, infirmity or inability to drive. In 2024, over 1,600 meals were provided to these families during Ramadan.

Zakat Al-Fitr Distribution

Over 100 Zakat Al-Fitr applications were processed in three weeks in order to distribute cash to needy families to help them celebrate Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr.

Eid Al-Fitr and Eid Al-Adha Toy Distributions

With support from Penny Appeal USA, donors, and volunteers, over 1,000 Eid toys and candy bags were distributed to the kids on these holidays.

Qurbani Meat Distribution

With Islamic Relief USA, we were able to distribute 1,700 pounds of Zabiha/Qurbani meat to over 1,300 individuals during Eid Al-Adha.

Highlights this year include:

- ◆ Continued service to thousands of community members while navigating the impact of construction
- ◆ Successful renewal of funding that will allow the continuation of the P2E program
- ◆ Improved administrative systems, work-flows and training to increase staff capacity and efficiency

In 2025, Insha'Allah, our plans include:

- ◆ The restart and continued growth of our Pathway to Empowerment (P2E) program
- ◆ Improved engagement of volunteers
- ◆ Successful transition of leadership in the department

Thank you for your support!

Many thanks to the following key partners that joined efforts with Dar Al-Hijrah in helping us meet the needs of our community this year:

AAMU Group
American Halal Meat
American Red Cross
Britepaths
Capital Area Food Bank
Dental Innovations of Northern Virginia (DIVA)
FAITH
Family Services Network
First Christian Church
Food Uniting Neighbors (FUN)
George Mason University
HidayaGive
Ignatian Volunteer Corps
Inova Partnership for Healthier Communities
International Rescue Committee (IRC)
Islamic Relief USA
Just Neighbors
Kaiser Permanente
Khals CPR
La Pita Grocery & Bakery
Latino Economic Development Center
Legal Services of Northern Virginia
Penny Appeal USA
Streetwise Partners
TENT
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Upwardly Global
Virginia Career Works-Arlington, Alexandria & Northern Regions
Women Giving Back

We offer our heartfelt gratitude to the **non-profit organizations, masajids, and Islamic centers** that consistently accept the clients we refer to them, provide assistance, and tirelessly work alongside us in our efforts to build a better community.

Special thanks to **Islamic Relief USA** for their partnership in meeting the most urgent needs of our community in creative and sustained ways.

We are ever grateful to all of our **donors, volunteers, local businesses, funders, and community partners** who have joined us in serving our community.

Our impact would not be possible without you. If you would like to support our programs, please **contact** the Social Services Office at **SocialServices@Hijrah.org**



REFUGEE SERVICES

On **September 30, 2024**, we completed our first year as a new **refugee** resettlement agency in **Northern Virginia**, adding needed capacity to the network at a time when the highest number of people forcibly displaced is at an all-time high, **over 120 million people**, a number that will surely continue to rise due to climate change and ongoing conflict **around the world**.

We initially agreed to accept **125 cases** in **our first year**. At **mid-year**, unexpected additional funding became available for agencies that would agree to increase that **number by 10%**.

We agreed, increasing **our number to 138**, and in the end, we ultimately received **145 cases**, making us the second largest affiliate in the **IRUSA network**. Next year, **in'sha'Allah**, we will receive **220 cases**.



As a snapshot of who we've served, all of our cases were **Afghans** with the exception of a **Guatemalan mother** and her **three young children** rejoining their husband/father already here.

The children we've resettled are enrolled across the region in **Alexandria, Arlington and Prince William County Public Schools**.

It is **demanding work**, especially when learning the complexities of the **program** while ramping it up doing it at the same time. We started the year with a **team of 9 people**. 4 of those positions turned over in the **first six months**. But today, we have **11 people**, and the team is the most experienced, dedicated and cohesive we've had.



As a new agency, we were monitored throughout the year. First, case files were desk-monitored remotely, Then, an internal technical assistance monitoring which mimicked the full process done by the **Bureau of Population, Refugees & Migration (PRM)**, was done. The monitoring team was onsite and they interviewed staff, reviewed case files and did home visits with clients. In all cases, clients were found to be settled in safe, sanitary, affordable housing and all of their material needs had been met according to the requirements of the program. We received minor corrections having to do with case-noting and case files, and received additional training on those topics. At the end of the year, we received a full monitoring, after which, the final report was submitted to PRM. Monitors did **5 home visits** and reviewed **43%** of our **case files**. We received the highest compliance level, which is **“Compliant”**.



All of this has related to the **R&P (Reception & Placement) program** only. We have since been approved by the **Office of New Americans (ONA)** for funding over the next two years to launch **post-90-day programs** for employment, refugee health outreach and youth mentorship. Additionally, we intend to launch a **family reunification program** and expand capacity by working with community sponsorship programs. The funding will also allow us to move the growing team into new office space in the **HAWA building**. But more importantly, it better equips us to be able to continue providing needed services without interruption by any policy changes made in the new administration.

Serving newcomers is at the heart of Dar Al-Hijrah’s mission. Doing it through **community and federal partners** has increased our reach, elevated our services, and improved our internal policies and systems.

There have been **challenges**, but in response to those challenges we have worked to find strategic solutions that will diversify our **funding and programs** and allow us to grow as an agency.

Resettlement is considered a public-private partnership, partially funded by the Department of State, and supported by community members.

DAH has long supported newcomers in various ways. In'sha'Allah, with your support, as we always have, we will continue to provide quality services to newcomers in this new endeavor for Dar Al-Hijrah, which literally means "House of Migration."

There are many ways to get involved... Renting to a refugee, volunteering and donating.

Scan the QR code to learn more.

Working together to make a positive and profound difference in our community

Ways You Can Help!

DAH REFUGEE SERVICES

Scan QR Code with your phone

**Reception & Placement activities are paid for, in part, by the Department of State.*

Refugee Services Staff

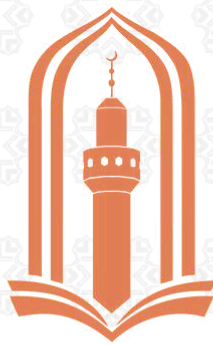
- Stacey Picard, Director
- Tayyiba Haidari, Deputy Director
- Abdul Aziz Samem, Case Manager
- Muska Telyar, Case Manager
- Mohammad Khalid Noorzad, Case Manager
- Spogmay Naaziry, Case Manager
- Amin Naimi, Cultural Orientation Coordinator
- Ibtihal Ahmed, Employment Specialist
- Heleen Najem, Health Liaison
- Qais Ghafoori, Finance Coordinator
- Fahim Samem, Case Aide
- Addison Allred, School Liaison



Social Services Staff

- Stacey Picard, Director
- Tayyiba Haidari, Deputy Director
- Esra Al-Maqtari, Case Worker/Navigator
- Behishta Hanif, Reception/Admin Support
- Asmaa El Bakkari, Sewing Instructor
- Mirwais Jawid, Food Bank Coordinator
- Hamida Kedish, Thrift Shop Staff





Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

OUTREACH, INTERFAITH & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT



Outreach, Interfaith & Government Affairs Department

Team

Naeem Baig, Director–Imam Fazia Deen J.D., Deputy Director

Volunteer Committee

Abdur Rahman Mikail, Ali Sidiqi, Hossein Goal, Mia Oulaia, Maryam Bacchus, Thoraia Hussein and Mounia Fidaoui

Summary

All Praise is to Allah SWT, & may His Peace and Blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah. At the beginning of the year the board of Dar al-Hijrah decided to merge the Outreach and Interfaith Department and the Public and Government Affairs Department into one. The new Outreach, Interfaith & Government Affairs Department of Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center continued to represent the vision and mission of Dar Al-Hijrah through its engagement in the different sectors, communities and forums of the society. In the beginning of 2024, we were engaged in Covid awareness campaign through the CDC Foundation grant which ended in April. Our Dawa work is going strong and many Shahadas took place during the year. Due to the renovations we were not able to hold our annual open house 'Taste of Islam' event. Our engagement with the local Interfaith organizations and outreach with the local and state Government offices remained productive throughout the year. The deputy director Sr. Fazia Deen was nominated to serve on the Police Civil Review Panel. We hosted a special program called, Coffee with a Cop, with the Mason District of the Fairfax County Police Department.

Reverts Support Initiatives

We were able to focus on Dawah and New Muslims and their educational, spiritual and social needs.

- ◆ **Shahadahs:** We had 32 Shahadahs during this reporting session
- ◆ **Educational Classes:** Alhamdulillah, we are holding 2-3 weekly Islamic Studies Classes. On every Tuesday and occasionally on Thursday evenings we have virtual classes and on Sunday mornings the class is held at Dar al-Hijrah
- ◆ **Number of Classes:** 96
- ◆ **New Muslim Brunch:** 12 brunches were held during the year
- ◆ **Reverts Counseling:** 50+ sessions
- ◆ **Mentorship:** Alhamdulillah, we have a few volunteers who are assisting in offering mentorship to our new Muslim brothers and sisters



Dawah Literature Distribution

We display Dawah literature and the Community members are reaching out to the Outreach department for copies of Translations of Quran and Dawah brochures. We offer brochures and Qurans in English and Spanish languages and translations.



Quran Translation in English	800
Quran Translation in Spanish	100
Dawah brochures in English	2300
Dawah brochures in Spanish	900
Dawah Cards in English	600
Introductory Books on Islam	100

Special Ramadan Iftars

Alhamdulillah we were able to hold the following 5 Special Iftars this year during the month of Ramadan:

- ✦ Public School Educators and Staff Iftar
- ✦ Interfaith Iftar
- ✦ First Responders Iftar
- ✦ Government and County Staff Iftar
- ✦ New Muslims Iftar



Annual Open House 'The Taste of Islam 2024'

This year we were not able to organize Taste of Islam due to the renovations.

Patient and Family Care Program

Imam Naeem Baig is a registered volunteer Chaplain with Virginia Hospital, INOVA Fairfax and INOVA Alexandria hospital. He visits INOVA Alexandria every Thursday of the week and visits the other two hospitals as needed.

Number of
Visits

36

Number of
patients seen

120

Number of
Family Members

110

Workshops to
chaplains and staff

2

Community Relations and Outreach

- Community Support meetings for Women’s leadership groups:
- Women in the Eye of Storm; Mothers of Muslims; Jummah Book Club;
- VCMO : Not much active, occasional Meetings for civic engagement;
- Islamic Inheritance Workshop: Collaboration with Educational department (1x/yr);
- Life-coaching and referrals for DAH families (AVG: 2x/mth);
- Mentorship for sister-reverts, and young professionals
- Muslim Lobby Day - DAH Civic Engagement and Outreach (January)
- Coffee with a Cop: In order to improve the relationship with the local police this program was held at the Minara Cafe with the officers from the Fairfax County Police Department.

Justice for Palestine

- Dar al-Hijrah took part in attending and participating in the demonstrations for Gaza and Palestine. We rented two buses for the major Rally for Gaza encouraging the communities participation.
- We visited students who were protesting in camps at George Washington university and offered them food and supplies

Covid and Flu Vaccines Awareness and Education

Grant #1: CDC Foundation

Dar Al-Hijrah was awarded with 3rd CDC Foundation grant for the period between May 2023 to April 2024, in the amount of \$120,000. The following report is for the period between January to April 2024:

- Covid and Flu Clinics: 1 clinic was held at Dar al-Hijrah
- Covid Awareness News Alerts: 5 on WhatsApp
- Covid and Flu flyers distribution: 5 in 3 languages
- Street Banners: 5 banners, 3 in English and 2 in Spanish
- Yard Signs: 12 Yard signs in English and Spanish
- Videos recorded: 9 in 6 languages
- Social Media campaign for Covid Vaccination



Grant #2: National Network of Public Health Institutes

Dar al-Hijrah received another grant of \$10,000 from NNPHI for Covid awareness between November 2023-May 2024.

Interfaith Participation and Civic Engagement

Solidarity Cup of Tea

This is a monthly interfaith forum that takes place at Dar Al-Hijrah on every 3rd Saturday of the month. Number of Forums held: 11

VOICE Action

This is a monthly interfaith forum that takes place at Dar Al-Hijrah on every 3rd Saturday of the month. Number of Forums held: 11

SOSS – Sisters of Salaam Shalom

Monthly meetings of Muslim and Jewish women on building bridges between Muslims and Jews; Number of Meetings

Moms Demand Action

This organization advocated against gun violence among the youth. We participate in the Congressional Lobby Day

Police Civilian Review Panel

Sister Fazia Deen serves on the Police Civilian Review Panel.



Women In the Eye of the Storm

A monthly supportive program which was originally created by outreach to assist the women facing domestic abuse. Thoria Hussain is a certified behavioral therapist and Fazia Deen both certified by Peaceful Families Project to counsel and prepare families going through separation or domestic difficulties. Some of these families are referred to our Imams for spiritual guidance.



The Outreach and Interfaith Department of Dar Al-Hijrah is a member of the following Interfaith, Interfaith and Social Justice organizations and regularly participates in the activities of these organizations:

Culmore Clinic: We sit on the board of the Culmore Clinic. We provide lunch once a month to the needy at First Christian Church.

Interfaith Committee of Greater Washington: 911 Unity Walk: This is a yearly event done with IFCW

US Council of Muslim Organizations: Dar Al-Hijrah regularly participates in the meetings and program of USCMO, Number of Meetings and Engagements: 18

Virginia Council of Muslim Organizations: Dar Al-Hijrah is a founding member of VCMO and currently we sit as Vice Chair on the board of VCMO.

ICD Interfaith Communities for Dialogue: Dar Al-Hijrah is a founding board member of ICD. Number of meetings 12+

Clergy Leadership Council of Fairfax and CCFAC: We are a member of this council and regularly participate and represent Dar Al-Hijrah in the zoom meetings. Deputy Director was appointed to the elections sub-committee



Tysons Interfaith: Number of Engagements:

Falls Church Parade: We participate in the Falls Church yearly parade

- Seminary- Interfaith Facilitation and Leadership Workshop and Training (2d)

Fairfax Domestic Courts: A committee that reviews and collaborates with community leaders to make the domestic court process more understandable by introducing individual rights and procedures in different languages; 12 meetings

- Courtroom navigation consultations for DAH families, 24
- Tyson's Interfaith and Civic Engagement activities (1x/mth)

TOURS: (appointments and, as needed)

- Interfaith community leadership relationship building meetings (1x/mth)
- Met with the DEI team of Arlington City Public Schools regarding Muslim students and Palestine activism
- We offer mentorship to students from Marymount University religious class every
- Participated in the panel discussion organized by Arlington Public School for the teachers from History and Social Studies department

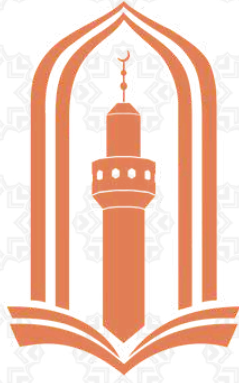


Government and Public Affairs

- ✦ Met with Supervisor Andres Jamenez to discuss the pedestrian safety issue and Dar al-Hijrah property usage
- ✦ Held a meeting with the staff and Fairfax county zoning officials and traffic safety officials regarding using Dar al-Hijrah land parcel for parking
- ✦ Attended the meeting of Northern Virginia Mediation Services
- ✦ 3 Meetings with Fairfax County teams regarding traffic safety. Alhamdulillah in Ramadan we were able to have speed censor installed on Route 7, across Dar al-Hijrah which helped in slowing down the traffic.
- ✦ 7 Meetings with Fairfax County Health Department regarding community health related programs and services
- ✦ We welcomed political candidates to appeal to the community on Fridays and setup their booths

Why Vote and GOTV Campaign

In the month of October and November we held two Community Education Forums on Elections. Dr. Khalil Al-Annan and Br. Saif Abdur Rahman were the speakers.
Attendance: 100 brothers and sisters



Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS





Department of Religious Affairs

Team

- Farhan Siddiqi, Director
- TBD, Deputy Director
- Shahin Indorewala (until 8/2024), Women's Programming Manager
- **Amnah Sharshouh**, Program Manager

Volunteer Committee

- Khatibs and Ramadan Qari(s)
 - Team lead: Samir Abo-Issa
- Qaris
 - Team lead: Abdirahim Hussein
- Teachers
 - Team lead: Athman Jilo
- Quran Teachers
 - Team lead: Faisal Hussein
- Mukhatirs
 - Team lead: Ahmed Hasan Mustafa
- Class Announcements
 - Team lead: Ayatullah Ahmed
- Dawah Initiatives
 - Team lead: **Miguel Aragon Perdomo**
- DAH-FCPS Parents' Committee
 - Team lead: Fahd Obeid

Summary

In 2024, the Department of Religious Affairs of Dar al-Hijrah Islamic Center embarked on some new initiatives and continued on successful previous ones to empower the Dar Al-Hijrah

Community in addition to creating a feedback system to improve on current services and provide an avenue of offering additional ones. The initiatives focused and will continue to focus on transparency, consistency, cohesion, and streamlining processes. Some of our signature events and services included well-attended Sahih Muslim and Tazkiyah classes, spiritual counseling, daily reminders, and fatwa services.

This year, our Quran programs took an impact with the loss of Mohamud Diriye then and Hamza Elhabashy as 'Muqim al-Sha'air' and women's programming with the loss of **Shahin Indorewala**. We also lost Shaker Elsayed, the previous director of Family Services in April 2024, essentially causing Religious Affairs to encompass not only its core functions but women's programming and family programming.. These gaps were all filled by the current imam and the addition of our new program manager **Amnah Sharshouh**.

INITIATIVES & SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS



Educational Initiatives (recurring)

Tazkiyah Class: This class covers Imam Ghazālī's *Iḥyā' 'Ulūm al-Dīn*. This book is one of the most monumental works in tazkiyah and serves as a means of genuinely helping understand experiential knowledge. The program is offered every Thursday and hosted by Imam Farhan.

Explanation of Sahih Muslim: In this class, we will cover Imām Muslim's *Ṣaḥīḥ*. The goal will be to engage in the proposed chapter headings of *Qādī Iyyaḍ* and Imām al-Nawawī, the book titles of Imām Muslim, the reason for the ḥadith ordering and presentation, and the understanding of the ḥadith presented. This class was offered every Monday, now Thursdays, and hosted by Imam Farhan.

Legal Theory: A Deep Dive: A class for students who have a grasp of Arabic and basic understanding of *Usul al-Fiqh* and how to flesh out and apply some of these concepts. Students were expected to present each concept with examples with the teacher.

Jumuah Q&A: The community faces challenges in different arenas and levels. This platform caters to those difficulties and helps provide answers to help navigate them meaningfully. The Q&A is before every Jumuah prayer.

The Art of the Quran: A focus on the melody (*maqamat*) of the Quran, a unique perspective not offered by most institutions. This class focuses on scale, notes, and pitch to help one beautify their recitation. This class is offered every Tuesday and hosted by Qari Abdellah Marhoum and **Ust. Safwat Chowdhury**.

The Essences Series: A series focused on the essentials of Islam, beginning with divinity, prophethood, prayer and the rest of the pillars of Islam. These three course per module help give a foundation to any Muslim in grasping a basic understanding of the religion.

Sacred Partnerships: A series of discussions for those seeking to get married. The series was a three week module where we discussed preparedness to marry, what to seek in a spouse and determining if a potential is a right match.

Sirah Conference (Outreach & Interfaith Department):

A program celebrating the best of all creation, our beloved Messenger, Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم). Each year, a different aspect of the beloved messenger is focused on and presented to the community. This year, the theme was the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) as a statesman.

Women Specific Classes: These are all discussed in the women's programming report. Educational Initiatives

Educational Initiatives (self-standing)

Standing for Palestine: A qiyam, dua, and discussion about the unfortunate events in Gaza.

Eclipse Prayer: A lunar eclipse prayer was held at Dar Al-Hijrah on 9/18/2024 in accordance with the sunnah of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم).

Khatib Workshop: A workshop focusing on the Fiqh and history of Jum'ah, the Spirit of the Khutbah and the Presentation of the khutbah.

The Art of Tadabbur: Pondering Over the Quran with Muthana Alkhaldi on the miraculous nature of the Quran and different interpretations based on how verses are read.

Al - Muttaqqi: Balancing the Perceptions of Fear and Love for Allah: A program that served as a reminder mainly for our sisters with Dr. Haifa Yunus on how taqwa is a pervasive element of faith and needs to remain with our daily efforts.

Religious Initiatives

Daily Prayers: Leading and organizing weekly prayers at the masjid with local Qaris/Huffadh when we had gaps with our Muqim al-Sha'air.

Khutbahs: Regular weekly khutbahs with rotations at HAWA Center and Centerville.

Reminders: Reminders after different prayers (mainly Fajr and Isha) throughout the week were arranged with different speakers, including myself.



Regulatory Initiatives

Onboarding Documentation: For all new hires in the department an overview of the goals of the institution and the department specifically, with a focus on current activities, SMART goals and growth opportunities.

Surveying: Getting regular feedback from the community on different issues, including prayer times, prayer length, khutbah quality, class quality, imam availability, etc.

Cultural Awareness Documentation: An agreement given to speakers to help understand the Dar Al-Hijrah community and the individuals and organizations we are willing to platform and those that we are not.

Violation Documentation: Whether from a volunteer of the department or an employee, reporting and reprimanding procedures are documented and listed.

Departmental Structure: A detailed documentation of the need of specific departmental positions, their responsibilities and duties and proposals on growth, scaling and expansion.

Professional Development: Continued education in pursuing my PhD (International Online University) and certifications in Professional Counseling Skills Programme (PCSP) (Beacon Institute) and the first step to Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.

Weekend School Empowerment Initiatives

Evaluation Project: A series of discussions and focus groups on improving our Weekend School program. This involved meeting with teachers, students, and administration to help improve our current offerings. This was run by **Shahin Indorewala**.



Ramadan-Centered Events

Ramadan Series: A daily program we held during Ramadan that helped viewers appreciate the blessed month even more. Each video discussed a different element of Ramadan to focus on and was released daily.

Tarawih-Tafsir-Tahajjud Triple Treat: A spiritually uplifting weekend hosted Every Friday and Saturday night until the last 20 nights to have a complete evening program.

Best Ten for the Last Ten: A short biography of each of the ten promised paradise from different local speakers after tarawih prayer during the last ten nights of Ramadan.

Ramadan Youth Night: An evening of preparing and celebrating Ramadan before it starts, explicitly focusing on the youth.



Quran-centered Initiatives

Most programs in this section are headed by Faisal Hussein unless noted otherwise.

Tas'hih al-Tilawah: By community request, DAH established a weekly reading program to help congregants recite the Quran. This program is held weekly and hosted by volunteer Qaris, headed by Faisal Hussein. The female recitation program is head by Usta. Fatima Asem.

Quran Recitation Night: The book that is most important to the Muslims is undoubtedly the book of Allah. This night celebrates his book with nationally renowned reciters who beautify their recitations and captivate audiences with their presentations and vocal prowess.



Social & Service Initiatives

Counseling: Spiritual counseling is fundamental to every community, and DAH provides this service through our online appointment system. The system removes any 'gatekeepers' and gives direct access to the imam without the need for intermediaries. Fatawa and short questions are free of charge, while spiritual counseling requires a nominal donation.

Religious Accommodation Letters: DAH is a facilitation institution and wants to support its community with as many means as possible. We have created templates for students and employees to help them with Islamic dietary restrictions, dress codes, holidays, and even affirmation certificates for new Muslims. All templates are available by request.

Family Sports: A population that is often overlooked is the adults with families and we were able to secure sponsorship for a flag football team called the DAH Believers. Our summer 2024 record was 0-8 and fall 2024 was 3-2-3 (W-L-Ties).

Counseling: Spiritual counseling is fundamental to every community, and DAH provides this service through our online appointment system. The system removes any 'gatekeepers' and gives direct access to the imam without the need for intermediaries. Fatawa and short questions are free of charge, while spiritual counseling requires a nominal donation.

Religious Accommodation Letters: DAH is a facilitation institution and wants to support its community with as many means as possible. We have created templates for students and employees to help them with Islamic dietary restrictions, dress codes, holidays, and even affirmation certificates for new Muslims. All templates are available by request.

Family Sports: A population that is often overlooked is the adults with families and we were able to secure sponsorship for a flag football team called the DAH Believers. Our summer 2024 record was 0-8 and fall 2024 was 3-2-3 (W-L-Ties).

Accessibility Initiatives: An Imam's position rests on his relationship with his community. An imam cannot establish this relationship if he is not accessible to them. To facilitate this accessibility, an appointment system, an Instagram page, a weekly Q&A, and a business number were all maintained.



Whispers of the Jinn: A gathering around a campfire with Jinn stories for adults with s'mores.

Hunting Program: A program that discussed and prepared potential hunters with the Fiqhi aspects and practical aspects of hunting. This program was in partnership with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, National Deer Association and Hunters of Color.

Archery Program: A family program to teach parents and children on how to use different types of simple and compound bows in collaboration with TAAZER.

Gateway to Global Trade: A discussion on launching a business in importing and exporting, including where to acquire goods, importing procedure and licensing requirements.

Fade & Fellowship: Haircuts before Eid is always a challenge so we hosted some barbers to cut hair on our deck before Eid al-Fitr.

Hajj Workshop: Hajj is a pillar of our faith and this workshop was to help prepare those about to perform Hajj, or even those unfamiliar with it on the basic tenets of Hajj and how to fulfill them.

Harvesting Blessings: A spiritually enriching and enjoyable Apple Picking Trip!
This event was an opportunity to connect with the natural beauty that Allah has created, engage in a traditional autumn activity, and strengthen our community bonds. As we pick apples and enjoy the fall scenery, let's reflect on the blessings of nature and the bounty that we have been granted.

DMV Bulletin Board: Community members constantly seek a platform to sell, rent, or purchase and use the masjid as an outlet. DAH has taken this to task and created a virtual bulletin board via WhatsApp to serve that gap. As of today, there are over 1.8k participants.

Learning Happens Best in Community:
An initiative started by VOICE and executed by the superintendent of schools where she has conversations with the community clergy on strategies for cooperation.

Family Life Education Advisory Committee (FLEAC): I served as a representative on the FLEAC to help fight for parents' and students' rights regarding sex and gender education. This committee meets monthly.

Outreach Initiatives

Fathers: In cooperation with GDM (Global Deaf Muslims), a discussion specifically around the role of the husband as a qawwam in the household and how to build family trust.

Bare Necessities: In cooperation with CenterDC, a primer in the Hanbali fiqh focused on tahara and salah with a brief overview of sawm, zakah and hajj as well. The class focused on the spiritual and practical challenges many Muslims, especially new ones, face and how to prepare for them.

Marriage: The Halal Way: In cooperation with Sabr Souls, a discussion on how to approach marriage and prepare for it.

Salman al-Farisi: In cooperation with Sapience Institute, a discussion around the conversion story of Salman al-Farisi (ra) and the benefits from that story and practical applications of them.

Fajr Halaqah at Dar Alnoor: In cooperation with Dar Alnoor Islamic Center, a discussion on the dangers and boundaries of falling into israf and the extremes in avoiding it. This was part of a Fajr halaqah series that they hold.

Iftar Talk: In cooperation with Rouh Zinale, Shabab Al Nile and the Generations a discussion around the virtues and benefits of fasting and how to apply those to maximize our Ramadan.



Youth Halaqah: In cooperation with Madina Islamic Center a talk around the 7 who are promised the shade of Allah on the Day of Judgement.

Boycott, Divest and Sanction. . . is it working?: In cooperation with AMP (American Muslims for Palestine), a discussion on the effectiveness of BDS and the repercussions of it.

Qurtuba Ramadan Seminar Panel Session: In cooperation with ADAMS center, a discussion centered around how to maximize our Ramadan and taking advantage of the blessings of the month.

Brothers' Circle: In cooperation with the George Mason University Muslim Student Association (GMU-MSA), a discussion around sincerity and how to maintain it.

Returning to Allah (جل جلاله) in Ramadan: In cooperation with the George Mason University Muslim Student Association (GMU-MSA), a discussion around rebuilding and reinvigorating our relationship with Allah (جل جلاله) during Ramadan.



Ramadan Late Night Talks: In cooperation with Qahwa cafe and HAWA Center, a program centered around discussing navigating our shortcomings in Ramadan and the challenges we face in our relationships.

Moon Mapping: Navigating Crescent Calculations in Islam: In cooperation with First Hijrah Islamic Center, a program centered around discussing the importance of dealing with differences of opinion and the validity of using calculations for moon sightings.

Societal Ills: In cooperation with Qahwa cafe, HAWA Center, and Tanwir Institute a program centered around the reality of seeking knowledge and balancing our relationships during the journey.

ICNA Conference: In cooperation with the Islamic Circle of North America, a yearly conference was held on different subjects in which we participated.

Politics and Islam: In cooperation with the George Mason University Muslim Student Association (GMU-MSA), a discussion around how to manage politics and the different political views we hold.

Thikr Monday: In cooperation with Sabr Souls, a series of discussions on different character traits and how to embody and improve them.

Late Night talks: The Walking Quran: A discussion on the Prophetic (صلى الله عليه وسلم) way in how he manifested the Quran at the HAWA Center.

Heart to Heart Conversation: A program held at Dar Alnoor Islamic Center about seeking knowledge and the challenges associated with that.

The Prophet's (صلى الله عليه وسلم) Manners: A discussion around how the Prophet (would carry and compose himself at the HAWA Center.

Community Night: Manners with Parents: A series of monthly discussions with different speakers. This night was about how one should be with his/her parents and the manners they should maintain with them at the HAWA Center.



Chit Chai: A monthly program around different social issues that the community, especially the youth face at Minara Cafe.

Navigating College as a Muslim: A program for parents on how to help their children navigate college and the best way to be supportive. Hosted by Abdullah Elhilo.

Update on Syria: A program on the devastating situation in Syria and different ways to contribute. This was done in cooperation with Syria Forum.

Uniting the Community: A series of lectures hosted at DAH in Somali by different speakers and presenters. This was done in cooperation with the Somali community.



General Assessment of 2024 Department Plan

Long term SMART Objective	Short-Term Objective	Beginning Date	Completion Date	Measurement	% Complete
Improve Organizational Performance	Create a series of mandatory courses	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Syllabi, course structure, content need to be created and shared in Airtable	90%
	Create a series of supplemental courses	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Syllabi, course structure, content and potential instructors need to be created and shared in Airtable	80%
	Create onboarding documentation for the department	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Create, get approval from ED, submit to Airtable to create automation	80%
	Create Accountability Documentation	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Create, get approval from ED, submit to Airtable to create automation	80%
	Create Timesheet submission templates	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Create, get approval from ED, submit to Airtable to create automation	30%
	Qualifications for potential candidates	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Create list, approval from ED, submit to Airtable for automation	30%
Develop the Community Through Education & Participation	Create a series of mandatory courses	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Syllabi, course structure, content need to be created and shared in Airtable	100%
	Create dynamic and effective messaging	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Theme creation, seasonal messaging, quarterly meetings with committees	70%
	Structured Educational Programming	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Syllabi, course structure, content need to be created and shared in Airtable	80%
	Increasing Accessibility	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Creation of relevant social media accounts and dedicated website presence	100%
	Expanding Office of Religious Affairs	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Creating a network of local talent and basic knowledge base to help with succession planning	70%
	Mental Health Awareness	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Identifying a host date for trainers	Delegated to SS
	Mental Health Awareness through Spiritual Counseling	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Procuring a trainer and starting community sessions and spiritual counseling timing	60%

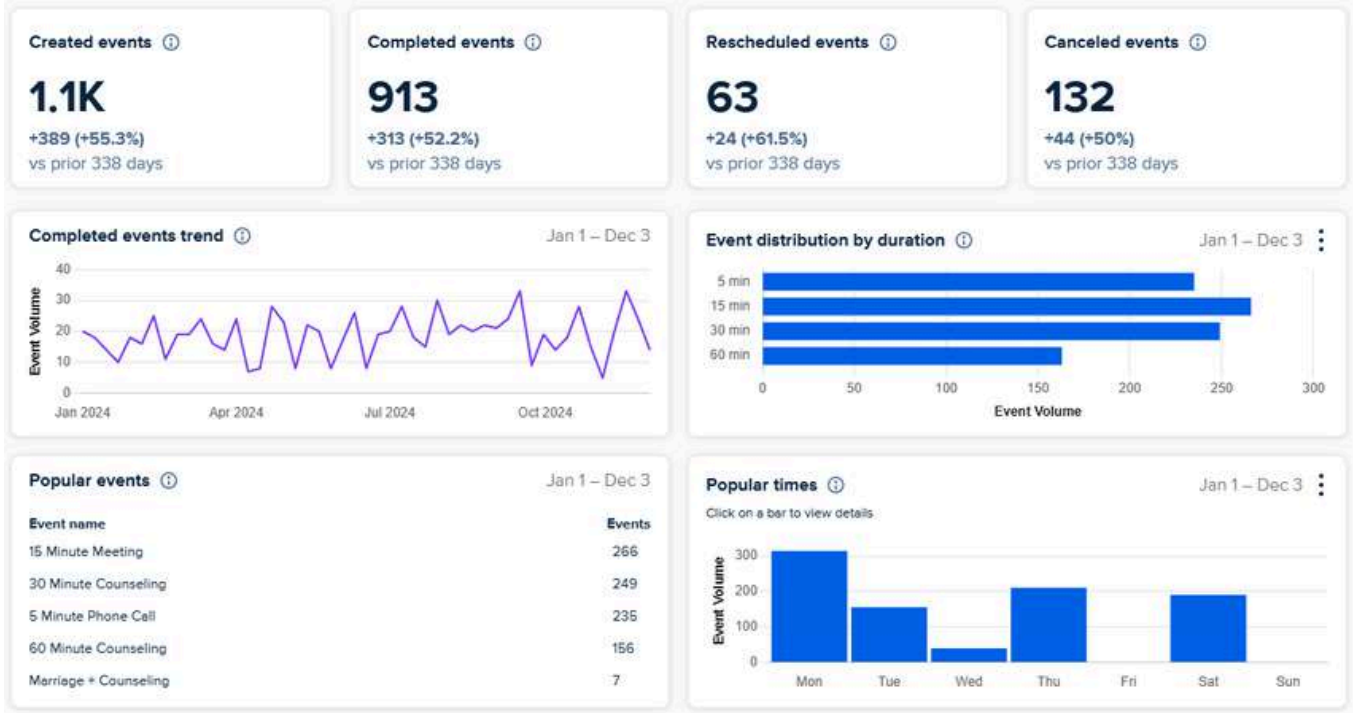


Long term SMART Objective	Short-Term Objective	Beginning Date	Completion Date	Measurement	% Complete
	Self Development and Life Skills	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Syllabi, course structure, content and potential instructors need to be created and shared in Airtable	10%
	Creating Social Activities	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Arranging regular meetings with community members for ideas and assess ability	60%
Contribute to Society	Defining Scope of Participation	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Arranging regular meetings with community members to provide spiritual/religious input in addition to a virtual suggestion box	80%
	Developing Outside Relationships	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Identify and arrange regular meetings with different institutions for ideas and assess ability	80%
	Creating a Channel of Access to the Imam	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Create social media and a dedicated website space	100%
Invest in the Next Generation	Create Social Programs	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Arranging regular meetings with community members for ideas and assess ability	50%
	Strategic Relationships with Third Spaces	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Identify and arrange regular meetings with different institutions for ideas and assess ability	70%
	Creating Mentorship and Internship Opportunities	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Creating advertisements and arranging regular meetings with the community for ideas and assessing opportunities	50%
Be an Inclusive, Diverse Community	Increase transparency and cohesion within DRA	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Arranging regular meetings with community members for ideas and assess ability	70%
	Increase transparency and cohesion with DRA and other institutions	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	Identify and arrange regular meetings with different institutions for ideas and assess ability	60%
Avg = 68.18181818%					

Last year a necessary focus on social and introductory-level programming was identified. Social programming was increased (as the Family Services Department was merged with Religious Affairs later in the year) by hosting more outdoor activities (all of which were positively received) and the introductory-level programming was covered by the “Essence” Series, which has also been very successful.



Imam Farhan Specific (Past Year as of 12/2024)



Note: In 2024 counseling days were reduced from 5 to 4 days a week

Total Number of

Marriages

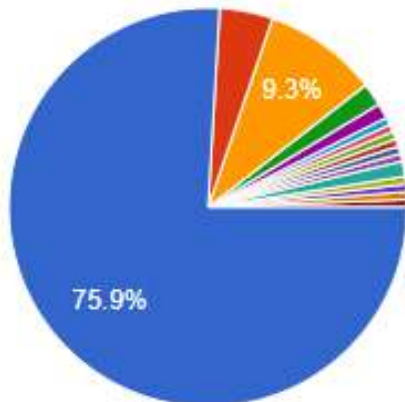
39

Divorces

12

Where are you contacting us from?

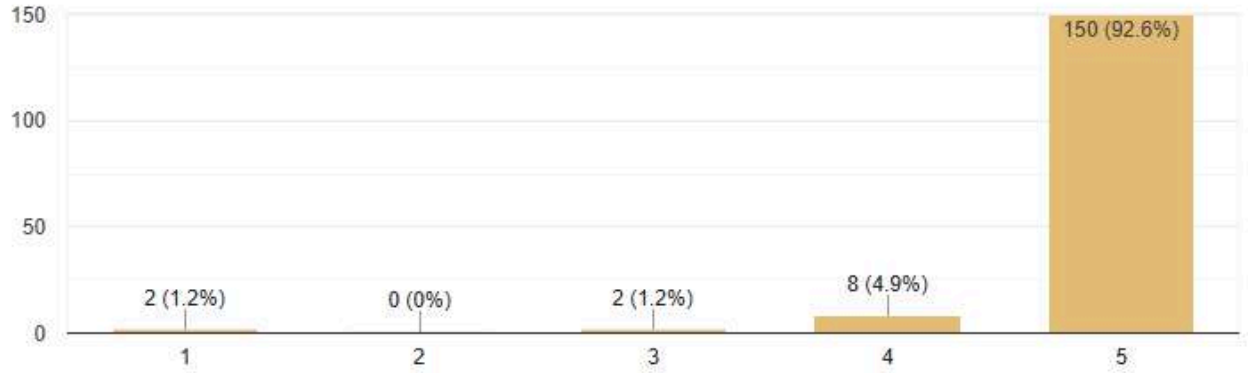
162 responses



- Virginia
- Washington DC
- Maryland
- Ohio
- MD
- Swedem
- DC
- CA
- Philadelphia, PA
- Delaware
- New Jersey
- Alabama
- chicago
- Massachusetts
- Phoenix, AZ

How easy was it to make an appointment?

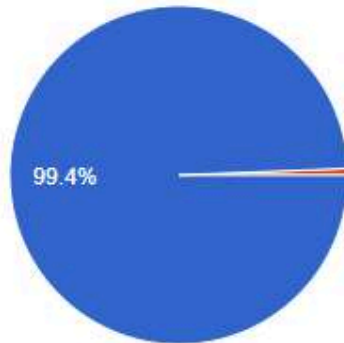
162 responses



Were you able to make it to your appointment?

162 responses

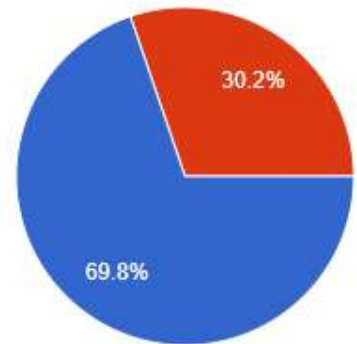
- Yes
- No



Is this your first consultation with Imam Farhan?

162 responses

- Yes
- No

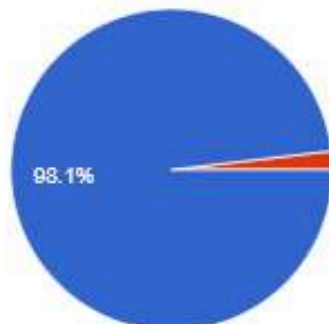


Consultation Assessment

Were you seen or contacted on time?

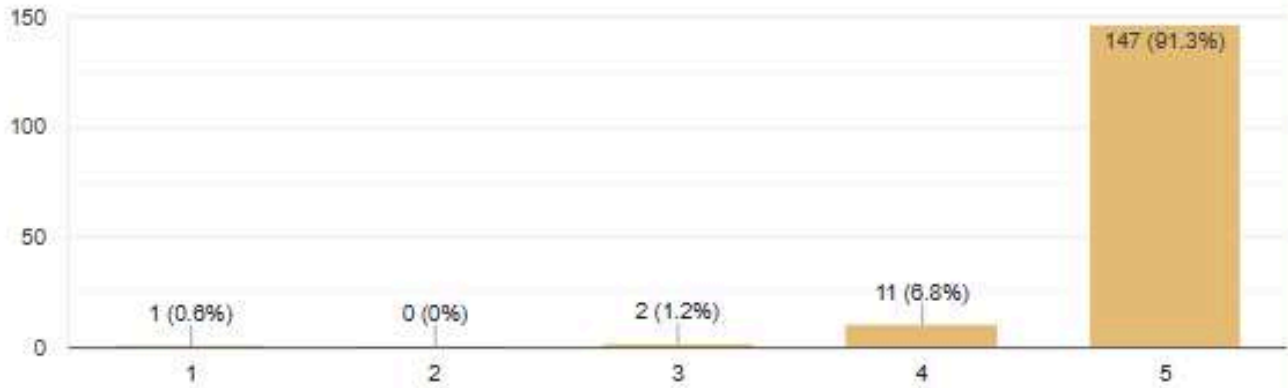
161 responses

- Yes
- No



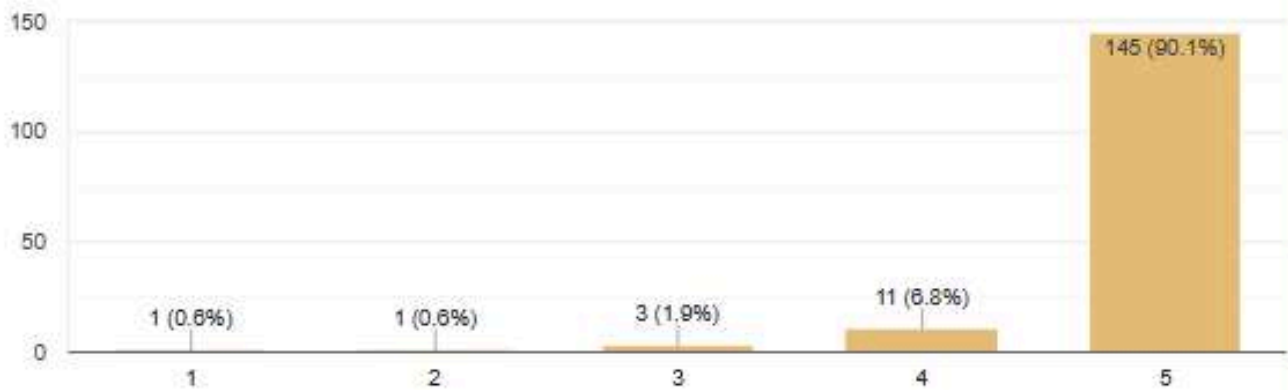
Did Imam Farhan listen to your issue?

161 responses



Do you feel he offered practical advise on how to navigate your issue?

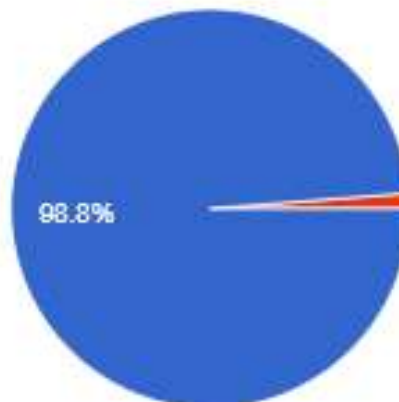
161 responses



Would you recommend Imam Farhan to your friends?

161 responses

- Yes
- No





Imam Farhan was patient and understanding.



He focuses on the point and provides solutions tied to timelines. He uses logical thinking of the best solution that takes into consideration everyone's situation.



He answered all of our questions in detail and provided us with all the information we needed Alhamdulillah.



Imam Farhan was very informative and kind throughout the telephone encounter.



He was so straight forward and crystal clear on his answer and advice.



Imam Farhan is the best. May Allah bless him and his family ameen.

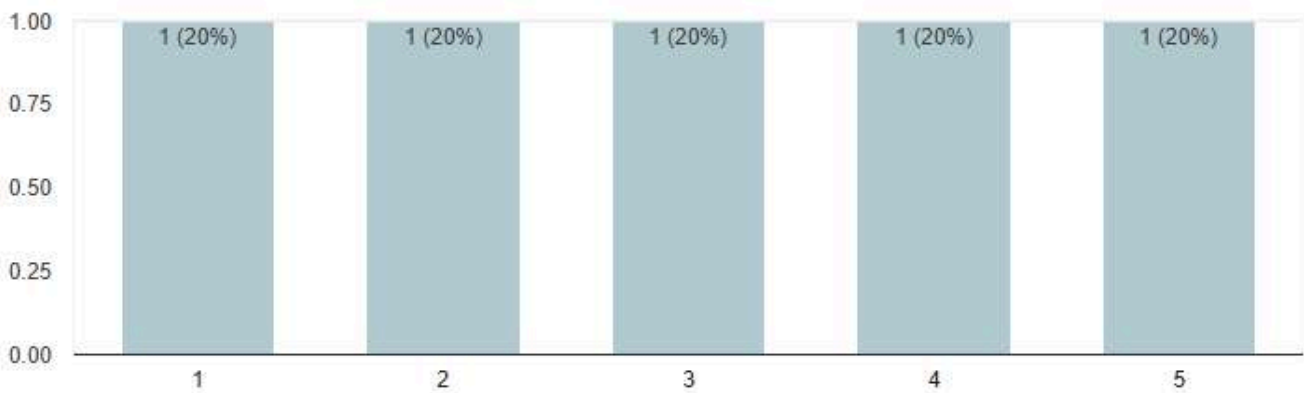


I was very depressed before I went to meet Imam Farhan but he helped me to solve my issues and offered more help if I need it in the future. I am very impressed the way he explained. When I finished the meeting I was much more relaxed and clam. May Allah bless him and give him great health so he can keep helping the community. Ameen

Khutbah Feedback

I find the khutbahs generally

5 responses

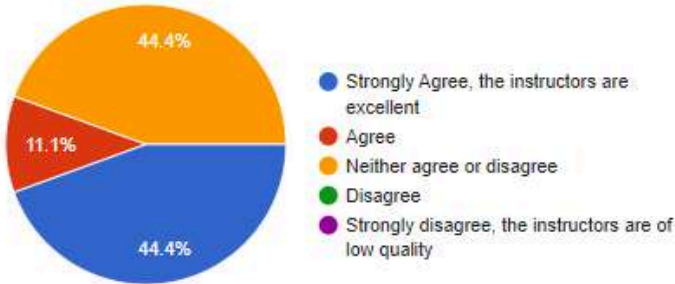


Unfortunately, we did not get much feedback this year (only 5 responses in this example) mostly expressing their missing Shaker as I have been given his slot. This is understandable given the rapport that was built with his audience and any change is initially met with resistance.

Class Feedback

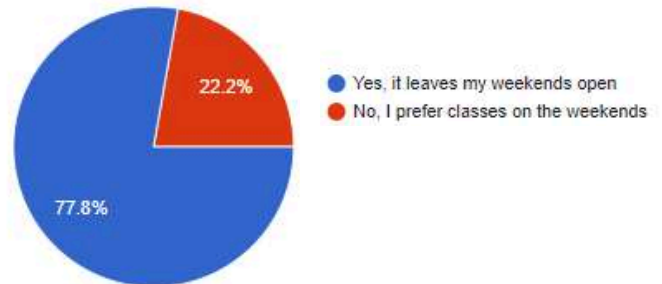
The quality of instructors at DAH is adequate.

9 responses



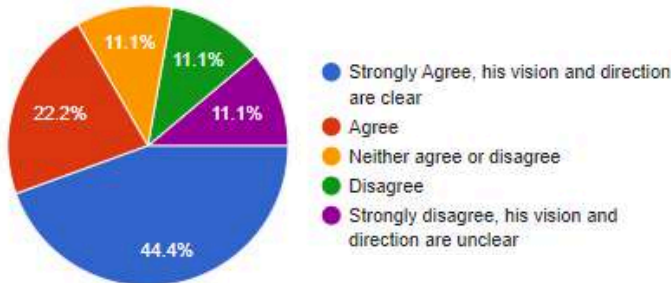
I prefer having classes during the week.

9 responses



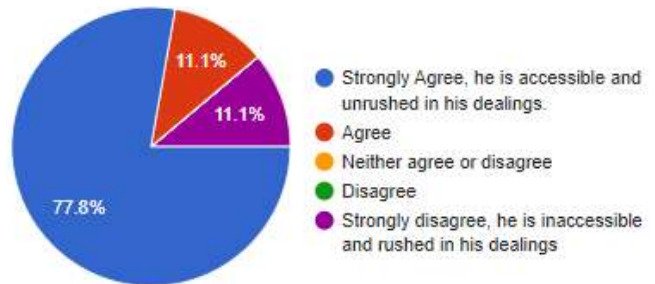
I like the educational direction Imam Farhan is taking the institution.

9 responses



I find Imam Farhan approachable and understanding.

9 responses



ps i always talk about the classes to all my friends & whenever they tag along, they have loved it and enjoyed imam farhan's energy/welcoming aura every time.:)



imam farhan is great at what he does, we r so lucky and grateful to have him as a resource at our mosque. thanks so much for everything u do!!! to be very honest, he makes me want to come to the masjid more. Allah humma barik and may Allah reward him.



i particularly love his instruction style because he never makes u feel like whatever u said (even if it's incorrect) is wrong, he will make the space feel so safe and comfortable. i can't express my gratitude enough for him and the DAH team.

SUGGESTIONS:

i wish there was more only girls classes, a lot of my friends would enjoy this. speaking in the big crowd can be nerve wracking for some ppl esp opposed to the brothers. something i would LOVE is a series about women's rights in islam and how we can be great daughters, wives, and mothers as we grow older. id be happy to help provide more insight on what exactly i am looking to learn surrounding this topic.

AREAS OF GROWTH

Quran Initiatives

One of the most challenging areas for the department has been the loss of our Muqim al-Sha'air. Timings and availability need to be re-examined, and an interim class manager has been placed. Input from specialists in the field has helped; results, unfortunately, have been slow, and with the position once again open, it seems that it will continue in that trajectory for the foreseeable future.

Sisters Initiatives

We had a new women's program manager for most of the year and there have been several new programs and initiatives (detailed in her report). The successes and challenges will be addressed there. Overall, it has been a positive experience with shortcomings identified, but unfortunately, this position has also recently been vacated.

Religious Programming

Exploring traveling programs (spiritual retreats and Umrahs for example) is a reasonable next step and a worthwhile investment as it is an area that is currently vacant.

We also partnered with Waraaqat Institute to host Arabic programs but it met with little success (only 2 registrants) and al-Fawakih which never materialized due to differences in vision.

For the coming year we would like to increase our surveys and maybe even host some focus groups to help dictate the direction of new programming.

This will require a marketing campaign and research in conjunction with the Communications Department.

Weekend School Initiatives

This was also delegated to the new women's program manager (as the WS staff is entirely female), and an improvement plan has been implemented and detailed in the women's programs report. We hope this can continue with the new hire.



General Assessment

The increased burden of merging multiple departments and vacancies has made for a busy year with many of the tasks being managed reasonably. This was aided by the fact that the center was not open at full capacity due to construction which gave time to plan and pivot for upcoming events.

Additionally, **HAWA Center programming** was overseen by this department, adding time and resources. Sustainability at the same pace and output may prove challenging in the coming year without additional staff, specifically a **Deputy Director** and **Muqim al-Sha'air**.

As with all tasks, whenever they increase, the ability to provide focused attention becomes strained. Some constituents feel this was especially noticeable in the musalla, where it was difficult to give focused attention due to the plethora of tasks and responsibilities outside of it. This is understandable based on the availability constraints of the lone service provider.

We have been utilizing volunteers for the **prayers, reminders, khatibs, Quran**, and regular classes for a total value approximating **1528 volunteer hours³** equivalent to **\$51172.72 of added value⁴** to the center.

Summary

Using data, feedback, and experience from previous years we were able to cover a lot of ground in terms of programming and planning.

Externally, new relationships have been established, as described in the report. The extent of these relationships needs to be explored further as to how to leverage those relationships to benefit the DAH community.

Based on the change in dynamic perspective and new challenges, our score has adjusted from last year's score from 74% to 68%, a slightly negative change. With additional support, it will be easier to keep pace with the broader footprint of the department and new initiatives. Unfortunately, this new score has been based on department-specific initiatives and does not include the Weekend School or Women's Programming ones.



Our volunteer group consists of 5 huffadh, 3 Quran teachers, 7 mukhatirs, 3 teachers, more than a dozen khatibs and 8 organizers. This does not include support volunteers who more than triple this number ما شاء الله . May Allah bless them and their families, ameen. <https://independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time/>



HOUSE OF ALLAH'S WORSHIP & ASSEMBLY

COMMUNITY CENTER | FAIRFAX

DAR AL-HIJRAH HAWA FAIRFAX



Dar Al-Hijrah – HAWA Fairfax

Ramadan 2024 Activities

Spiritual Programs

- **Taraweeh Prayers:** Organized and managed nightly prayers led by distinguished shuyukh.
- **Tahajjud Prayers:** Held every weekend and during the last ten nights of Ramadan, offering the community a serene opportunity for deep spiritual connection.
- **Quran Reading Group:** A daily Fajr program led by Brother Tamer Ammar, fostering Quranic reflection and reading.
- **Daily Khatirah:** Managed and organized short, impactful reminders delivered between Taraweeh prayers.

Youth-Focused Programs

- **Weekly Youth Program:** Held every Friday in collaboration with ADAMS Center, led by Imam Farhan Siddique, Imam AbdulMalik Merchant, and Sister Kauthar Murtadi, with organizational support from Sister Iman Said. Discussions addressed critical topics relevant to youth.
- **Youth Qiyam Night:** An overnight gathering focused on embracing Islamic identity, led by Imam Farhan Siddique, Brother Saif Abdulrahman, Sister Abrar Omeish, and Brother Saad Omar. This was the first program organized by the youth committee.
- **Middle School Boys Halaqa:** "Men Around the Prophet," a weekly Saturday program focusing on male role models from Islamic history.
- **Middle School Girls Halaqa:** "Women of Paradise," a Saturday program inspiring young girls through stories of righteous women in Islam.

Summary

2024 was a transformative year for Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center – HAWA Fairfax, marking the launch of our new location during the blessed month of Ramadan. This sacred time served as a powerful starting point, allowing us to lay the groundwork for our new community. After the strong Ramadan programming we steadily expanded to include a diverse array of initiatives designed to engage individuals and families across all demographics. Through dedication, collaboration, and a focus on inclusivity, Dar Al-Hijrah – HAWA Fairfax evolved into a thriving hub of spiritual growth, educational enrichment, and social connection. This milestone year is a testament to the collective effort and vision of our members and volunteers, who worked tirelessly to bring our mission to life.



YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITIES

Religious and Educational Programs

- **Daily Khatirah:** Post-Isha reflections led by Brother Tamer Ammar.
- **Daily Five Prayers:** Organized and led by Brother Tamer Ammar.
- **Weekly Halaqas:**
 - **Girls' Middle School Halaqa:** Led by Sister Marwa every Friday.
 - **Brothers' Halaqa:** A Maghrib program every Friday led by Brother Tamer Ammar.
 - **Women's Halaqa:** Every other Saturday led by Dr. Tahani Amer.
 - **College-Age Youth Halaqa:** Every Tuesday after Maghrib, led by Brother Tamer Ammar.
 - **High School Youth Halaqa:** Every Wednesday, led by Brother Omar Abaza.
 - **Men's Halaqa:** Every other Monday, led by Brother Tamer Ammar.
 - **Monthly Sisters Halaqa:** Led by Sister Abrar Omeish.
- **Senior Club:** Bi-weekly halaqa for men aged 60+, promoting connection and learning.

Weekly Classes

- **Hadith Class:** Study of the 40 Nawawi Hadith every Monday, led by Brother Tamer Ammar.
- **Seerah Class:** Exploring the life of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) every Thursday.
- **Quranic Arabic Class:** Classes focus on understanding Quranic Arabic for deeper engagement with the Quran.
 - **Advanced Level:** Sundays.
 - **Beginners Level:** Mondays.

Sisters' Initiatives

- **Daily Halaqas After Taraweeh:** Led by Dr. Tahani Amer, these sessions combined spiritual discussions and social gatherings for sisters.
- **Daily Quran Halaqa After Duhr:** Led by Sheikha Ola Abdin, this program enhanced Quranic recitation and comprehension.



Special Events

- **Fundraising Night:** A powerful 27th-night session led by Sh. Muhammad Jebreel in collaboration with Human Appeal, raising funds for Gaza.
- **Sh. Muhammad Jebreel's Visit:** A memorable session featuring his recitation on the 2nd night of Ramadan.
- **Eid Celebrations:** Community-focused Eid prayers and activities that brought together families and individuals to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

Youth Engagement

- **Youth Events:** Two major programs with Ibrahim Al-Harawi (social media in Islam) and Saad Omar (resilience during turbulent times).
- **Stories of Light (Ages 7-12):** Weekly Islamic storytelling sessions every Saturday.
- **Little Muslimah (Ages 5-10):** Focused on Islamic basics for young girls, meeting weekly on Saturdays.
- **The Prophetic Manners:** A youth sisters' program starting with Surah Noor, led by Sister Marwa.
- **Salah is Light:** A foundational program for children to learn prayer basics and short surahs, led by Brother Khaled Ansari.
- **Book Study:** "Beginning of Guidance" by Imam Ghazali, led by Umar Shareef every other Friday.



Community Engagement

- **Monthly Community Night:** Hosted five themed gatherings, celebrating cultural diversity with beverages like Karak, Moroccan tea, Somali coffee, Arabic coffee, and mint tea.
- **Islamic Solutions for Societal Ills:** Monthly youth halaqa led by Imam Farhan Siddique and AbdulMalik Merchant.
- **Community Hall Meetings:** Two meetings led by Tamer Ammar that resulted in the formation of a community advisory board.



Family Programs

- **Family in the Eyes of the Storm:** Monthly sessions focused on family resilience and conflict resolution.
- **Sister-to-Sister Marriage Program:** A matrimonial initiative led by Sister Abrar Omeish and Dr. Ammarah Deccur in collaboration with NOVA Sisters.

Sporting Events

- **Weekly Brothers' Sports Day:** Promoting physical wellness and camaraderie.
- **Brothers' Soccer League:** A three-month competitive league designed to engage the community.

Special Events

- **Fall Picnic:** An annual event fostering community bonds and outdoor enjoyment.
- **Kutaba's Workshop:** Islamic public speaking workshop for brothers and sisters, led by Imam Farhan Siddique, Brother Saif Abdulrahman, and Imam AbdulMalik Merchant.



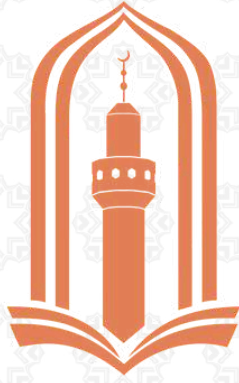
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Team Members and Volunteers

- **Operations Manager:** Tamer Ammar
- **Volunteer Leads and Contributors:**

Sister Marwa, Sheikha Ola Abdin, David Hawa, Amen Elbaba, Hamza Elsayed, Muaz Elsayed, Eyad Ammar, Bilal Mohammed, Omar Abaza, Mansour Elyassa, Khaled Elansari, Dr. Tahani Amer, Afroza, Dr. Abdulrahman, Abrar Omeish.





Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

YOUTH DEPARTMENT



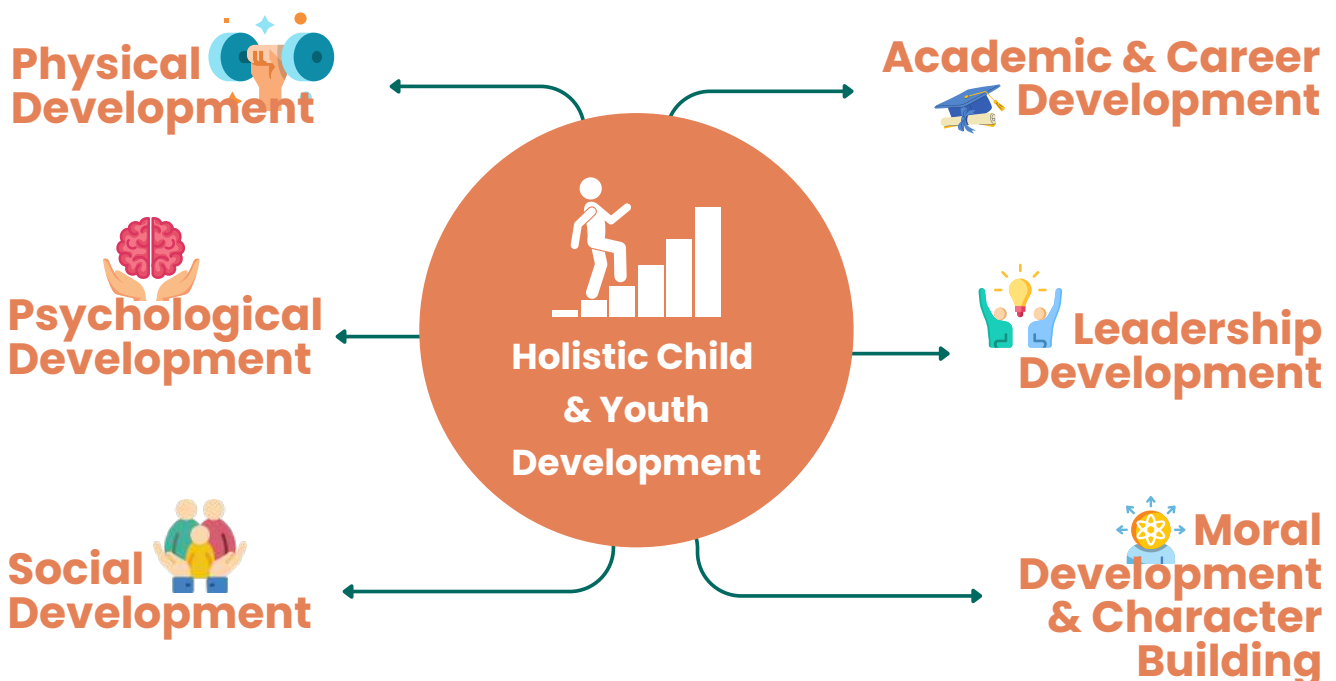
Youth Department

OUR MISSION

The noble objective of the Youth Department is to ennoble and empower the younger generation, encompassing youth, young adults, and emerging professionals. This is achieved through fostering a profound connection with Allah and our esteemed prophet (SAW), furnishing them with enduring exemplars of virtue, and instilling a robust sense of community, Muslim identity, and altruistic service. The department is dedicated to implementing initiatives that nurture a comprehensive embodiment of Islamic principles, thereby contributing to the holistic development of individuals within our esteemed community.

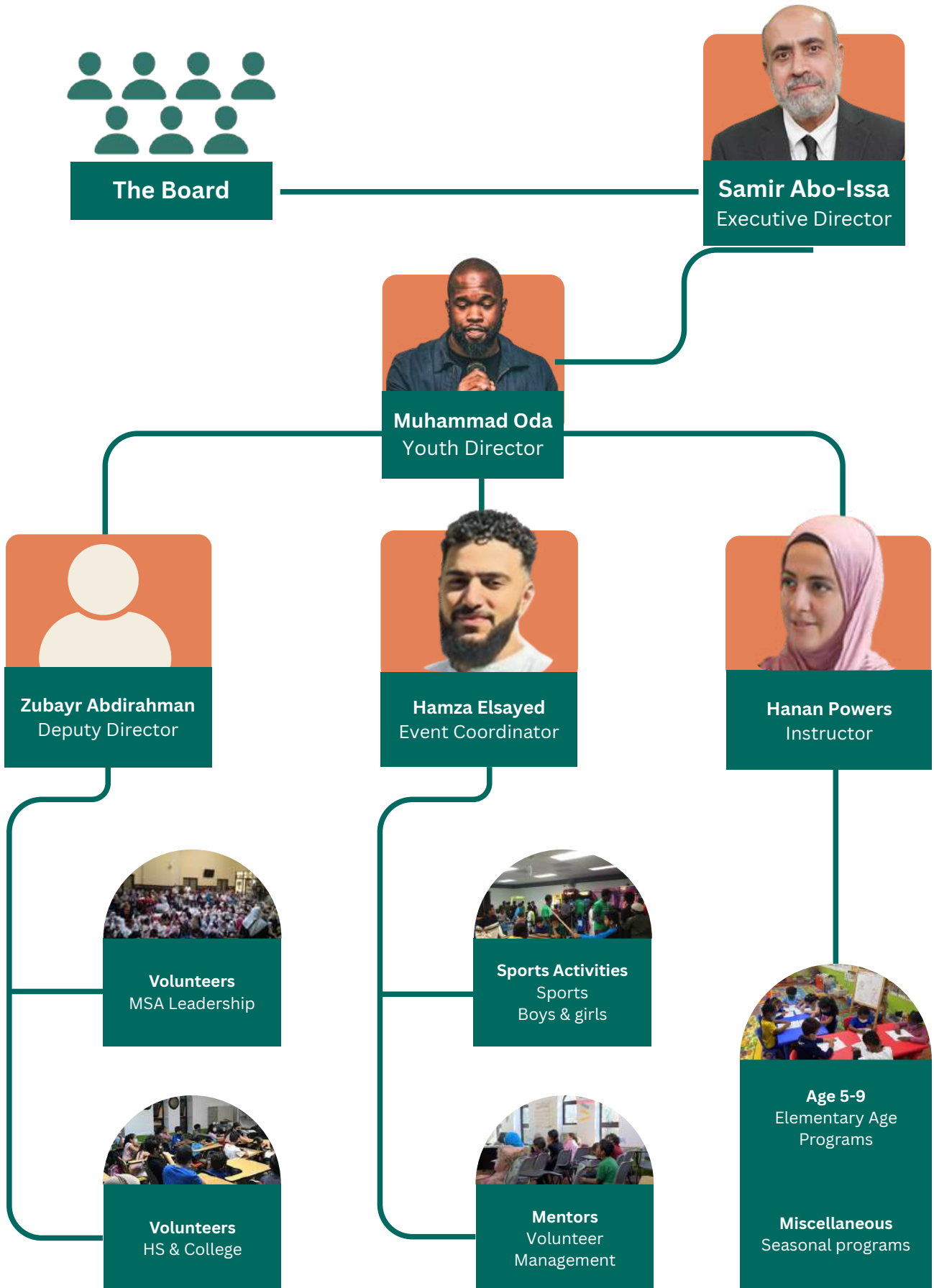
HOW DO WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION?

The Youth Department at DAH adopts a Positive Youth Development paradigm in its commitment to serving the demographic. In pursuit of our overarching mission—our paramount objective—we have meticulously curated a suite of programs designed to address singularly or collectively various domains of positive development in our youth, young adults, and emerging professionals. Enclosed here is a visual representation, in the form of a chart, delineating the six distinctive impact areas that constitute the focal points of our initiatives.





DAR AL-HIJRAH'S YOUTH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART:





Overall Goals:

Our objective is to establish Dar Al-Hijrah as a dynamic hub within the DMV area, catering to a diverse spectrum of individuals, ranging from ages 5 to 40. We aim to foster an environment where Muslims are not only eager to learn and teach, but also to build and grow in both personal and communal aspects. Through a commitment to diligence, consistency, and creativity, we seek to curate transformative experiences that resonate deeply with our community. This, in turn, will cultivate lasting engagement, as evidenced by the continued participation of youth, young adults, and young professionals in our programs and initiatives.

Typical Week:

Our weekly programming typically consists of over six distinct initiatives, with variations occurring during the blessed month of Ramadan and the summer season. During Ramadan, we implement a comprehensive nightly program, while the summer months are marked by the launch of our Annual Summer Camp. Additionally, certain weeks of the month feature specialized monthly programs, further underscoring the vitality and dynamism of our Youth Department. We pray that Allah purifies our intentions and continues to guide and bless our endeavors, enabling us to serve the community effectively.

A Chart highlighting a typical week of programs:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Soccer			Halaqa @ GW	Fast & Learn	Jr. Stars	Neighbornet
Basketball for girls		Department Check ins			Rising Souls	
Basketball for boys					Spiritual Warriors	
				Spiritual Warriors		

Dar Al-Hijrah Youth Programs

PROGRAM	OCCURRENCE	AGE GROUP	PEOPLE SERVED
Jr. Stars	Weekly	Ages 5-9	160 people served
Rising Souls	Weekly	Ages 10-13	480 people served
Spiritual Warriors	Weekly	Ages 14-17	480 people served
Fast & Learn	Weekly	Ages 14-22	1,620 people served



PROGRAM	OCCURRENCE	AGE GROUP	PEOPLE SERVED
Neighbornet	Weekly	Ages 14-22	1,600 people served
Halaqa at George Mason University	Weekly	Ages 18-22	630 people served
40 Hadith: @ GW	Weekly	Ages 18-22	630 people served
DAH Sister's Basketball	Weekly	Ages 14 +	150 people served
Good Company	Bi-weekly	Ages 18 +	120 people served
Taboo	Monthly	Ages 18 +	125 people served
Summer Camp	Annual	Ages 5-15	150 people served
The Digital Sisterhood	Annual	Ages 14 +	150 people served
A Message to the Sinful	Annual	All Ages	175 people served
House of Eloquence	Annual	Ages 14 on up	15 people served
The Winter Flare	Annual	Ages 14-17	200 people served
Signs for Justice	Annual	All Ages	30 people served
MSA Night (Meeting)	Annual	Ages 14 on up	40 people served
MSA Qiyam Night	Annual	Ages 14 on up	120 people served
MSA Night (Meeting)	Annual	Ages 14-22	30 people served
Light upon light	Annual	Ages 14 on up	225 people served
Free youth Soccer Event	Annual	7 +	40 people served
DAH X 703 Warriors Street Soccer League	Seasonal	Seasonal	800 people Served
Euros Final Watch Party	One off	Ages 14 +	15 people served
Social Media in collaboration w/ Hawa Center	Annual	All Ages	140 people served
Class on Worship: HU	Annual	Ages 18 on up	25 people served
Adult Swim	Monthly	Ages 22 on up	20 people served
Tajweed at George Mason University	Weekly	Ages 18 +	135 people served

PROGRAM	OCCURRENCE	AGE GROUP	PEOPLE SERVED
Ramadan Program	Annual (month long)	Ages 5-12	290 people served
Protecting one's heart from numbness	Annual event	Ages 14 on up	100 people served
Summer Nights	Annually (6 weeks)	Ages 18 +	240 people served
No Apologies	One off	Ages 18+	Ages 18+

PROGRAMS IN 2024	EVENTS IN 2024	PEOPLE SERVED IN 2024
32 Programs in 2024	238 Events	8,425

9.375% of our programs were sports activities

28.125% of our programs incorporates athletics in its design

Program Descriptions

Jr. Stars: For Ages 5-9

Ascribed to Imam Malik during his narration of his mother's wisdom, "My mother, in adorning me, would counsel: Approach Shaykh Rabi'ah to acquire not only knowledge but also refined conduct." In our Jr. Journey initiative, our educators exemplify commendable etiquette (Adab) in their engagements with young learners, imparting various virtues by drawing from the exemplary lives of the Prophets. The curriculum encompasses the recitation of select surahs from the concluding ten chapters, melodious nasheeds, and the resolution of interpersonal dynamics through play, expertly facilitated by our dedicated staff and volunteers. Under the proficient guidance of our Lead Instructor, Hanan Powers, the program is flourishing. Anticipated in 2023 is the unveiling of a novel initiative tailored for this age cohort. This avant-garde program is crafted to nurture proficiency in our youth, fostering the development of newfound skills and interests in the realms of arts and crafts. Simultaneously, it emphasizes connection-building as participants forge relationships with peers and mentors, underscores the values of care and character-building through insights gleaned from the lives of prophets and companions, and instills a profound understanding of setting and respecting boundaries derived from interpersonal interactions.



Weak Points/Areas of improvement:

- Marketing was inconsistent or non-present. For a couple of semesters the program was simply promoted by word of mouth, and flyers were usually last minute and not attractive.
- Program had a single point of failure, Hanan Powers. Simply seems drained to re-start the program and revive it, despite the need in the community
- Missing group of volunteers that can hold the program down continuously
- Program might have needed to add elements that are more enticing, (maybe one outing)

Strong points of program:

- Ability to provide space for very young kids to come to the masjid, experience the environment without disrupting people praying (by running around etc.)
- Great way to begin the kid's education in fundamental Islamic knowledge. Kids at that age are sponges, so they absorb a lot in their environment at home or at the masjid.
- Very affordable at \$50/kid, basically at no overhead cost since program did not include any trips or outings
- The primary mentor, sister Hanan Powers is excellent at making the program engaging and educative and fun for the kids



Rising Souls: For Ages 10-13

Rising Souls embarks our youthful participants on an introspective odyssey, guiding them through the exploration of diverse subjects and concepts. This endeavor aspires to instill resilience, foster a robust Muslim identity, and provide a platform for adolescents to navigate the multifaceted challenges in their lives under the tutelage of adept mentors.

Our esteemed mentors, boasting a wealth of collective experience in youth mentoring, are led by the commendable stewardship of Brother Hamza Elsayed and Elham, whose adept management has been instrumental in the program's success. The program unfolds with a didactic session presented by one of the mentors, followed by an interactive lecture. Subsequently, the participants engage in small group discussions to delve deeper into the presented material. A talk-back session ensues, fostering dialogue and reflection, culminating in a recreational interlude where the youth forge meaningful connections under the attentive supervision of mentors. Within this dynamic curriculum, participants cultivate empathy both for themselves and others, thereby nurturing a sense of caring. The process of character development is expertly guided by mentors, facilitating connections with familiar faces and the establishment of new friendships. Furthermore, the program cultivates critical thinking skills, enhancing confidence and fortifying the participants for the challenges that await them beyond the confines of the Masjid.

Strong points of program:

- Ability to provide space for middle school kids to express themselves freely with their mentors, and to learn their deen in a more welcoming and homey environment.
- Strong ability to utilize fun components of the program, such as wrestling, wall to wall, sports and outings to teach the kids discipline, following rules, and camaraderie and brotherhood.
- Educational element is effective, were kids will consistently be given curriculums that build on each other week by week, and we utilize game strategy for education such as Islamic Jeopardy with prizes.
- The primary mentor, Hamza, has been able to keep the program afloat despite many challenges



Spiritual Warriors: For Ages 14-17

Through the medium of Spiritual Warriors, our aspiration is to guide the inquisitive minds of our youth toward a realm of purpose and unwavering focus. Rooted in our venerable tradition, this program is meticulously crafted to mold well-rounded leaders, poised to navigate the intricacies of life through the prism of Islam while judiciously employing the tools of conventional wisdom. The program meticulously delineates its emphasis on four pivotal domains: Spiritual Development, Professional Advancement, Practical Skills encompassing interpersonal finesse and hands-on practicums, and lastly, Engaging in Service Projects.

Open to both boys and girls, our inaugural cohort is exhibiting remarkable growth, a testament to the program's efficacy. Gratefully, we are blessed with a cadre of mentors whose accomplishments underscore their proficiency in diverse fields. May Allah, in His infinite mercy, continue to shower blessings upon our endeavors.

Fast & Learn: For Ages 14-22

"Fast and Learn" represents a distinguished addition to our weekly youth programs tailored for individuals aged 14 to 22. Each session features a distinguished local figure, carefully selected, expounding upon diverse topics generated by the youth themselves. The program unfolds in a meticulously structured tripartite format: an interactive lecture, followed by breakout groups, and culminating in talk-back sessions.

Commencing with a dedicated hour in the youth lounge, participants engage in relaxation, partake in the iftar meal, and engage in congregational Maghrib prayers (upstairs), followed by a return to the



lounge for further sustenance. To facilitate the culinary aspect of the program, we extend an invitation to mentors, volunteers, and organizations to consider sponsoring the weekly meal, an opportunity to contribute valued at \$130 per week.

Gratifyingly, the program has garnered an abundance of positive feedback from the youth, attesting to its resonance and impact. This initiative is experiencing sustained growth each week, a testament to its relevance and efficacy within our youth community.



Neighboret: For Ages 14-22

Neighboret is a weekly program designed for youth and young adults aged 14-22, presented in collaboration with Young Muslims (YM). These lay-led gatherings provide a welcoming space for young brothers to come together for an inspiring reminder, followed by engaging activities and a social outing to a local restaurant. This program serves as an excellent opportunity for participants to develop their skills in learning and teaching, foster meaningful connections, strengthen their ties to the Masjid, and cultivate a sense of fellowship within the community.

George Mason University Halaqa: For Ages 18–24:

As a part of our outreach efforts to MSA leadership, we have created a pipeline between the selective MSA's in the DMV. In exchange for our support in areas where they have a need, we have created opportunities for young leadership to give back in the way of Youth activities at Dar Al-Hijrah. This relationship has resulted into a series of youth activities at selective MSA's in the DMV. Utilizing connections with local teachers we connected Ustadh Hassan Mohamed with George Mason to facilitate a class on George Mason's campus on behalf of Dar Al-Hijrah's Youth Department.



George Washington University Weekly Book Talks: For Ages 18–24

A weekly book discussion at GW with our Deputy Director Zubayr Abdirahman on the book, Character of The Muslim By Mohammad Al-Ghazzali. Classes at GW are extensions of our outreach efforts to connect MSA's to the work we do at Dar Al-Hijrah through the Youth Department.

DAH Sister's Basketball: for ages 14 on up

As we await the renovation of our indoor basketball court at Dar Al-Hijrah, we launched a pilot program for sisters led by Coach Amira and Sr. Samaya Abdirahman. This program consisted of basketball drills, pickup games followed by post-game reminders presented by Sr. Samaya Abdirahman. All of the sisters involved thoroughly enjoyed themselves Alhamdulillah!



Good Company: For ages 18 on up

Good Company – in collaboration with MAS DC– offers a bi-weekly opportunity for individuals at various stages of their spiritual journey to connect with Allah, his messenger, and like-minded individuals who prioritize what truly matters. Led by our instructor, Ust. Abass Darab, each gathering will feature curated content aimed at fostering spiritual growth and understanding taken from the book **“Heartfelt Advice to a Friend”** by Ibn Qayyim Al-Jawziyyah. Additionally, participants will have the chance to engage in collective processing and community building while enjoying amazing tea prepared by our tea enthusiast Humza!



Taboo: For Ages 18 on up

Taboo is a flagship initiative of Dar Al-Hijrah’s Youth Department, designed as a monthly speaker series that brings together renowned scholars, educators, and thought leaders from within our community. This program addresses a diverse array of critical and often sensitive topics, ranging from Hudud punishments and the LGBTQIA+ community to addiction, slavery, and divorce.

Over the course of this series, we were honored to host an exceptional lineup of distinguished speakers, including Imam Suhaib Webb, Dr. Jonathan A.C. Brown, Sr. Dalia Mogahed, Dr. Mobeen Vaid, and Mufti Muhammad Ibn Muneer. Their insights and expertise have enriched the conversations, fostering greater understanding and reflection among our audience.

The success of Taboo would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of one of our key supporters, Elham Said, whose leadership and commitment have been instrumental in organizing this impactful program.



Summer Camp (in Collaboration with MAS)

Our 2024 Summer Camp, hosted in collaboration with MAS DC, was a resounding success, bringing together 136 students aged 5-15. This dynamic program focused on cultivating strong moral character and a deep understanding of Islamic tradition by exploring themes from the Qur'an, the life of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), and personal narratives. Tailored for elementary, middle, and high school participants, the curriculum provided a comprehensive framework for spiritual and personal growth.

The camp offered a robust schedule of activities, including weekly field trips, sports, and other engaging experiences designed to foster teamwork and community. A key highlight was the daily Qur'an recitation sessions, led by Br. Yassir, which deepened participants' connection to and love for the Qur'an.

As we look ahead, we eagerly anticipate welcoming everyone back to Dar Al-Hijrah for our 2025 Summer Camp, where enhanced facilities will provide an even better experience, thanks to ongoing renovations.

A Message to the Sinful: For all ages

This event marked our first major collaboration with Mufti Muhammad Ibn Muneer, delivering a truly captivating and enriching experience. Drawing an impressive audience of **175 attendees** from Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Maryland, the program brought together a diverse and vibrant group of Muslims from across the DMV region. Attendees enjoyed a thoughtfully provided meal alongside an exceptional presentation by Mufti Muhammad Ibn Muneer, who eloquently explored the complexities of human nature and the cycles of moral ascent and descent. Centered on the theme of *falling into sin and rising toward salvation*, the talk offered profound insights and practical guidance, leaving a lasting impact on all who participated.

The Digital Sisterhood: for ages 14 and up

The Digital Sisterhood (TDS) is a platform and podcast that aims to unite Muslim women and other women of color globally:

Podcast

Hosted by Cadar Mohamud, the podcast features interviews with Muslim women on a variety of topics, including mental health, domestic violence, faith, and racism. The podcast has been nominated for a Shorty Award and has reached millions of listeners

We were blessed to have The Digital Sisterhood come through. This event was jam packed with more than **150 women!**



House of Eloquence: for ages 14 and up

A group of MSA leaders sat down with the Youth Department to discuss some of their trials and triumphs as young organizers. One of their requests was a Khatib training and public speaking in order to provide them with tools to connect with their peers. We answered by providing MSA leadership with the tools needed to address the youth with this one day seminar "House of Eloquence". **15 MSA** leaders from Justice High School, GMU and GW were served with this program.



Annual Winter Flare

Our Annual event Winter Flare is one of the highlights of the year. For 2024 we **served 200** youth from various MSA's in Northern Virginia. A night of reflection, connection, bonfires and plenty of opportunities for community building was manifested. This was an amazing highlight for the year 2024. A special shout out to Yaqut who was the lead of this project and who did an amazing job rallying in the youth!



Signs for Justice

In light of the oppression experienced by our brothers and sisters in Palestine, a group of ambitious youth and young adults gathered to create signs in time for a rally to show support for our brothers and sisters who are suffering in Palestine. It was a beautiful sight to witness! Our good brother Ahemd Abumraighi and his amazing wife Maleeha Darab guided participants through the production of signs volunteering their expertise as visual artists.

MSA Qiyam Night

MSA Qiyam night is an opportunity for building, engaging youth leadership and reestablishing our intentions. In light of the challenges we face in life, resetting our intentions is an integral part of community work. We are looking at having more regular Qiyam nights in 2025.

MSA Night Meeting II : Ages 14-22

Following up on the activities of youth leadership in the DMV, we held the second installment of our MSA Night to continue the process of working through challenges and celebrating victories made in 2024. We met with **20 leaders** from various MSAs in northern Virginia and look forward to having meetings towards the end of 2024 to gear up for 2025.



MSA Night: For Ages 14-22

For our first installment of MSA night, under the management of our Deputy Director Zubayr Abdurahman, we had a listening session with 40 leaders and active members of various MSA's in the DMV. They voiced their concerns and ways that we could assist them in achieving their goals, navigating challenges with respective educational institutions as well as consultation and absorbing their efforts to support our flagship program "Fast & Learn". Special shout outs to our Deputy Director Zubayr Abdirahman and our Event Manager Hamza Elsayed for their tireless work.

Light upon Light: For ages 14 on up (Women Only)

In collaboration with Muhsineen and the Women's Department, we organized an evening of Celebration and beautification with women filling the courtyard showing female Qur'an reciters and memorizers. This event, led by Samaya Abdirahman, was an amazing showing of commitment of our sisters and their devotion to Allah and the preservation of the Qur'an. This annual gathering hosted at Dar Al-Hijrah had more than 225 participants.



Free youth Soccer Event: For Ages 8-11

A pilot program used to test the interest of our new Soccer program in collaboration with 703 Warriors. More than 40 youth came out for this pilot program. We look forward to launching more soccer activities for our community in 2025.

DAH X 703 Warriors Street Soccer

Our weekly Soccer program in collaboration with 703 Warriors. Perfect for beginners or advanced players ages 7-12. Learn basic skills with a series of drills as well as practical skills in pickup games in a safe environment. Looking forward to continuing this program in 2025.



Euros Final Watch Party: For ages 14 on up

Public screening of 2024's Euros Final featuring Spain & England. Opportunity for the community members to come together and enjoy beverages from your favorite Cafe in the DMV "Minara Cafe".



"Social Media" in collaboration w/ Hawa Center

When reflecting on the pervasive influence of smartphones, it quickly becomes evident how profoundly social media impacts the minds and behaviors of our youth. This event provided a critical exploration of the many challenges stemming from social media addiction and the broader entanglements associated with smartphone usage. Shaykh Ibrahim Al-Hoori delivered an insightful and thought-provoking presentation, skillfully dissecting this pressing issue and offering valuable perspectives for reflection and action.

“Social Media” in collaboration w/ Hawa Center

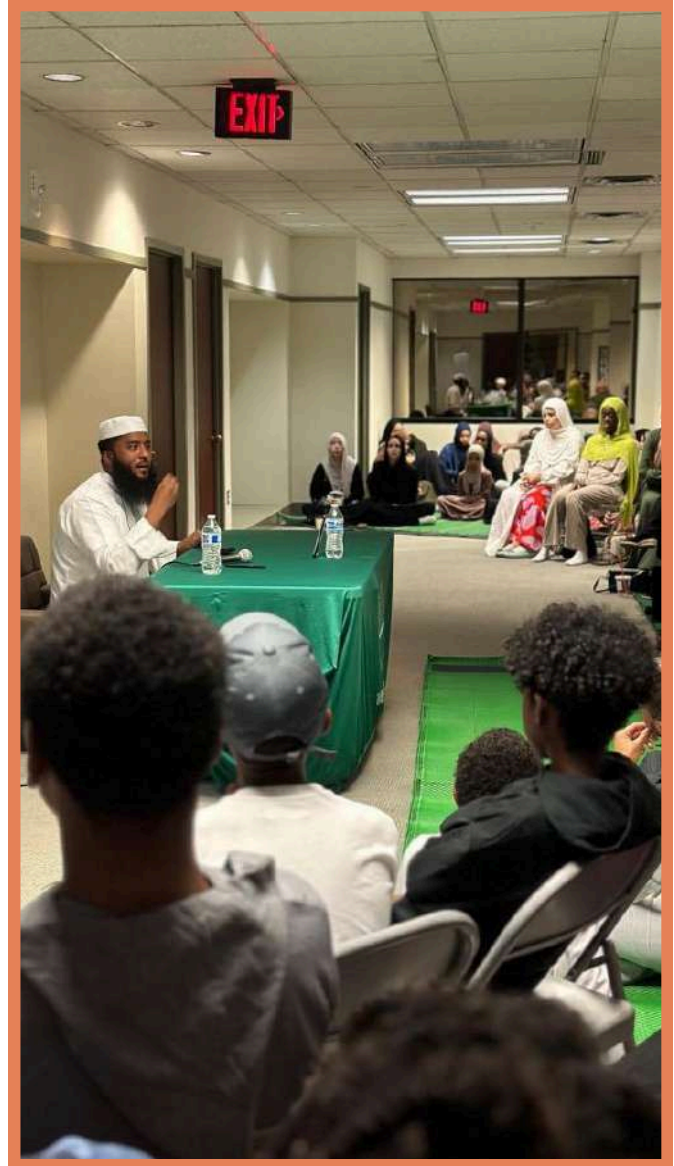
When reflecting on the pervasive influence of smartphones, it quickly becomes evident how profoundly social media impacts the minds and behaviors of our youth. This event provided a critical exploration of the many challenges stemming from social media addiction and the broader entanglements associated with smartphone usage. Shaykh Ibrahim Al-Hoori delivered an insightful and thought-provoking presentation, skillfully dissecting this pressing issue and offering valuable perspectives for reflection and action.

Tajweed at George Mason University: For Ages 18–22

This weekly program was designed to assist sisters at George Mason who were interested in improving their Tajweed and recitation of Qur’an as well as reading skills. This class met weekly and was instructed by Ustadha Shahin - our former Women’s Event Director.

Adult Swim: For ages 18 and up

Adult Swim is a late-night coffee social curated for young adults and professionals aged 18 and older. This event offers a relaxed yet engaging atmosphere, featuring opportunities for meaningful conversations over coffee, friendly competition through board games, and ample time to network and build connections within the community.



Howard University Class on Worship: For Ages 18–22

This was a special event on Worship covering the beauty of prayer and how it keeps us connected to Allah throughout the day and helps keep us steadfast in other aspects of life. This was a one off event facilitated and taught by our Deputy Director Zubayr Abdirahman. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Howard University.

Ramadan Program: For Ages 5-12

In our nightly Ramadan Program, we present an engaging peer-led Jr. Tarawih experience, enriched by a thought-provoking khatira delivered by our youth. We are currently trying to create a home for this program as now the Minara exists where the Youth Lounge once was. Though we had to move around several times, we were persistent and covered the 40 hadith of Imam Nawawi presented by our Event Manager Hamza Elsayed. Our turnout was smaller than previous years, but alhamdulillah, the content presented was some of our best yet. We look forward to seeing our little ones this coming Ramadan 2025! Special shoutouts to Hamza Elsayed for his patience and meticulousness in providing top quality content to our young youth.



Protecting one's heart from numbness: For Ages 18 and up

An amazing gathering for the sisters featuring Ustadha, Amal Abdifatah and Ustadha Faduma Warsame, this event was a full house in Minara Cafe with 100+ sisters in attendance.

In a world that often overwhelms us with information, distractions, and challenges, it's easy for the heart to grow distant and detached. "Protecting One's Heart From Numbness" is a transformative program designed to reconnect young Muslims with the spiritual tools and teachings of Islam that nurture emotional awareness, compassion, and resilience.

Through interactive discussions, reflections on Qur'anic verses, and lessons from the life of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), participants will explore how to guard their hearts against apathy and cultivate a sense of purpose and empathy. Together, we will uncover how acts of dhikr (remembrance), mindfulness, and sincere connection to Allah can help restore the softness of the heart, enabling us to engage meaningfully with ourselves, our faith, and our communities.

This program is a reminder that the heart is at the center of spiritual well-being - and protecting it is a sacred duty.








PROTECTING ONE'S HEART FROM NUMBNESS




UST. AMAL ABDIFATAH UST. FADUMA WARSAME

 **5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

 3159 ROW ST FALLS CHURCH, VA 22044

SAT NOV 30TH

Summer Nights: For ages 18 on up

For this 6 part series we had a local content provider from Adam's Center come through to walk young adults and young professionals through common challenges faced in trying to create meaning in life. Well organized and executed indeed, Ust. Saad Yaqub proved to be very engaging and knowledgeable. Participants left feeling more connected and hopeful for future endeavors empowered with the tools needed to work through challenges that come in life.



No Apologies: For Ages 18 on up

Welcome to "No Apologies," a compelling and intellectually engaging series dedicated to the exploration of apologetics. Through this series, we embark on a thoughtful journey to address complex and often contentious topics within our tradition, analyzing them through a rigorous academic lens and presenting nuanced, robust responses to challenges facing our faith. Our goal is to equip the community with a deeper understanding that is firmly grounded in our rich tradition while remaining relevant and attuned to the sensitivities of the modern era.

The Future of the Youth Department:

- Marketing Segmentation: Using diversity to our advantage
- Divide and Accomplish: Emphasis on programs for young professionals in 2025
- Collaborating internally as well as with our brother and sister orgs (e.g. Hawa Center and MAS DC)



Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

DAH MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT



DAH Maintenance Department

- Design and build Minara Cafe in the youth lounge including new counter, plumbing, electric and walls.
- Build a porch roof structure and walls in the back deck area for extra Musala and Ramadan Iftar for families and womens.
- Build out two extra storage rooms next to the new porch.
- Redirect drain pipes were causing constant running water preventing outdoor prayers under front temporary tents .
- Replace all the LED bright lights in the Courtyard.
- Repair and start the main chiller and pumps.
- Overseas the landscaping and tree works.
- Install two new AC systems in the school area, install new gas lines for each furnace.
- Install new walk in cooler and a walk in freezer with new concrete pads.
- 1Mens and womens bathrooms full renovations, install new AC unit in the men’s bathroom and new exhaust system and circulation fans.



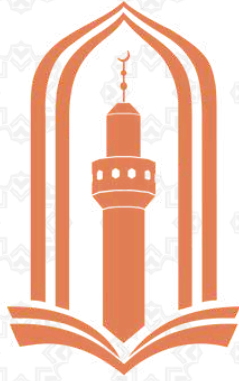
- Raised Courtyard floor to hallway level, install new marble floor, repair damaged old marble and refinish it.
- Refinish the columns in the Courtyard and paint them along the brick walls.
- Install new ceramic floor in the kitchen, relocate the grease trap to outside, redo all plumbing pipes that damage with grease buildup.
- Purchased four new conventional ovens in the kitchen and connected all eight ovens to the gas line.
- Resurface and renew the Manara and add new electric feed for new top spotlights.
- Contact Washington Gas to repair the discovered gas leak and relocate gas meter vents to outside the covered porch area.
- Repair Freon leaks in the chiller and start it for the summer.
- Complete all due fire alarm and sprinkler system testing and repairs.
- Install new timer system for the speakers and lighting.

- Paint DAH school classrooms on the 2nd floor and on the 1st floor including stairways.
- Install an electric outlet for the server on the computer lap that fed from the emergency generator.
- Upgrade high bay lights in the Courtyard and lights in the hallways of the Courtyard.
- Contact the Republic trash and recycling service to do our trash removal services and save on cost.
- Repair foundation leaks under Women's side emergency exit door.
- Rebuild main fire pumps and secondary chilled water pumps.
- Install microphone input and output for outside Friday's prayers and wall outlet for the mixer.
- Coordinate Hawa Center management transfer with Brandywine engineers and management.
- Established contracting services for Hawa Center include fire system, elevator repairs and testing, trash removal, doors monitoring and card access system, snow removals and AC controls.
- Remove two AC units to enable MMA school to complete their buildout at Hawa Center.



- Repair large AC units in Hawa center freon leaks and communications issues for Trane controls.
- Replaced the hot water heater at Hawa Center and repaired all plumbing issues as the building was vacant for 5 years.
- Repair AC units in MAS and WIA space.
- Replace sump pumps as needed in the MAS/WIA building.
- Replace broken metal covers for basement entrance in MAS with concrete gravity drain to prevent rainwater entering the building.
- Help the MAS team to obtain an education license for the Blossom.
- Coordinate for one time landscaping service in Centerville building.





Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

WEEKEND SCHOOL



Dar-Hijrah Weekend School

OVERVIEW

Our weekend school continues to provide a strong foundation in Islamic education and community engagement. Operating on Saturdays and Sundays, we currently serve approximately 160 students, supported by 9 dedicated teachers, 1 custodian, 1 administrator, and a principal. Our program aims to nurture students' Islamic identity while promoting academic excellence and character development.

Student Body

Classes are tailored to different age groups and levels to ensure appropriate pacing and depth of learning.

- **Approximately 160 students enrolled across Saturday and Sunday sessions**
- **Classes are divided by age and proficiency level**



Conclusion

Our weekend school remains committed to providing a well-rounded Islamic education. With the support of our staff, parents, and community, we look forward to continuing this vital work and expanding our programs in the future.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

We offer four core subjects:

- **Qur'an Studies** – Focused on recitation, memorization, and understanding.
- **Arabic Language** – Teaching Arabic as a language to enhance students' reading, writing, and communication.
- **Islamic Studies** – Covering beliefs, practices, and morals.
- **Seerah** – Studying the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Enrichment Activities

Beyond academics, we offer a wide range of activities to foster community, creativity, and engagement:

- **Bake Sales and Car Washes** – Fundraising efforts that build responsibility and teamwork
- **Art & Craft Days** – Encouraging creativity and expression
- **Field Trips and Picnics** – Providing experiential learning and social bonding
- **International Day** – Celebrating the diversity of our community
- **Islamic Studies Projects** – Reinforcing learning through hands-on projects
- **Qur'an Competitions** – Motivating excellence in memorization and recitation



Dar Al-Hijrah
Social Services

GROW & LEARN



Grow and Learn

INTRODUCTION

Grow and Learn is a thriving daycare program established in 2018, dedicated to nurturing young minds and hearts. Operating Monday through Friday, the program continues to succeed in its mission of fostering children’s academic readiness and emotional development. With two specialized classes tailored to different age groups, Grow and Learn remains committed to building a solid foundation for children’s futures.



Enrollment Options Grow and Learn accommodates families by offering both part-time and full-time slots:

- **Part-Time:** 3 days a week
- **Full-Time:** 5 days a week

TUTION FEES

TODDLER CLASS	Preschool Class
Part-Time: \$660 per month Full-Time: \$1,000 per month	Part-Time: \$600 per month Full-Time: \$900 per month

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Grow and Learn is committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where children can grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Our program is designed to support the child by encouraging curiosity, promoting kindness, and fostering a love of learning. Each day is carefully structured to include both guided learning and play-based exploration, helping children build foundational skills in language, math, and social interaction. In addition to academic readiness, we emphasize character development through faith-based learning, giving children a strong moral compass alongside their early education. Our goal is to partner with families to ensure every child feels supported, confident, and prepared for the next step in their educational journey. We maintain a dedicated team of three educators, including one full-time teacher and two part-time staff members, ensuring a safe and developmentally appropriate learning environment.

Staffing Grow and Learn employs three dedicated teachers who bring expertise and passion to their roles:

- **One Full-Time Teacher:** Works five days a week.
- **Two Part-Time Teachers:** Alternate schedules, working 2–3 days a week for approximately 7.5 hours per day.

Operating Hours The program operates from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, ensuring a full day of learning and care for all children.

AGE GROUPS AND CLASSES:

Toddlers Program: Ages 1 to 2.5 years

Preschoolers Program: Ages 3 to 5 years

SUBJECTS OFFERED:

- **English:** Language development and communication skills
- **Math:** Foundational numeracy skills
- **Social Studies:** Understanding community and the world
- **Reading:** Early literacy and comprehension
- **Arabic:** Language skills in Arabic
- **Quran:** Memorization and understanding of selected surahs



Curriculum Highlights

- Social-Emotional Development Focus.
- Multilingual instruction integrating English and Arabic.
- Hands-on activities promoting creativity and problem-solving.
- Daily Quran memorization sessions coupled with stories to build moral values.
- Focus on individualized attention and positive reinforcement

PROGRAM GOALS:

- Prepare children for their future educational journey.
- Foster social skills, cooperation, and emotional regulation. Cultivate a love for learning and curiosity.
- Ensure readiness for formal academic settings.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

The 2024–2025 school year was marked by exceptional growth, joy, and hands-on learning. Our curriculum focused on early literacy, numeracy, Islamic Manners, and motor skills, enhanced by a variety of engaging enrichment activities such as:

- **Animal Visits:** Children had the chance to interact with baby chicks and baby lamb, learning about the care of animals through real life experiences.
- **Cooking Sessions:** Hands on opportunities to make simple snacks introduced basic math, science and cooperation skills.
- **Creative Arts:** Regular painting and craft projects helped develop creativity and fine motor coordination.
- **Story Time & Islamic Lessons:** Daily stories, including those from the Seerah and Quranic Values, helped build language skills and moral development.



LOOKING AHEAD

For 2025–2026, Grow and Learn aims to:

- Expand our program with even more enriching experiences, improved resources, and continued collaboration with families.
- Integrate nature-based learning and outdoor educational play.
- Continue refining curriculum with more personalized learning pathways
- Introduce parent engagement to support learning at home



CONCLUSION

Grow and Learn remains steadfast in its mission to provide a nurturing environment that prepares children for success in both school and life. With a thoughtful blend of academic, social, emotional, and spiritual education, every child is supported in taking confident steps into the world of formal learning.





Dar Al-Hijrah
Islamic Center

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

HIJRAH.ORG

Dar Al- Hijrah Islamic Center



3159 Row Street
Falls Church, VA 22044



Main Office: 703-536-1030



Fax: 703-536-1035



info@hijrah.org