

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَقُلْ أَعْمَلُوا فَسَيَرَى اللَّهُ عَمَلَكُمْ وَرَسُولُهُ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ



ANNUAL REPORT

2007

## Vision Statement

Our vision is to be the leading Mosque in the US in providing Islamic guidance and services to the community.

## Mission Statement

The Mosque Foundation serves the spiritual, religious, and communal needs of area Muslims by means of nurturing their faith, upholding their values, and fostering the wellbeing of the community around us through worship, charity, education, outreach, and civic engagement.

# President's Remarks



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

*Assalamu alaikum!*

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Mosque Foundation, I humbly submit to you our Annual Report, asking for God's acceptance and for your prayers, continuous support, and counsel.

Serving a Mosque and its community is sacred work that is crucial to the success of our families and Islam in this area of the world. In a well known narration by Uthman Ibn Affan, the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, said, "Whoever builds a mosque, desiring thereby Allah's pleasure, Allah builds for him the like of it in paradise." (B. 8: 65)

## Facilities

Building a Mosque needs collective community participation, pooling of resources, financial sacrifices, and, more importantly, purity of sincerity and intentions. We are in the midst of our largest expansion, which will triple our capacity (from 17,000 to 42,000 square feet), provide us with two new prayer areas for our sisters, a new prayer area for men, three baby sitting areas, a reading room and library, lecture hall for educational programs and interfaith activities, new offices for the Imams, secretary, the executive committee, and counseling, a new kitchen, a new washing area for women and men, a board and meeting room, a welcoming lobby at the entrance, all within a beautiful structure that connects aesthetically to the original Mosque building and crowned by a symbolic minaret and three additional domes.

This expansion is supported by state-of-the-art information technology infrastructure, a new audiovisual system, and a new security system. With God's grace and your generosity, we are closer to raising the funds needed to complete this unique facility, a total of approximately \$5,000,000.

## Programs and Functions

Long after the last brick is securely placed and the last nail is hammered, the work of "building" a mosque continues and has requirements that invite consistent work and sacrifice from the community. But this involvement is not a one-way venture. It brings untold blessings to all of those who are directly involved and to those whom we seek to reach and serve. Therefore, expansion in space is meaningless without expanding our services and our outreach. This growth requires hiring and training more staff, more volunteers, increased emphasis placed on professionalism and excellence, as well as an open-minded attitude and serious resolve in tackling our deficiencies and strengthening our competencies.

Our Board and our Committees have been working tirelessly in the last few years to make sure that the physical expansion is matched with increasing our capacity and creativity to serve our community beyond the usual means.

## Major Achievements

Four major projects were accomplished in the last year as part of this endeavor.

- 1. Expansion Fundraising:** We have devised a well-thought and well-coordinated fundraising plan put into action in June 2007. The plan combined major public



# President's Remarks

events and direct mail campaigns aimed at the community around us and potential donors outside our area. With the grace of Allah Almighty and the astonishing generosity of our community and the tireless effort of our Imams and financial development team, we have raised \$3.3 million for the expansion project, which enabled us to reach our target goal within several months. This is in addition to what was raised for this project in the previous few years. We're grateful to report that throughout this campaign, we have more than doubled the number of donors to the Mosque Foundation, reaching 4,239 donors in 2007.



- 2. Strategic Planning:** At this crucial stage of our history, it has become very important to develop a Strategic Plan for the coming years. And we have done precisely that. The Strategic Plan (2008 to 2012) is not only the first in the history of our organization but also the most comprehensive planning process that any community-based organization could undertake. It took several months of one-on-one interviews with internal and external community leaders, detailed surveying of our community members, and detailed planning by 23 entities or committees related to the Mosque Foundation. The aim is to carefully and honestly identify future priorities and to set realistic goals to be implemented in the next five years. Now, we are prepared to move into the future with both eyes open and with clear strategies of more than 220 specific goals that address every function and service our organization must provide in order to fulfill our responsibility as a Mosque and Community Center.
- 3. Community Pulse:** A new and enriched newsletter is now produced with high quality content and more relevant news that pertains to our Mosque and our community.
- 4. New Website:** [www.mosquefoundation.org](http://www.mosquefoundation.org) is our newly designed website. Its technical dimension employs the latest state-of-the-art features and technology available. Its design evokes a spiritual feel, supported by a sophisticated platform that is flexible enough to include new sections and functionalities. The site now has rich and relevant content, including "Islam 101," feature articles, Mosque Foundation statements, sermons from our Imams, calendar of events, and more.

## Aiming for an Ideal Masjid

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard and consistent work, and courage to learn from failure. It is important also to articulate an ideal that we need to keep before our eyes. It gives an objective to reach for and prevents us from falling into complacency.

*The ideal American Mosque should address the challenges facing the American Muslim community and provide its members with solutions to overcome these challenges. Some of the major internal challenges that American Muslims face are the Muslim Youth and their dissatisfaction with the current Muslim organizations and their confusion about their Islamic identity. These youth are underserved and face issues that relate to inadequate Islamic education, inefficient and often irrelevant weekend schools, family disintegration and higher rate of divorce, turning away from Mosques, leadership vacuum, ethnic focus and disunity, separation of immigrant and indigenous Muslims, intergenerational disconnect, extremism, assimilation, and marginalized role for women. Below is a list of what an ideal Mosque should aspire to provide:*

1. Spiritual Fulfillment and Sacred Space for Worship
2. Nurturing Islamic Values and morals
3. Core Islamic Education
4. Family Nurturing and Counseling
5. Youth Development and Identity
6. Outreach and Da'wa
7. Interfaith Dialogue
8. Arbitration and Conflict Resolution
9. Public Relations and Media Relations





# President's Remarks

10. Civic Engagement
11. Political Empowerment



## **A Welcoming Place for ALL**

Whether you were born Muslim or have embraced the faith through conversion, whether you come to the Mosque every day or once a month, whether you are an Arab, South Asian, African-American, or Caucasian, whenever you walk into any Mosque, you must feel that you entering your Mosque. You should feel welcomed, spiritually fulfilled, intellectually satisfied, provided with relevant Islamic knowledge, your faith strengthened, and your heritage respected. You should receive social services and *zakat*, if you are in need. Islamic counseling should be readily available to you, or you may be referred to professional and trusted services. Finally, you should have the opportunity and means to become civically engaged with your local community and be an active citizen in your society.

## **Activism, Outreach, & Civic Participation**

In the past few years, we have seen a rise in malicious attacks against Islam and our institutions (through both words and deeds). Slander in the media and physical attacks continue to escalate. In response, we have broadened our services to the larger community and have vastly improved our civic engagement and our relations with the media and law enforcement agencies. We have joined hands with organizations such as United Power for Action and Justice and Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugees Rights. We have also reached out to Arab-based organizations, like Arab Religious Leaders of Greater Chicago, ADC, Arab American Police Association, Arab American Bar Association, AAFS, AAAN. Moreover, we have strengthened our roles in local and national Islamic based organizations, like CAIR, CIOGC, MAS, IMAN, and ISNA. We have extended our outreach initiative with our neighbors and organizations of other faiths, focusing on local charitable initiatives, improving our interfaith dialogue, and strengthening our youth programs.

By the grace of Allah, our efforts have been very successful. Our Mosque is recognized as one of the leading Mosques in the Midwest and possibly the nation with regard to its services, charitable work, and community building. There have been more positive media coverage in both print and broadcast journalism. Many public officials have visited our Mosque. We have had several civic campaigns, including our active participation in support of comprehensive immigration reforms with our Latino brothers and sisters. Our political empowerment initiatives have led to the registration of thousands of new voters.

## **The Priorities Ahead**

Our priorities in the coming years must focus on improving our core services, our educational programs and weekend school, and youth development and programs (including connecting to our youth in the public schools and colleges). We must also strive to make our Mosque more welcoming to all. Our outreach must expand so that our message reaches those who attend the Mosque and those who don't.

In order to accomplish these lofty goals, as God wills, we need a sound financial base and innovative financial solutions. For this reason, we will be launching the Mosque Foundation Endowment Fund (or *Waqf*) in order to secure financial stability, benefit the most from planned giving, and expand the diversity of income sources.

We have an ambitious and optimistic plan for the future, in which our community will become stronger, more focused, more open, more unified, and more empowered. In doing so, however, we must never forget that we are a community that serves others, especially the needy, the disenfranchised, the oppressed, and the misinformed.

Once again, thank you for your trust. *Wassalamu alaikum.*

**Dr. Zaher M. Sahloul,**  
Chairman of the Board & President

# Imam & Director's Report

التقرير السنوي لعام ٢٠٠٧

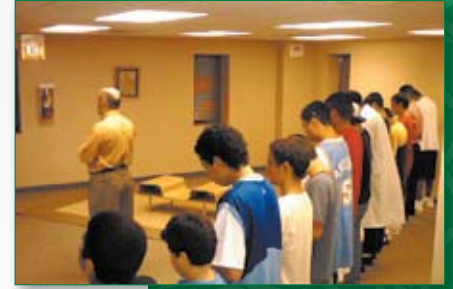
## (١) البرامج اليومية:

- ١- إقامة الصلوات الخمس جماعة في المسجد. واعداد المسجد لذلك من التدفئة والتبريد الى الاضاءة والتنظيف.
- ٢- حديث بعد صلاة الفجر وبعد صلاة العشاء يوميا.
- ٣- التأكد من رفع الاذان واقامة الصلاة وذلك في الوقت المحدد لكل صلاة من الصلوات الخمس والجمع والاعياد والتراويح .



## (٢) البرامج الاسبوعية :

Day	Activities	النشاطات	اليوم
<b>Friday</b>	1- Halaqa for Young women at 7:00PM 2- Halaqa and Tafseer for Women at 7:00PM	1- درس في الفقه قبل صلاة الجمعة للاخوة والاخوات. 2- درس للنساء قبل صلاة العشاء بساعة.	<b>الجمعة</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	English Monthly program (4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month)	1- اللقاء الشهري العربي ثاني سبت من كل شهر. 2- دورة في القرآن الكريم كل سبت من 4-6 مساء	<b>السبت</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	1- English Speaking Sisters Lesson 11am-1pm 2- Spanish Program 12 -1pm	درس تفسير القرآن الكريم ساعة قبل العشاء كل اسبوع.	<b>الاحد</b>
<b>Monday</b>		دورة القران للاخوات من 2-4 مساء	<b>الاثنين</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>		1- دورة تجويد القرآن للمبتدئين الساعة 11 صباحا (للاخوات فقط) 2- درس للاخوات من 12 - 1 ظهرا	<b>الثلاثاء</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>		1- درس للاخوات من 5 - 6 مساء 2- درس في فقه السيرة ساعة قبل العشاء	<b>الاربعاء</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	In the Shade of Faith One hour before Isha Prayer		<b>الخميس</b>



## (٣) اللقاءات الشهرية:

### اللقاء العربي

اللقاء	التاريخ	الرقم
لقاء مفتوح مع حجاج بيت الله الحرام	2007/1/13	-1
الشيخ جمال سعيد الآنسة عائشة سعيد	2007/10/3	-2
الشيخ هاشم العارف	2007/4/18	-3
الآنسة عائشة سعيد	2007/4/14	-4
الشيخ ابو بكر شعيب عمر	2008/5/6	-5
د. زاهر سحلول د. محمود محافظة	2007/6/9	-6
الشيخ جمال وممثلوا مؤسسات الجالية الاخ محمد صلاح وعائلته	2007/7/14	-7
الشيخ عبد الحكيم الحيافي	2007/8/11	-8
الشيخ جمال سعيد	2007/9/8	-9
الاستاذ رفيق جابر الدكتورة لينا جمول	2007/11/10	-10



## English Monthly Programs

1	1/25/2007	Aspen Institute ARC Project: a Palestinian State	
2	2/24/2007	Muslim Teen Rebellion: Causes & solutions	Dr. M. Rida Bashir
3	3/24/2007	Am I Being Heard...? A student's Perspective	Open Forum Discussion
4	4/14/2007	Dealing with Stress: Causes and Treatment	
5	4/28/2007	Jerusalem in Islamic Thought	Dr. Hatem Bazian
6	5/10/2007	The realities of the Iraqi Refugees	Noah Merrill
7	6/2/2007	Honoring Our Graduates	The Mosque Foundation
8	7/28/2007	The Quality of Spirituality We Need	Dr. Waleed Khair
9	8/25/2007	Islamic Solution to Terrorism	Imam Shaker Elsayed
10	11/16/2007	Being Muslim	Haroon Siddiqui
11	10/27/2007	Divorce: Causes and Solutions	

## برامج أخرى

1	11/20/2007	Hajj workshop	Sh. Kifah Mustafa
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الدكتور محمد شحادة	إدارة الوقت للأخوات	2007/5/24-25	1	
الشيخ جمال سعيد	دورة في الحج	2007/11/20	2	

## ٤) النشاطات السنوية

- ١- الرحلة السنوية للمسجد: يوم الأحد الأخير من شهر ٦، عدد الحضور حوالي ٥٠٠ من الأخوة والأخوات والأطفال، ويقام فيها العديد من النشاطات والألعاب للأطفال والكبار.
- ٢- حفلة العيد: أقيمت حفلة العيد في هذا العام في سفاري لاند، حيث حضر ما يزيد عن ٣٥٠ من الأخوة والأخوات وبناتهم.
- ٣- دورة في الحج باللغة العربية وأخرى باللغة الإنجليزية حضرهما أكثر من مائة اخ واخت .

4- Annual Interfaith Potluck Dinner: The Mosque Foundation and St. Fabian Catholic/Muslim Women's Dialogue: Speakers from both Faiths, Share common threads of faith, family and community.

٥) لقاء الجمعية العمومية الدوري ، واعداد التقرير السنوي ، وكل ما يتعلق بالترشيحات والانتخابات وارسال الرسائل والتحقق من قوائم العضوية وتجديد العضوية ، واعداد قوائم الانتخابات . وذلك بالتعاون مع لجنة الانتخابات.





### ٥) نشاطات أخرى:

١) شهر رمضان: وذلك من الاستعدادات لإثبات الشهر ، واستقبال الاف الاستفسارات من الجالية عن ثبوت الشهر ، وانشاء العديد من الخطوط التليفونية ، واستخدام الانترنت والتسجيل الاوتوماتيكي وبثه الى البيوت والعنواين المتوفرة لدينا . إضافة الى:

- .. صلاة التراويح على دفعتين.
- .. درس يومي بين الصلاتين، وخاطرة بين كل اربع ركعات في كل صلاة.
- .. المشروع الخيري وذلك كل ليلة ، مع جمع التبرعات .
- .. اعتكاف وقيام الليالي العشر الاواخر في المسجد مع تأمين السحور والافطار للمعتكفين.
- .. قيام ليلة القدر وبرنامج للكبار والصغار مع تأمين المرطبات والسحور، بحضور اكثر من الف مسلما .
- .. صلوات العيد: الاعداد والترتيب لها، حيث أقيمت الصلاة هذا العام في ملعب تويوتا بارك، في بريدجفيو، وحضر الصلاة ما يزيد عن عشرة آلاف مصلي. وغطيت ببعض وسائل الاعلام المحلية تغطية ايجابية.
- .. اعداد الافطار اليومي خلال شهر رمضان المبارك للمسلمين وغيرهم في مساجد الاحياء الفقيرة (١٢ مسجد) بمعدل ٢٥٠ وجبة إفطار يوميا، بالمشاركة مع مؤسسة الزكاة .

٢) توزيع الزكاة على أكثر من ٧٠ عائلة فقيرة شهريا، وقبل العيدين. وما انفق هذه الفترة وارد في التقرير المالي.

٣) توزيع الطعام على حوالي ١٠٠ عائلة اسبوعيا من خلال مركز توزيع الطعام - Food Pantry

٤) المشاركة في جمع الاضاحي وتوزيعها على الفقراء داخل وخارج شيكاغو من المسلمين وغيرهم.

٥) اعداد رسالة المسجد الشهرية وتوزيع ٥٥٠٠ نسخة شهريا في المسجد وبعض المحلات العربية. ، بما في ذلك الاعلانات التجارية ومتابعتها فنيا وماليا.

٦) زيارة المستشفيات وتفقد مرضى المسلمين فيها.

٧) الجنائز والعزاءات: في حالة الوفاة يقوم المسجد بالاشراف على ترتيبات الجنازة كاملة، من الاعلان عنها الى الغسل والاعداد للدفن والصلاة على المتوفى في المسجد ومرافقة الجنازة الى المقبرة والمشاركة في مواساة أهل الميت بفقيدهم والذهاب الى عزائهم. وقد وصل عدد الجنائز التي اشرف عليها المسجد في هذا العام: ٦٨ جنازة و ١٣٠ عزاء.

٨) عقود الزواج ومعاملات الطلاق التي تمت في ٢٠٠٧:

عدد عقود الزواج : ١٣٠ عقد

عدد حالات الطلاق : ٦٤

٩) استقبال الاعلانات الاسبوعية واليومية لمختلف المنظمات والانشطة والمناسبات والجنائز والعزاءات ، وتلاوتها بعد صلاة الجمعة وبعد الصلوات وكتابتها على لوحة الاعلانات الالكترونية في قاعة المسجد. وكذلك استقبال الاعلانات المطبوعة والمكتوبة بغرض تعليقها في المسجد وقرائنها والتأكد من موافقتها لسياسات المسجد والقوانين وختمها وتعليقها ثم بعد ذلك ازلتها عند انتهاء الفترة المعينة لذلك، وكذلك النشرات والمجلات والجراند .

١٠) استقبال كافة التبرعات لمختلف الانشطة والاعراض ، وادخالها في الحاسوب واستصدار ايصالات توثق هذه التبرعات وارسالها الى المتبرعين ، وحفظ واعداد تقارير شهرية مفصلة تسلم للمسؤول المالي شهريا ، بما في ذلك ايام الجمع وشهر رمضان والعشاءات الخيرية للمسجد وللمشاريع المتعددة .





١١) القيام باستقبال وتنظيم حركة مرور السيارات في مواقف المسجد ، وفتحها واغلاقها حسب الحاجة ، وذلك باشراف لجنة النظام والمتطوعين ، والتي تقوم بجهد كبير جدا في هذا الباب ، خاصة في ايام الجمع ، وفي شهر رمضان المبارك ، وفي فصل الشتاء ، ولاسيما عند قدوم الجنائز ومناجاة السيارات المرافقة لها ، والتنسيق مع البلدية في كل ذلك .

١٢) استقبال الالاف من الاسئلة والاستفتاءات شخصيا ، وتلفونيا و عبر البريد الالكتروني ، من المسلمين وغير المسلمين ، والرد عليها اولا باول ، بالادلة الشرعية ، والموضوعية ، اخذين بعين الاعتبار تذكير المسلمين باحترام قوانين البلاد ، وان ذلك من صميم تعاليم الدين الاسلامي الحنيف . ويرد المسجد استفتاءات كثيرة من خارج الولاية وذلك لطبيعة استقرار وضع المسجد ودوام الموظفين اليومي .

١٣) استقبال المنات من ابناء الجالية لحل مشكلاتهم العائلية ، وفض النزاعات المالية وغيرها ، حسب ما تقتضيه الشريعة الاسلامية وبما لا يخالف قانون البلاد . وذلك بمعدل اكثر من عشر مشكلات اسبوعيا . وهذا يستغرق العديد من ساعات العمل .

١٤) استقبال المنات من الضيوف من غير المسلمين وزوار المسجد بغرض الاستفسار عن الاسلام وقضايا المسلمين ، وذلك من الجامعات والكليات والمدارس الثانوية والكنايس ودور العبادة المختلفة بجمو من الضيافة الاسلامية والعربية الكريمة .. وتوزيع نشرة التعريف بالمسجد ودوره ، ونشرات عن الاسلام وقضاياه المختلفة . ولقد اعلن ٢٥ شخص اسلامهم في المسجد في هذه الفترة .

١٥) الاشراف والتنسيق بين مختلف الموظفين العاملين بالمسجد والتأكد من حضورهم وقيامهم بواجباتهم ، من الامامة الى الاستقبال والسكرتارية ، والنظافة ، والتنسيق بين اجازاتهم وفرصهم اثناء العمل ، وكذا الاشراف على اعمال المتطوعين المختلفة في المسجد .

١٦) استقبال الاخوة والاخوات المكلفين بتقديم خدمات اجتماعية Community Service من قبل المدارس والكليات والجامعات والمحاكم ، والاشراف على عملهم والتأكد من اتمامهم للمطلوب منهم واصدار وثائق بذلك . وكان العدد الكلي لهذه الفترة ٥٥ اخ واخت .

١٧) المشاركة في انشاء وتأسيس المنظمة الخاصة بالمسؤولين الدينيين في الجالية العربية ( الاسلامية والمسيحية) وتمثيل المسجد في كافة لقاءاتها ، ولقد قام وفد من المسجد بزيارة الكنيسة العربية ، وكذلك قام وفد من الكنيسة العربية بزيارة المسجد ، في المناسبات الدينية للجالية العربية .

١٨) الاشراف على ممتلكات المسجد وحفظها وصيانتها وتجديدها ان لزم الامر من آلات التصوير والكمبيوتر والاثاث ، وتأجيرها احيانا مثل الكراسي والطاولات ، والاشراف على كرسي المقعدين المتحرك ، وكذلك صيانة وتجديد الاوراق الرسمية لسيارة المسجد والتأمين . وتزويد المسجد والمكاتب بما يحتاج من القرطاسية والادوات المكتبية .

١٩) التعاون مع مختلف اللجان والاقسام التابعة للمسجد في كل ما يحتاجون اليه ، والعمل على تيسير اعمالهم وتلبية متطلباتهم في ضمن الامكانيات والصلاحيات المتاحة .

٢٠) تلبية الدعوات والمشاركة في مختلف اللقاءات للعديد من المنظمات الاسلامية والاجتماعية والدينية ، والدوائر الحكومية والمدنية ، وتمثيل المسجد في كل ذلك ورفع تقارير دورية لمجلس الادارة عن هذه الانشطة .

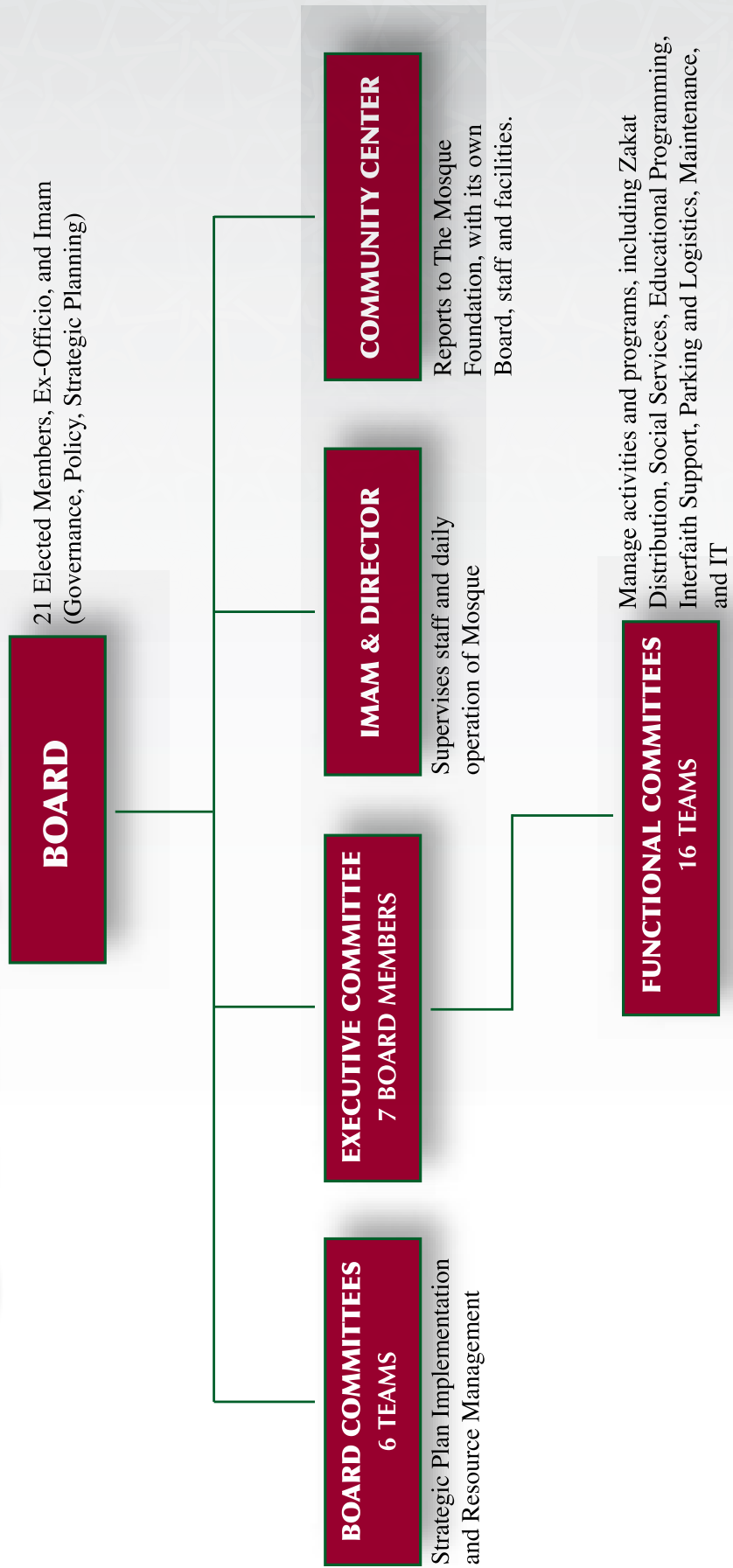
واخيراً أسأل الله عز وجل ان يثيب كما من ساهم في نشاط هذا المسجد بماله او جهده، وان يجعل ذلك في ميزان حسناته يوم القيامة .

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

أخوكم الشيخ جمال سعيد،  
إمام ومدير المؤسسة



# STRUCTURE



## Mosque Foundation Board of Directors

Dr. Zaher Sahloul, President  
Sh. Jamal Said, Imam  
Dr. Ghassan Abdallah, Vice-President  
Aisheh Said, Vice-President  
Mubarak Amine, Treasurer  
Samer Shalabi, Co-Treasurer  
Wisam Zegar, Secretary  
Maher Abdelhaq  
Habes Abdallah  
Abdel Baset Hamayel  
Aisha Rahima  
Dr. Ammar Bayrakdar  
Ayman Salem  
Dahoud Shalabi  
Hisham Shalabi  
Itedal Shalabi  
Kamel Sandouka  
Khalida Baste  
Dr. Mohamed Aduib  
Dr. Mohamed Shalabi  
Rajai Ismail  
Salem Akhras  
Dr. Talal Sunbulli  
Tawfik Tawil

## Mosque Foundation Executive Committee

Dr. Zaher Sahloul, President  
Dr. Ghassan Abdallah, Vice-President  
Aisheh Said, Vice-President  
Mubarak Amine, Treasurer  
Samer Shalabi, Co-Treasurer  
Wisam Zegar, Secretary  
Habes Abdallah  
Maher Abdelhaq

## MFCC's Board of Directors

Dr. Ghassan Abdallah, Chairman  
Sh. Kifah Mustapha, Vice-Chairman  
Mubarak Amine, Treasurer  
Banan Said, Secretary  
Dalila Benameur  
Ahlam Jbara  
Jeanine Askar  
Rajai Ismail  
Buthaina Zahdan



## Board Committees

Committee	Chairperson
Constitution	Br. Habes Abdallah
Policies & Guidelines	Br. Habes Abdallah
Membership	Sr. Khalida Baste
Finance	Br. Mubarak Amine
Planning	Br. Kamel Sandouka
Nomination & Election	Br. Wisam Segar

## Functional Committees

Committee	Chairperson
Monthly English Programs	Sh. Kifah Mustapha
Social Services	Sr. Aisheh Said
Women	Sr. Aisha Rahima
Human Resources	Dr. Mohamad Chehade
Interfaith	Sr. Dalila Benameur
Zakat	Sh. Jamal Said
Information Technology	Br. Kamel Sandouka
Traffic & Order	Br. Fawzy Hassan
Maintenance	Br. Salem Akhras
Education	Br. Habes Abdallah
Community Pulse Publication	Dr. Zaher Sahloul
Expansion	Dr. Zaher Sahloul
Food Pantry	Sr. Connie Ramahi
Itqan Initiative	Dr. Mohamad Chehade
Fundraising Dinner	Br. Abdel Baset Hamayel
Endowment Fund	Br. Samer Shalabi

# Highlights of 2007 Programs & Events

In addition to our daily, weekly, and monthly programs, below are highlights of activities and events held at the Mosque Foundation or in coordination with it.

- ◆ In an effort to expand the Mosque Foundation Community Center (MFCC) from a youth center into a comprehensive community center, and in order to carry out its mission to build a strong community by offering programs that develop a healthy spirit, mind, and body, the MFCC started new programs and initiatives in addition to the ongoing programs that MFCC has been offering. Samples of these programs are: Adult fitness programs, Qur'an memorizing groups, free Health Screening (4 times a year), monthly community breakfasts, and other functions.
- ◆ During the school year of 2007-2008, enrollment at El-Siddiq Weekend School reached 651 students, with a staff of 28 teachers, 25 teachers' aids, and 6 administrative help.
- ◆ Mosque Foundation Community Food Pantry celebrated 3 years of service this past March. Each week, the Pantry serves 80 - 130 needy Muslim and non-Muslim families.
- ◆ In an ongoing collaboration with United Power for Action and Justice, the Mosque Foundation continued efforts to establish an Arabic language program in the some of the local public schools.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation was a co-sponsor of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District Unity Summit for Comprehensive Immigration Reform held at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church in Chicago on April 29, 2007.
- ◆ MFCC held its first Fundraising Dinner on May 11, 2007, with Rami Nashashibi as the guest speaker.
- ◆ MFCC had 68 participants in the "Y-Me Breast Cancer Walkathon" on May 13, 2007.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation started its first convert support group, holding the first meeting in June 2007.
- ◆ For the second year in a row, the Mosque Foundation was a "Diamond Sponsor" of the Bridgeview "Relay For Life," an all night walkathon to raise money and awareness for cancer, held on June 22, 2007.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation Annual Family Picnic was held on June 24, 2007, hosting a large



# Highlights of 2007 Programs & Events

crowd to enjoy the beautiful weather, good food, and wholesome festivities.

- ◆ The Mosque Foundation's newly launched Itqan Initiative held a two-day comprehensive Time Management Seminar for women conducted by Dr. Mohamad Chehade in May 2007, in coordination with MAS Qur'anic Institute and Al-Siddiq School. The Itqan Initiative also conducted a Leadership Development Seminar in coordination with ISNA Leadership Development Center, delivered by Dr. Louay Safi and Dr. Iqbal Unis. Also, another comprehensive two-day seminar was held for our Weekend School teachers on the Processes of Learning & Classroom Management, in coordination with Iqra' Education Foundation.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation hosted a delegation sponsored by the State Department in coordination with ISNA and the National Peace Foundation called "Islam in America: New Dimensions in Activism, Pluralism & Thought." The group of representatives from Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia were touring various mosques and Islamic organizations in America to engage in dialogue and exchange of ideas.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation was a participant in the first anniversary dinner of the Council of Arab Religious Leaders of Chicago, with Sh. Jamal Said as a co-chair of the Council. It was held in June 2007.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation held its annual summer trip for sisters on July 14, 2007 to Deep River Water Park in Indiana. Over 1700 tickets were sold.
- ◆ Sister Aisheh Said conducted a workshop for sisters on July 25, 2007, to teach the established practice of preparing the dead for burial.
- ◆ MFCC held a neighborhood cleanup on August 11, 2007.
- ◆ MFCC presented a screening of the award winning documentary, "Occupation 101" on September 3, 2007, which included meeting with the filmmakers after the screening.
- ◆ MFCC co-sponsored with Arab-American Family Services a 3-mile walkathon to raise awareness of domestic violence called "Walk in Faith, Not in Fear," on October 27, 2007.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation presented its annual Hajj workshop in Arabic and English, which ran for three consecutive weeks beginning on November 19, 2007.
- ◆ MFCC, along with CAIR-Chicago and ICIRR, sponsored a community forum on Comprehensive Immigration Reform, Citizen Delay, and Name Checks on November 30,





# Highlights of 2007 Programs & Events

2007.

- ◆ MFCC representatives traveled to Iowa to participate in the Heartland Presidential Forum on December 1, 2007.
- ◆ Al-Siddiq Weekend School held its first Fundraising Luncheon on December 9, 2007, raising nearly ten thousand dollars in donations and pledges.
- ◆ MFCC held a Town Hall meeting for the youth on December 10, 2007.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation, in coordination with several reputable Islamic charity organizations, collected money to slaughter 580 sheep for *adahi*, the meat of which was distributed to the poor in over thirty countries, and 40 cows which were distributed locally.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation hosted a family party to celebrate Eid al Adha on December 23, 2007 at Safari Land in Villa Park.
- ◆ MFCC presented “Exercise Your Rights: Go Out and Vote!” on December 29, 2007.
- ◆ The Compassionate Care Network hosted a Free Health Screening at MFCC on January 13, 2008.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation was a co-sponsor of the Community Forum of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District on January 20, 2008 at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church in Chicago.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation registered 637 new voters during its voter registration drive.
- ◆ The Mosque Foundation was a 2008 scholarship sponsor of the Spartan Educational Foundation of Oak Lawn Community High School District 229.



# Strategic Plan of 2008-2012: Overview & Highlights

At this crucial stage of our history, it has become very important to develop a Strategic Plan for the coming years. And we have done so: Strategic Plan (2008 to 2012) is not only the first in the history of our organization but also the most comprehensive planning process that any community-based organization could undertake.

## Strategic Planning Stages

The Strategic Plan went through a rigorous process that involved the thoughts, experience, and projections of a diverse mix of people, our community's most blessed resource. Through detailed surveys, personal interviews, and discussions with community leaders, members, benefactors, and volunteers, we derived invaluable material that formed the foundation of the Strategic Plan. An overview of the process is as follows.

**Community Survey:** We conducted a survey to ascertain the community's current concerns and needs. The completed and accepted surveys totaled 443 community members, the majority of whom are Mosque attendees. Samples of the survey results are shown below.

**In-Person Interviews:** We conducted over 50 one-to-one interviews with internal and external leaders who are well aware of the community. The data collected was analyzed in order to determine the main points of the "SWOT" analysis (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats). The top 10 priorities derived from the Interview analyses are included below in this section.

**Youth Focus Group Meetings:** We held several youth focus group meetings to find out what we were doing right and what we were doing unsuccessfully.

**Working with Entities & Committees:** We worked with every Committee and entity related to or formally part of the Mosque Foundation so that we can pull together specific and specialized recommendations to improve the quality of the Mosque's services and functions. All told, we gathered nearly two dozen reports and plans.

**Preparation of the Strategic Plan:** Based on analysis and observations of the whole organization, the most urgent strategic directions and goals are drafted for the next five years.

**Board retreat:** On February 10, 2008, the **Strategic Plan** was presented and discussed in detail as part of the approval process. Then two lengthy Board meetings were dedicated for further discussion and approval of the plan.

**Plan Implementation:** Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the plan is as important as the plan itself. So we developed scheduled status reports to monitor the progress.

## Statistical Highlights From Community Survey

- ◆ 57% married with an average of 4 children per family.
- ◆ Over one-third (34%) attend the Mosque a few times per week.
- ◆ Over one-fourth (28%) attend the Mosque almost daily.
- ◆ 22% attend the Mosque not more than once a week.





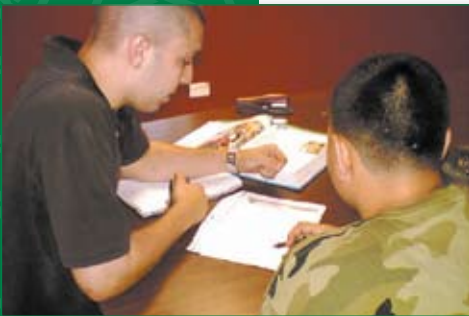
# Strategic Plan of 2008-2012: Overview & Highlights

- ◆ 46% prefer programs in Arabic, while 39% prefer English.
- ◆ 53% consider more youth programs as very important.
- ◆ 51% consider more religious programs as very important.
- ◆ 78% want Arabic to be a 2nd language at public schools.
- ◆ 80% want the Mosque to reach out to Muslims outside our immediate community.
- ◆ 87% of youth (15 to 20 yrs) want more Islamic education programs.
- ◆ 84% of youth want more religious programs.
- ◆ 76% of youth prefer programs to be conducted in English (18% prefer Arabic).
- ◆ 91% of females want more youth programs.
- ◆ 90% of females want more family-oriented programs.
- ◆ 92% of females want more Islamic Education programs.
- ◆ 24% of adults have bachelors degree.
- ◆ 28% of male adults have bachelors degree.
- ◆ 15% of female adults have bachelors degree.



## Top Future Priorities:

The most critical issues or priorities to address within the next 5 years were identified as follows:



### Priority No 1: More Effective Youth Programs

There is great concern about the Islamic identity of our future generations. We need to address the fact that 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Muslims are not connected to our community and Islam. We need to study their needs and address them through dynamic, relevant, and comprehensive youth development programs.

### Priority No 2: Outreach to Muslim Community

Develop more aggressive outreach programs for Muslims who usually don't attend the Mosque and those who do not practice their religion.

### Priority No 3: New, Improved, and Diverse programs

Seek to balance diverse programs (education, social, interfaith, and others). Diversify programs per age groups. Establish programs for our children (5 to 15 years old). Establish a dedicated program and support group for converts.



### Priority No. 4: Financial Development & Stability

Achieve financial stability through endowment and long-term planning and growth.

### Priority No 5: Management Excellence

Add professional development and solid internal system; capacity building and management skills for staff and volunteers; and utilize the best practices of nonprofit organizations.

### Priority No. 6: Hiring More Staff

Hire enough people to implement our programs effectively, with less dependence on volunteers in certain areas.

### Priority No 7: Guard and Strengthen Islamic identity and Values



# Strategic Plan of 2008-2012: Overview & Highlights

Guard our values and Islamic identity while opening up: differentiating between integration and assimilation.

## **Priority No. 8: Strategize Wisely**

Think more strategically about the programs and projects. Focus on evaluating and strengthening how to proceed with balance and proficiency.

## **Priority No. 9: Address Dysfunctional Families and Lack of Parenting Skills**

Need specialized family educators or counselors. Preparing and training parents to raise their children effectively.

## **Priority No 10: Community Services and Empowerment**

Empower Muslims at all levels. Focus on MFCC and Al-Siddiq School, for they are the main avenues of bringing new active community members to our community.

## **Highlights from Strategic Plan 2008 -2012**

The Strategic Plan consists of 23 individual plans, each for a specific committee, function, or entity within or under the immediate supervision of the Mosque Foundation. Each mini-plan addresses specific Critical Issues and sets goals to achieve them within 5 years. There are approximately 230 specific goals to accomplish. Samples of these goals are below:

### ***Board of Directors***

GOAL GV-7.1: Restructuring the following committees: Finance, Strategic Planning, Programs, Bylaws and Policies, Nomination and Election, and Endowment.

### ***Constitution & Policies Committee***

Goal CP-1.1: Completely review and update the bylaws by September 1, 2008.

### ***Social Service Committee***

GOAL SS-1.2: Designating a fixed annual date (each late spring on a Sunday) as a "Family Day" event at MF. This day-long event could include: (1) Experts on family issues for workshops; (2) special dinner and discussion for newlyweds; and (3) session on "Successful Marriage" for couples who have been married many years to share their secrets of successful marriage.

### ***Women Committee***

GOAL WC-2.3: Focus on topics related to spousal conflict, family relationships, extended family issues, parenting, and awareness about legal risks of losing custody of children. Also, focus on interpersonal manners and dealings (*akhlaq* and *adab*) with one another, our neighbors, and the society at large.

### ***Human Resources Committee***

GOAL HR-1.1: Conduct HR analysis that includes A) staff restructuring, B) new hiring, and C) training for the whole organization and its entities by June 30, 2008.

### ***Membership Committee***

GOAL MM-2.1: Increase youth (18-25 yrs) membership to 130 members by the end of 2012.

### ***Itqan Initiative***

GOAL II -1.1: Build a self-help and nonprofit management Itqan Library of no less than 50 books



# Strategic Plan of 2008-2012: Overview & Highlights

and multimedia training items carefully selected for staff and volunteers to use at their pace. Hold a training seminar every three months for different capacities at the Mosque Foundation.

## **Outreach & Public Relations**

GOAL OR-2.3: Collect all contact info (names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mails) of both Eids' attendees of 2008 to keep in touch with them through various mediums.



## **Food Pantry**

GOAL FP-1.2: Work with local police departments, libraries, and large supermarkets to give our Food Pantry a portion of collected food drives during the holidays (starting October 2008).

## **Zakat Committee**

GOAL ZC-3.1: Establish a department at our website to facilitate *Zakat* calculation and payment through a *Zakat* Calculator with explanatory notes (by August 2008) and *Zakat* FAQ's (by June 2009).

## **IT Committee**

GOAL IT-5.15: Implement scope 2 of the new website of the Mosque Foundation by December 2009.

## **Finance Committee**

GOAL FC-1.1: Evaluate financial operation, and then produce a Finance Policy & Procedure Manual for the organization and its related entities, such as MFCC and Al-Siddiq School, by December 2008.

GOAL FC-6.1: Present to the Board of Directors the 5-year Financial Plan for approval by March 2008 (Approved).



## **Endowment Fund**

GOAL EF-4.1: Cash collection goal for Endowment is set at \$1,000,000 by 2012, *insha'Allah*.

## **Al-Siddiq Weekend School**

GOAL AS-1.3: Computerize all information regarding student data and grading by December 2008.

GOAL AS-6.1: Conduct 4 condensed education trainings per year, mandatory for all teachers to attend.

The Mosque Foundation Strategic Plan was approved after board meetings, with a formal Board Resolution is to be signed by board members in April of 2008.



# Financial Report for the Year 2007

## Income (Excluding Zakat & Expansion Project)

	<u>Jan to Dec 2007</u>
Advertisement Income	\$36,225.00
Bookstore	\$19,342.20
<b>General Donations</b>	
Auto Monthly Pledge	\$56,285.98
Eid Donations	\$85,743.30
F.R.D. - 2004	\$600.00
F.R.D. - 2005	\$12,475.00
F.R.D. - 2006	\$66,728.50
Friday Prayer Donations	\$366,145.58
Funeral Donations	\$82,890.00
General Donations	\$165,366.53
Membership	\$2,000.00
Taraweeh Donations	\$94,908.00
<b>Total General Donations</b>	<u>\$933,142.89</u>
NAIT Acct YIELD	\$11,901.28
Food Sales	\$29,772.00
MF Community Center	\$68,894.63
<b>School</b>	
Al-Siddiq Weekend School	\$205,611.44
Quranic Summer School	\$39,155.00
<b>Total School</b>	<u>\$244,766.44</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$1,344,044.44</u></b>

## Expenses (Excluding Zakat & Expansion Project)

<b>General Operation Expenses</b>	
Advertisement	\$458.15
Automobile Expense	\$580.75
Bank Service Charges	\$7,170.23
Cleaning Services	\$1,602.30
Dues and Subscriptions	\$6,000.00
EID Expenses	\$22,516.03
English / Arabic Programs	\$8,565.48
Equipment	\$1,580.19
Insurance	\$9,183.00
Internet/Web site	\$17,964.00
Licenses, Fees & Permits	\$15.00
Meetings Expense	\$890.61
Miscellaneous	\$3,016.28
Newsletter Publication	\$60,824.16
Payroll	\$489,238.90
Postage & Delivery	\$1,978.00
Printing	\$12,219.08
Professional services	\$18,429.99
Ramadan Expenses	\$19,431.43
Repairs & Maintenance	\$20,286.46
Special Events/Activities	\$16,577.62
Supplies	\$15,471.50
Telephone	\$11,574.26
Utilities, All	\$36,143.48
<b>Total General Operation Expenses</b>	<u>\$781,716.90</u>
MF Community Center	\$229,109.86
Food Pantry	\$19,160.80
MF Bookstore	\$17,771.25
School	\$213,716.23
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$1,261,475.04</u></b>

Net Income \$82,569.40



# Financial Report for the Year 2007

## Separate Schedules for 2007:

### Expansion Project

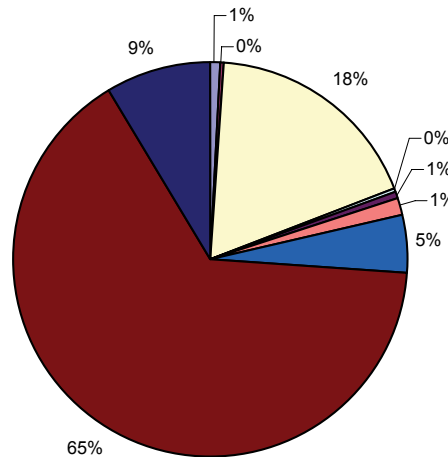
Beginning-of-Year Balance	\$1,360,848.00
Total Expansion Contributions	\$3,360,454.44
Total Expansion Expenses	\$2,572,492.00
End-of-Year Balance *	\$2,148,810.00

### Zakat Fund

Beginning-of-Year Balance	\$270,322.00
Total Zakat Contributions	\$440,571.00
Total Zakat Distributions	\$454,327.00
End-of-Year Balance	\$256,566.00

\* As of 12/31/2007, there are many major expenditures related to the Expansion Project that have not been completed or paid for due to unexpected delays such as purchasing the land near Aqsa School and preparing it as a parking lot, most internal finishings, furnishings, IT, etc.

## 2007 Income



- Advertisement Income
- Total General Donations
- Food Sales
- Total School
- Total Zakat Contributions
- Bookstore
- NAIT Acct YIELD
- MF Community Center
- Total Expansion Contributions

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
General Donation	\$854,293.00	\$869,389.00	\$1,043,430.00	\$1,222,505.00	\$1,344,044.00
Zakat Fund	\$696,113.00	\$590,145.00	\$745,282.00	\$562,000.00	\$440,571.00
Expansion Project	\$291,498.00	\$242,263.00	\$424,317.00	\$521,369.00	\$3,360,454.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,841,904.00</b>	<b>\$1,701,797.00</b>	<b>\$2,213,029.00</b>	<b>\$2,305,874.00</b>	<b>\$5,145,069.00</b>



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