

Tomorrow Belongs to Those Who Prepare for It Today. Tomorrow Belongs to Those Who Prepare for It Today. Tomorrow Belongs to Those Who Prepare for It Today. Tomorrow Belongs to Those Who Prepare for It Today. Tomorrow Belongs to Those Who Prepare for It Today.



The following ISNA programs would benefit from revenue generated regularly through the endowment:

ISNA LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTER: The ISNA Leadership Development Center (ILDC) is dedicated to building leadership capacity among American Muslims by setting standards for leadership excellence; conducting educational and training programs to help imams and community leaders meet those standards; and preparing and publishing guides, manuals, handbooks, and other material for enhancing leadership awareness and performance. Annually, ILDC

organizes nine events throughout the country, including national conferences on peace-building and chaplaincy. These events provide specialized training to over 500 individuals at the cost of \$75,000 per year.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES DEPARTMENT: The society's Youth Programming and Services Department (YPSD) spearheads the development of state-of-the-art programming and services for Muslim youth in North America, guided by Islamic teachings rooted in the Qur'an and the life of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), in direct collaboration with Muslim youth and those who work with them, and informed by current academic research and best practice models. Through its youth program, MYNA, every year YPSD organizes several national and regional events, camps and retreats. These programs offer leadership and spiritual training for youth as well as an opportunity for them to socialize in an Islamic environment. A national-level retreat costs, on average, \$55,000 for the society to organize and conduct. Youth and counselors sponsorship cost the Society about \$20,000 per event.

ISLAMIC HORIZONS: Islamic Horizons is the flagship publication of ISNA, dedicated to enriching the spirit and minds of Muslims while keeping them current with events and news. Although the magazine is geared toward Muslims in North America, it circulates throughout the world to both Muslims and non-Muslims. ISNA publishes six issues per year, reaching 250,000 readers, at a cost of \$328,000 per year.

ISNA OFFICE FOR INTERFAITH AND COMMUNITY ALLIANCES: The society's newest initiative is the Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances (IOICA), located in the nation's capital, Washington D.C. By engaging in joint projects with mainstream religious organizations, the office strives to break down the barriers of mistrust and misunderstanding that sometimes exist between Muslims and non-Muslims. Currently the IOICA is working on several projects, including the Muslim-Christian Initiative on the Nuclear Weapons Danger and The National Religious Campaign Against Torture. The annual budget for IOICA to conduct such grassroots efforts is \$255,000.



INVESTING IN THE

future



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Towards financial stability.

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investing in the future

Launched by a handful of dedicated students in the early 1960s, the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) is today the leading Muslim organization in the United States, bringing together more than several hundred thousand individual members and 350 mosques and community groups. It has evolved from a small association of individuals to become an organizational mosaic, reflecting and representing the rich diversity of Muslim life in America. The society's Annual Convention, which draws over 35,000 participants each Labor Day weekend, shapes the agenda for Muslims nationwide, while ISNA's magazine,

Islamic Horizons, informs and educates up to a quarter of a million individuals with each issue. To date, ISNA has relied on the generous contributions of its members and other donors, which have allowed the organization to foster the growth and flowering of North American Islam. While this recurrent funding remains essential to ISNA's year-to-year operations, it is not sufficient to guarantee the organization's future. For this reason, ISNA continues to reach toward the ambitious goal of funding an endowment, a step that will secure ISNA's financial health for coming generations of North American Muslims.



ISNA has established an Endowment Fund to support the mission and vision of the largest Muslim organization in the West. When I contribute money to this cause I invest into the future of my children and grandchildren."

~ Dr. Farooq Selod, Chairman, ISNA Endowment and Investment Committee



ISNA's guiding principle has remained the same over the years, that in North America, it is loyalty to faith and country that should determine a Muslim's aims and objectives, not loyalty to ethnicity, sect, or ancestral origins. Through this voice of moderation, ISNA has worked to protect this country and its people from religious bigotry and intolerance. ISNA now sees a need to promote this vision in all of America's mosques, Islamic centers, and schools, and sees your participation in this effort as vital. To ensure that it is this voice of moderation heard and followed by generations of Muslims to come, we urge you to contribute generously to our efforts."

~ Dr. Muneer Fareed, ISNA Secretary General

A well-funded endowment is the goal of nearly all non-profit organizations because it guarantees a regular stream of income over and above annual donations and grants. The initial fund for the endowment is made of gifts and bequests, but this money is not spent; rather, it is invested. The returns from the investments provide annual income, and the initial money, or principal, remains untouched. The society has and will continue to invest the endowment's principal funds only in *sharia*-compliant financial products. The practice of using endowments to further social and religious goals stretches back through Islamic history, in the form of the *waqf*. In many Muslim societies in the past, money was collected, either through estate inheritance or donations, and invested to fund important institutions such as mosques, schools or universities.

With this venerable tradition of the *waqf* in mind, the society's Development Foundation created its Endowment Fund in 1994; ten percent of all donations to ISNA are directed to this fund. As of 2007, ISNA has succeeded in raising \$1.9 million. The revenue generated from the investment of that money alleviates reliance on campaign-specific fundraising and

allows the society to focus on long-term goals and projects as the Muslim presence in North America continues to expand.

ISNA now asks for your help in reaching the goal of a well-funded endowment. Our goal is to raise \$25 million. Your contribution, either through a donation or a bequest, will go toward the endowment's principal and will therefore remain intact through coming generations. Because your donation will provide on-going benefits, it qualifies as *sadaqah jariyah*, or on-going charity. According to our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), this type of charity provides a special blessing in the next life. We ask for your generous support as we strive to better not only the lives of today's Muslims in North America, but also the lives of future generations to come.

For more information, contact the ISNA Development Foundation at:

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