



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

**Uplifting Lives As A Model Muslim American Community**



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**“Being able to be  
connected online has  
helped me not feel isolated  
in this pandemic.”**

-comments from a community member



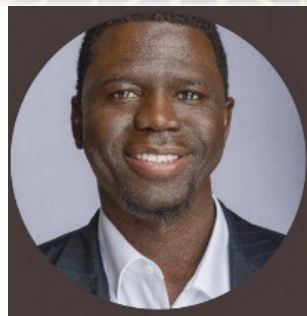
**ICGC has been**

**UPLIFTING LIVES**  
**Through a Pandemic**

# Message

**From Henry Hane**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



As we were bidding farewell to 2019, I remember writing in the annual report that year 2020 promised to take ICGC to even greater heights. Little did I know that a pandemic would disrupt how the world operated. Never could anyone have imagined that our social interactions would be impacted as they have been by a pandemic.

Despite all these fears for the possible devastating effects this pandemic may have on our community and beyond, so many great achievements have been attained throughout the year 2020. The resilience and our adaptive nature that Allah has conferred upon us allowed us to rise to the challenges brought about by COVID-19 and exceed all expectations.

It gives me immense pleasure to highlight some of the achievements that have had a great impact on the Greater Cincinnati community and beyond. More details are provided in this report for a deeper reflection on the impact and implications that your contributions, no matter the form, have had in people's lives.

Deprived of social gatherings, ICGC understood that drastic changes needed to be made to provide alternatives for community members. The good news was that ICGC was already ahead of the curve with prior investments on technology, such as our AV system, that made it possible for people from our community and beyond to connect with us without the risk of exposure to the virus from the comfort of their homes and offices.

Such forward-thinking leadership enabled us to provide that spiritual connection that was an absolute necessity for us during these trying times with high caliber speakers and trainers. To expand access to quality programs, spiritual and non-spiritual alike, ICGC invested in improving other aspects of our technology, such as virtual meeting platforms such as Zoom. These enhancements made it possible to stream our virtual programs to social media platforms like YouTube from anywhere to reach even broader audiences. The upgrade of our technology also made transitioning Islamic Weekend School classes, Qur'an Connections sessions, Hifz program sessions from in-person

to virtual much smoother than imagined. And that was crucial for the continuation of these programs without any major disruptions.

Additionally, our vision of uplifting lives as a model Muslim American community means that we have to lead the way in showing how to make big impact on people's lives at a larger scale. This leadership requires bold decisions and commitment from everyone at ICGC. And the boldness of our decisions and the commitment from members, donors, board members, volunteers, and staff were obvious for all to see.

Furthermore, there was no better measurement of this boldness and commitment than the results of ICGC's teams on the ground. Alhamdulillah! From Rahma's distribution of masks to essential workers such as police officers, firefighters, healthcare professionals, seniors, and other vulnerable groups; Rahma's food distribution to other masajid and shelters, to Social Services ensuring that all those affected by COVID-19 in addition to those lacking the basic life essentials have resources to stay in their homes with working heat and A/C by providing rent, utility, transportation, language skills, food, direct job placements, ICGC truly stepped up to their rightful place of being the leader in uplifting lives in meaningful ways.

Furthermore, anticipating that our youth may experience Zoom burnout, ICGC worked tirelessly to come up with interactive and engaging programs with a variety of topics of interest. With topics ranging from spiritual enrichment to social justice, the ICGC youth engaged in productive virtual discussions in addition to several in-person activities when it was possible and safe to do so.

Overall, ICGC did tremendously for every segment of our community and for the broader greater Cincinnati community. All of this was made possible thanks to your continued commitment to making ICGC the model for uplifting lives and an oasis for Muslim Americans to Live Islam through worship, education, service, leadership, and outreach.



# Message

## From Amir Izhar, M.D.

Chair of the IEC Board

As'Salaam'u Alaikum,

2020 was a challenging year for all of us. We had never expected that we would need to make the tough decision to close the center for part of the year. We closely monitored the incidence rates especially within our community, and made these decisions to keep the community safer, and not spread the disease. We did multiple programs to help the community understand the situation with COVID and vaccination options.

Despite closures we were able to do a lot of activities for the benefit of the community. This was only possible because of our committed staff, team leaders and volunteers who kept the center alive and vibrant.

There were many community members who were impacted by COVID and needed financial and other help. Our social services team was able to help them and make a difference in their lives. Rahma continued to do initiatives like making and delivering masks for healthcare workers, and serving food to shelters.

We also adapted on how we do programing including virtual Quran/Hifz, Quran Connections, Weekend School and Educational programs. We had hybrid youth programs that were youth driven to keep them engaged.

We also embarked on some major renovations initiating in 2020 and continuing into 2021. This has included the walkway project as there was a desperate need of renovation due to wear and tear caused by the elements. We added new carpets in Musallah. We are also working on fixing the drainage around the campus so that we don't have water accumulate in front of the Masjid entrance and other areas after rainfall.

We are planning on new projects that include building a picnic shed, volleyball court and playground. These will enable more social interaction and connections with the community.

I want to thank all the donors and supporters of the center. As you see in this annual report, we help the community in many different ways. And this is only possible with Allah's blessing and with the support of the community.

Looking forward to a more interactive and engaging 2021, in'sha'Allah.

Amir Izhar, M.D.  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Islamic Educational Council



### Vision

Uplifting Lives as a Model Muslim American Community

### Mission

The Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati (ICGC) is the Spiritual Oasis for Muslim Americans, Living Islam through Worship, Education, Service, Leadership, and Outreach

### Core Values

Guided by Islamic values & principles  
God Consciousness  
Integrity  
Trust  
Inclusivity  
Compassion

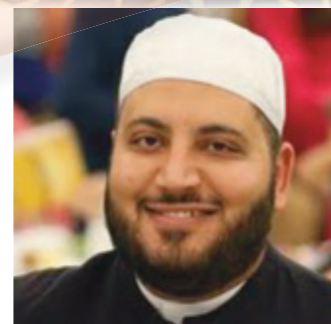


New Carpet in Musallah

# Message

**From Sheikh Hossam Musa**

**Imam**



## Staying Positive in Challenging Times!

“After hardship, Allah will certainly bring ease” 65:7. Prophet Muhammad pbuh went from being an orphan, to being the most beloved human being to walk the earth.

Prophet Ibrahim pbuh from being thrown into the fire, to Allah SWT saying: O fire, be cool and safe for Abraham 21:69. Prophet Muhammad pbuh said: “Allah Is Sufficient for us, and He is the best protector”, was said by Ibrahim when he was thrown into the fire.

“Remember Job, when he called upon his Lord, suffering has afflicted me, and you are the Most Merciful of all who show mercy. We answered him, removed his suffering, and We gave him[back] his family and the like thereof along with them, a mercy from Us and a reminder for the worshipers. 21:83, 21:84.

And when prophet Jonas was swallowed by the wale and cried out to his Lord and said: “There is no God but You, glory be to You, I have certainly done wrong. We answered his prayer and saved him from distress: this is how We save the faithful.” 21:87, 21:88

We learn from all of the above examples in the Holy Quran that no matter how difficult the situation, Allah SWT will make a way. Let us have hope and faith in Allah SWT, as we

exhaust our efforts and do our part, believing that He will certainly be there for us, as He is The Eternal and The Everlasting SWT!

Alhamdulillah, our beloved ICGC is now safely open for all five daily prayers as well as Friday prayers. Insha’Allah, we plan on having a full-on ICGC Ramadan experience this year, with Taraweeh prayers, daily Khatiras, and much more!

Please come and bring your family and friends to be the honored guests of Allah SWT in His House. Let us create beautiful memories together and uplift our spirits at our beloved ICGC.

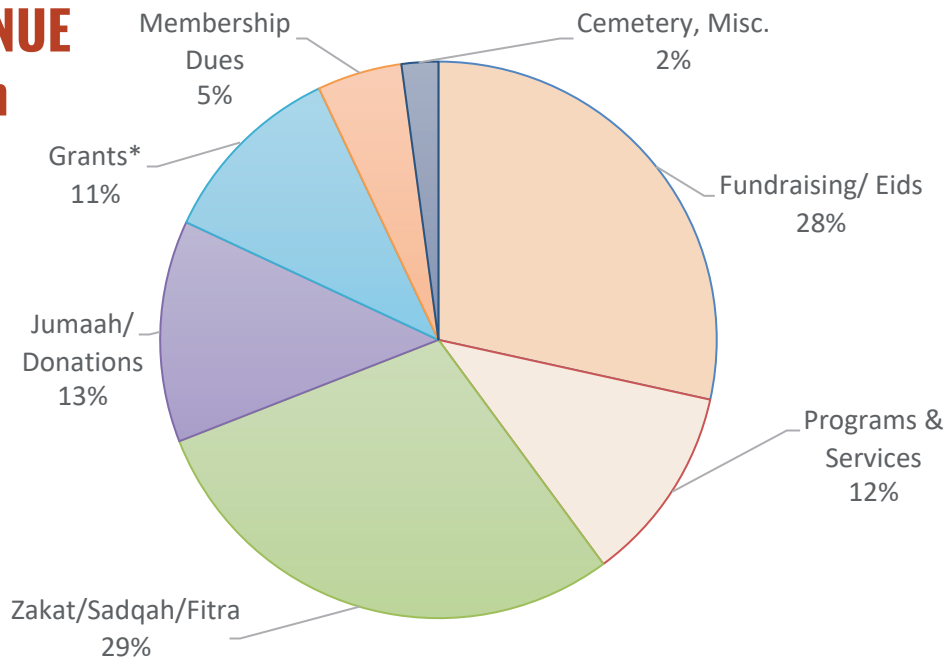
**Let us create  
beautiful memories  
together and  
uplift our spirits at our  
beloved ICGC**



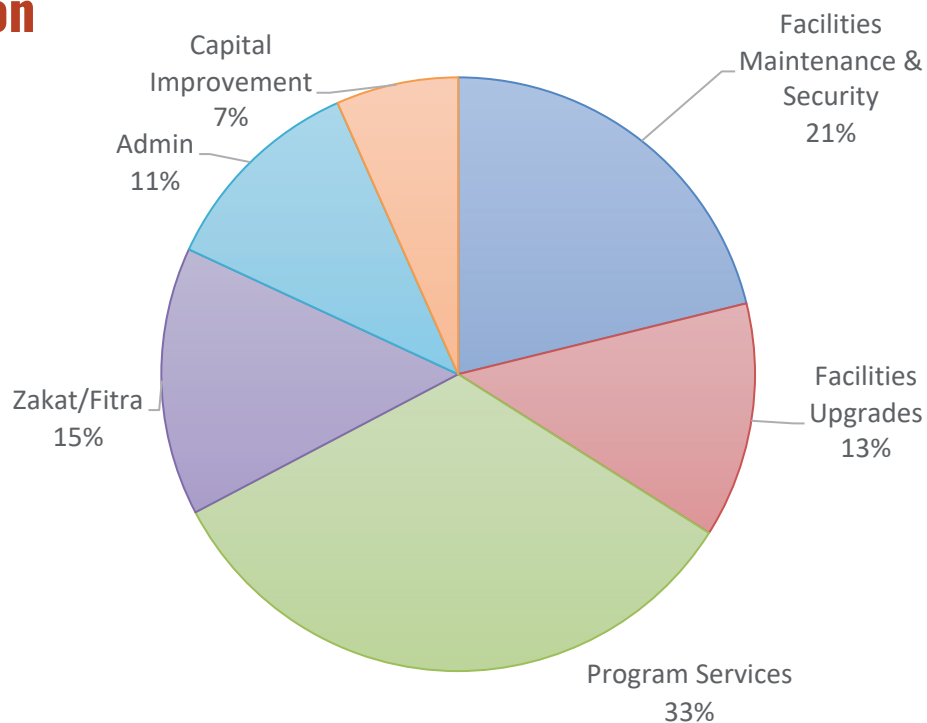
# Funds & Expenses

It is from the blessings of Allah SWT and your generosity that ICGC was able to maintain our programs, staff, and infrastructure despite the global pandemic.

## 2020 REVENUE \$2.2 million



## 2020 EXPENSES \$2.2 million



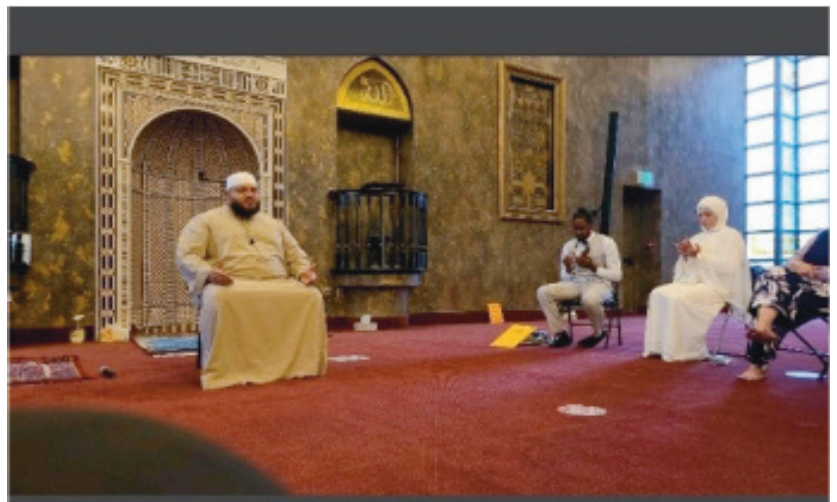
**Our vision is to make ICGC a spiritual oasis, & build connections through your life events and rituals**

# Worship

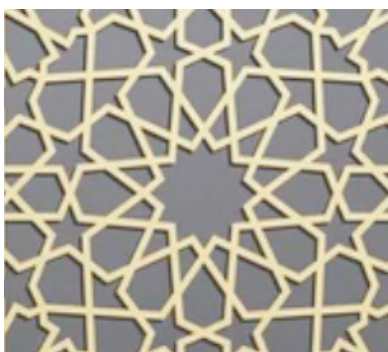
“Allahu Akbar we had the best person to officiate the wedding in Imam Musa and one of the most beautiful Masjid in the world MashAllah to serve as a backdrop at ICGC for this precious moment. Imam Musa’s words guided by the Quran and the advice he gave to the couple was priceless. If I were an emotional man I would have been crying throughout the entire experience.(LOL) But the ceremony was magical and beautiful MashAllah”

-Comments from a newly married husband

- **50 + Janazah & Visitations**
- **26 Marriages**
- **60 Weekly & Ramadan Khatirahs**
- **65 + Virtual & On site Khutbahs**
- **Khatm ul Quran**
- **30 Days Live streaming Taraweeh**



**Imam Musa is officiating a nikkah ceremony in our beautiful musallah**



**I love Sheikh Hossam’s lectures on zoom. Ma sha’allah he is amazing. And love Sheikh Mahmoud Quran recitation”** comments from a community member



# Adult Education

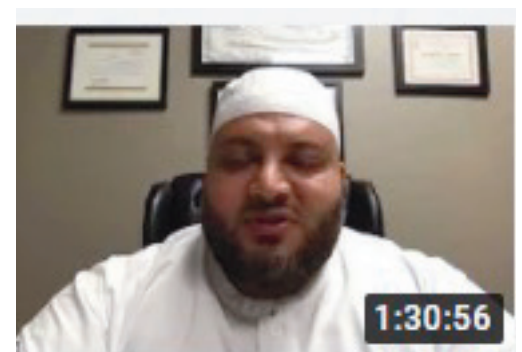


In 2020 we adopted to the new circumstances and carried on our activities virtually, reaching out to communities we could never reach otherwise. Our Programs now reach to community members who do not or cannot attend in person lectures.

- **120+ Hours Spiritual Education**
- **30+ Khatirah**
- **100 Hours + Tajweed**
- **24 + Hours + Arabic Class**
- **150 + Hours Ladies Halaqas**
- **5 Seerah Sessions/ Workshops**
- **7 External Speakers**
- **1000 + YouTube Views of External Speakers**



Educational Programs were held both virtually and with socially distanced sessions in the mirror hall



# Youth Education

It is our objective to provide a healthy and rewarding learning environment for Muslim students.

## QURAN/HIFDH PROGRAM



- 25+ Students
- 60+ Juz Memorized
- 30+ Juz recitation completed
- 800+ Hours of teaching

## QURAN CONNECTIONS

- 200+ Students
- 20+ Teachers
- NEW Virtual Classes

## ISLAMIC WEEKEND SCHOOL



- 250 + Students
- 30+ Weekend School Teachers
- NEW Interactive Curriculum
- NEW Virtual Classes



# Youth Leadership

### FAREWELL 2020 YOUTH BOARD



HASAN  
QUADRI



MEHR  
SAMAD



ZEENA  
BAYYARI



OMAR  
CHAUDHRY

### WELCOME 2021 YOUTH BOARD



REAM  
AWAD



SAFWAN  
JAWEED



MEHR  
SAMAD



OMAR  
CHAUDHRY



TAREK  
JABED



REAM  
AWAD



HUMZA  
ASGHER



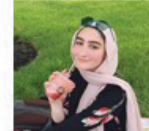
FATY  
DIALLO



ASFAND  
KHAN



RAYAN  
AHMED



ZEENA  
BAYYARI



KAREEM  
SULTAN



HUMZA  
ASGHER



SOFIA  
BIDIWALA



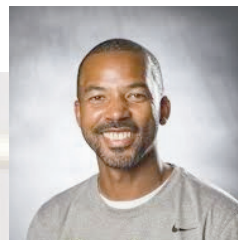
# Youth Engagement

Our aim to build confident and proud Muslim Americans, that have a foundation of faith and have the grounding to succeed in any profession.

- 300+ Youth Reached
- 250+ Hours Youth Events and Activities
- 100+ Hours Interactive Lectures
- 100+ Hours Ramadan Sessions
- 25+ Hours Summer Camps

**“ICGC youth group is planning many fun events and cool activities. We’re excited to bring the Muslim youth back to the masjid. We love your input and involvement!”**

from current Youth Board Co Chair-Safwan Jaweed



2021 youth board

**“In light of this past year and the hardships we’ve endured, the 2020 ICGC Youth Group has demonstrated that our Muslim Youth are committed to fostering an environment of unity, flexibility, and service. Through innovative ideas like the Eid Drive-In Movies and COVID-19 safe Masjid Clean-Ups, we have fostered a connected community. I am proud to have served as a Co-President this past year working alongside the Youth Board, Br. Isa, and Sa-**

**dia, and I look forward to the unique ideas the future generations of ICGC Youth will bring!”** from outgoing Youth Board CoChair- Hasan Quadri



# ICGC Social Services

The pandemic was a difficult time for many, and social services was at the forefront of provide assistance. We want to empower families towards financial independence, health, and well being through supportive services, educational programs & strong partnerships.

Success@  
Home

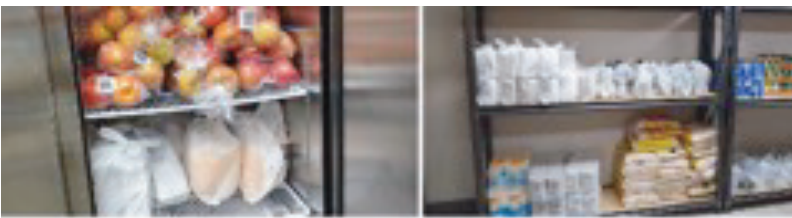


Success@  
Work



Success@  
Learning

- 90,000+ Pounds of food distributed
- 60+ Families helped with essential needs
- \$150,000+ Rent and Utility Assistance
- 40+ Direct job placements
- 20+ Students for ESL, Life Skills



"ICGC Food Pantry is a full-service,choice pantry that has been serving its neighbors in Butler County since 2019. The pantry is dedicated to alleviating food insecurity by providing easy access to healthy & nutritious food while promoting good eating habits and budget-friendly food buying tips through health & wellness education. Feeding the hungry is one of the most important virtues of the Islamic faith,which the ICGC Food Pantry uses as its foundation to foster community building and family sustain ability."



"We appreciated the help, e.g. Rent assistance, food, clothes, utility help. If it weren't for you, we would be homeless and we are grateful."

-comments from a social services client



# Rahma Community Services

Rahma provides services to the community in many different ways, enriching and uplifting lives

FAMILY & FAITH



LIFE ESSENTIALS



DRIVES



HEALTH & WELLNESS



EDUCATION



## Free Delivery Service

We would like to offer the elderly and anyone with vulnerable health in our neighborhood the ability to have their groceries/medications/others delivered to them. If you need help doing your groceries or getting your medications, we are here to help.

### Step One:

Text/Call:

513-341-5049 10am-12pm

513-327-6545 1:30pm - 3:30pm

### Step two:

We place your order and deliver.

### Step three:

Use cash, check or credit card to make the payment.



THIS SERVICE IS FREE AND STRICTLY RESTRICTED TO THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE AND/OR DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION.



Grocery delivery for seniors

Parent to Parent Support Group

Visiting the sick and food trains

Feeding the needy

Boxed meal iftar

Arzak - sharing household items

Ramadan Food drive Drive

Eid Drive

Toys drive

Flu shot clinic

Health Education

1,000+ masks distributed

Hygiene kits projects

Arabic Hour program

Ramadan Story time

Art competition



# New Muslims

ICGC is a welcoming space where many start and sustain their faith journey.



- 32 Shahadah
- 100 + Hours Learning Sessions
- 100 + Hours Spiritual Speakers, Engagement
- Welcome Packets mailed to new Muslims
- Quran mailed to those that are interested

“I

know myself after five long year’s that the masjid at ICGC means everything to me, don’t know what I would be without it”

Comment from a New Muslim

ICGC is built on strong interfaith relations, cross-cultural understanding, and service to one and all. The larger community turns to us as a trusted source of accurate information on Islam and Muslims.

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL TOURS

SPEAKERS AT SCHOOLS, FAITH BASED ORGS & COMPANIES

INTERFAITH FORUMS

# Outreach

“Your talk, “Getting to Know Your American Muslim Neighbor” was a total hit! I heard many good comments later. In fact, right after, our RG Chair messaged me to tell me that you were great! Your audience loved it, and I learned a lot, too. We all appreciate so much your speaking to us and helping make our first ever virtual regional gathering a success! We can’t wait to visit the Islamic Center in the coming months. Thank you!!!”

Comment from an Interfaith Partner



# Civic Engagement

As Muslim Americans it is our responsibility to be engaged with the broader community through participation in the election process, census, social justice, and board engagement efforts. This newly formed ICGC team embarked upon this through educational sessions, along with Candid Community Conversations which engaged in real dialogue around many of these topics.

- **30+ Candidates at Meet the Candidates Event**
- **4+ Events of Census Information and Drive**
- **10+ Drives Voting Registration**
- **20+ Hours Community Conversations**



Last fall, ICGC hosted over 30 candidates (in person and virtually) for an informative meet the candidates session



The importance of census participation was brought to the community with representatives from the US census.

**Candid Community Conversations**  
with  
**Samina and Shakila**





# Recreation Network

EID VIRTUAL SOCIAL

EID GIFT AND CARNIVAL

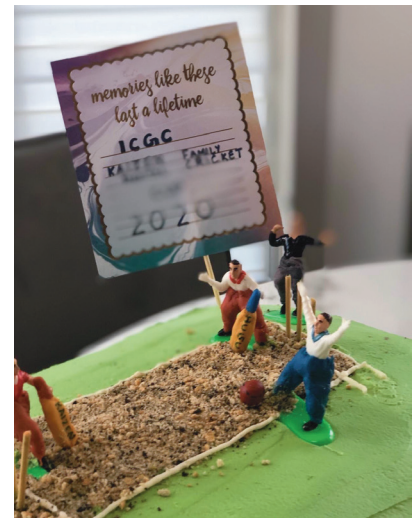
CRICKET TORUNAMENET

BADMINTON

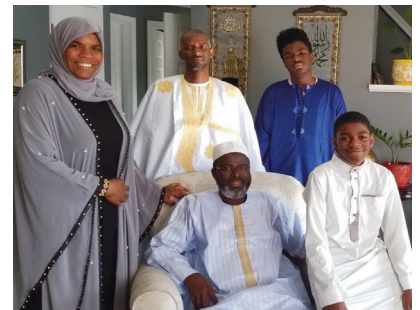
KARATE

CINCINNATI MUSLIM PROFESSIONAL

ICGC is a place for everyone to engage socially, network and get to know each other.



The joy of a pandemic Eid was brought to our community through a drive by carnival





# 10 YEAR STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS



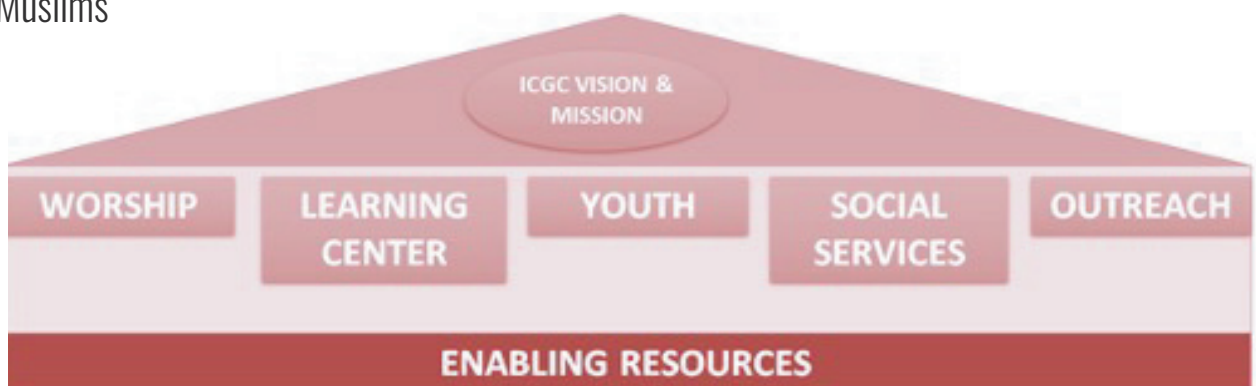
**I- Worship:** ICGC has become the spiritual oasis for Muslim American in the region. ICGC has gone from serving 10,000 to serving 50,000+ in the region to practice and live Islam”

**II- Learning:** “ICGC is a nationally recognized Center of Learning that has successfully produced scholars and impactful research”

**III- Youth:** “ICGC has successfully developed the next generation of youth which have internalized Islam as reflected by their confidence, identity, behavioral choices, and achievements”

**IV- Social Services:** “ICGC, through its programs, services and facilities has reduced generational and transitional poverty and promoted health and wellness in the region.”

**V- Outreach:** “ICGC has promoted a positive image of Islam by changing the hearts and minds of people through combating Islamophobia and re-engaging disenfranchised Muslims”





# Board of Trustees



**Amir Izhar** - Chair  
2<sup>nd</sup> Term: 2018-21  
Appointed



**Nazim Fazlani** - V-Chair  
2<sup>nd</sup> Term: 2018-21  
Appointed



**Inenhe Khalid** - V-Chair  
2<sup>nd</sup> Term: 2018-21  
Elected



**Samina Sohail** Secretary  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2019-23  
Appointed



**Maria Munir** - Treasurer  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2018-21  
Elected



**Shahzafar Khaja**  
Elected - Trustee + EC  
1<sup>st</sup> Term 2020-23



**Hadil Lababidi**  
Elected - Trustee + EC  
1<sup>st</sup> Term 2020-23



**Shabana Ahmed**  
Appointed - Trustee + EC  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2020-23



**Imran Arif**  
Appointed - Trustee  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2018-21



**Mohamed Dahman**  
Appointed - Trustee  
1<sup>st</sup> Term 2020-23



**Syed Moqeeth**  
Appointed - Trustee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Term: 2018-21



**Rick Schwen**  
Appointed - Trustee + EC  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2018-21



**Faiz Sherman**  
Appointed - Trustee  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2020-23



**Ayman Sheatt**  
Appointed - Trustee  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2018-21



**Tariq Sultan**  
Appointed - Trustee  
1<sup>st</sup> Term: 2018-21

## ICGC Staff



**Shaykh Hossam Musa**  
Imam  
2016-Present



**Shaykh Mahmoud Khalil**  
2019-Present



**Faiza Abid**  
Accounting Asst.  
2015-Present



**Isa Ar-Razi**  
Youth Coordinator  
2019-Present



**Samira Jaweed**  
S.S. Operations Mgr.  
2014-Present



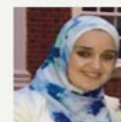
**Yousuf Alani**  
Parking Attd.  
2017-Present



**Amany Eldeeb**  
IWS Administrator  
2018-Present



**Huma Khan**  
A.R. Clerk  
2002-Present



**Leanna Allouch**  
Case Coordinator  
2016-Present



**Nadia Hidayatullah**  
Admin. Asst.  
2014-Present



**Noor Mustafa**  
Admin. Asst.  
2018-Present



**Racine Diallo**  
Security  
2019-Present



**Hanaa Ibrahim**  
Custodian  
2019-Present



**Jackie Othman**  
Service Coordinator  
2016-Present



**Henry Hane**  
Executive Director  
2019-Present



**Ramatulai Jalloh**  
Custodian  
2019-Present



**Ali Salahudeen**  
Adhan and Facilities  
1998-Present

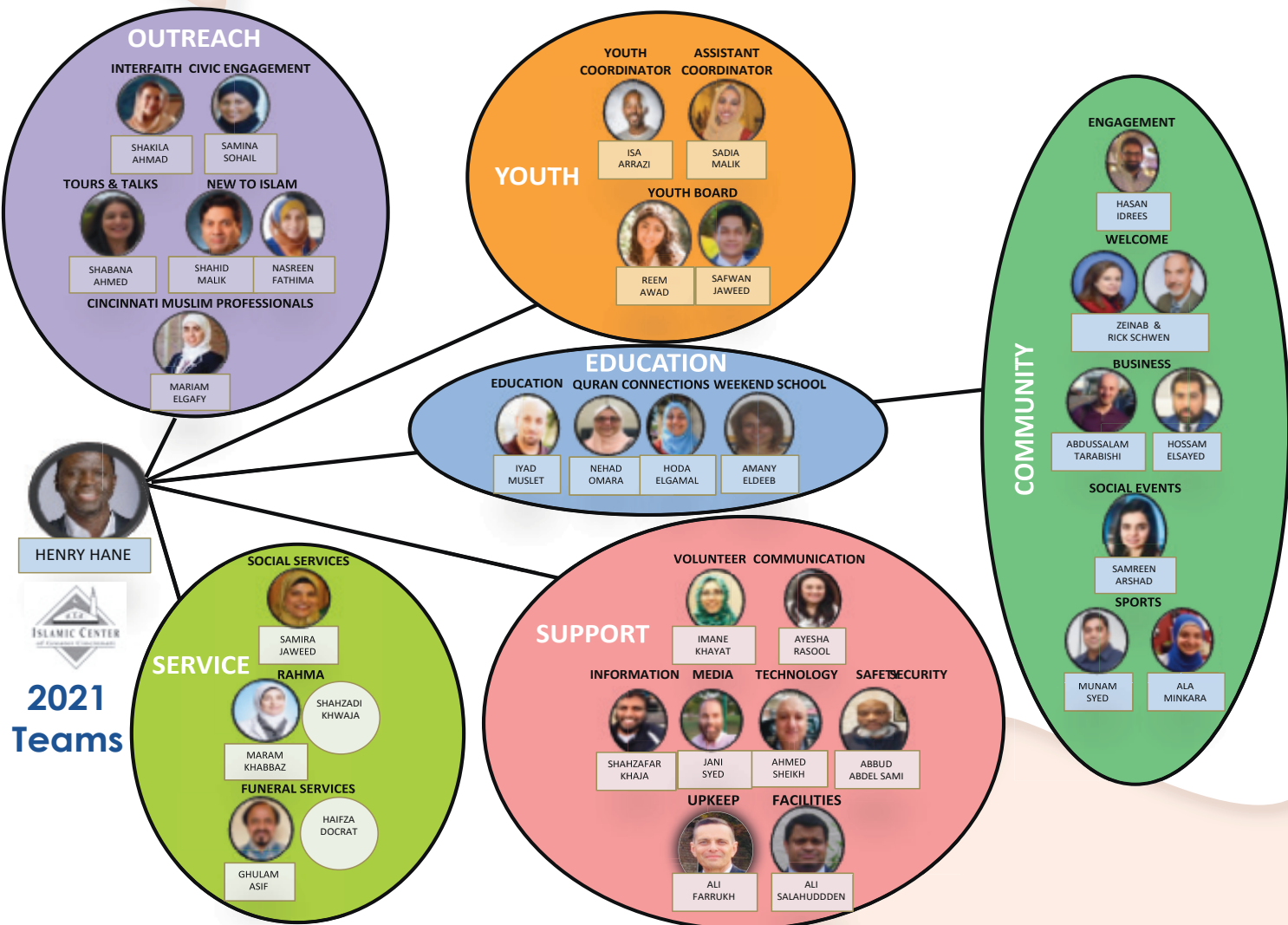
- S.S. = Social Service
- A.R. = Account Receivable
- IWS = Islamic Weekend School

## Operations Staff



# Teams

These are the teams that work year round to Uplift the Lives of our Community.



# Volunteers and Donors Thank You!

To the hundreds of donors and volunteers who give their support, time, commitment and passion in making ICGC a vibrant community. May Allah bless you, and protect your family.



8092 Plantation Drive West Chester Ohio 45069  
[www.icgc.us](http://www.icgc.us); [info@icgc.us](mailto:info@icgc.us); 513-755-3280