



SOUTHFLORIDA
MUSLIM FEDERATION



South Florida Muslim Federation

**ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2025**

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Samir Kakli

A salamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh, It is with deep gratitude and pride that I present this year's Annual Report of the **South Florida Muslim**

Federation. Alhamdulillah, 2025 has been a year of remarkable growth, connection, and service. Guided by our mission to connect, empower, and serve the Muslim organizations of South Florida, we've seen our community come together in ways that truly embody unity and purpose.

This year, we hosted milestone initiatives that strengthened our collective impact. The **Florida Muslim Conference** drew record attendance and meaningful engagement from across the state. At the same time, our **first-ever "Connect and Thrive" Members Retreat** brought together leaders from diverse institutions to build collaboration and share best practices. Our **Imams Council** continued its vital work fostering coordination among spiritual leaders, and our **Camino al-Islam** program solidified as a platform for the important and growing Latino segment of our community.

We also advanced key programs that empower and protect our community. Our **mental health workshops and suicide prevention awareness** have made a measurable difference in reducing suicides in our community, as captured by the *Miami Herald* in an exclusive documentary. We held **security trainings and grants** to help safeguard our mosques; the Federation stood at the forefront of both spiritual and practical support. Our advocacy efforts, including op-eds published in the Miami Herald, Sun Sentinel, and Palm Beach Post, ensured our voices were heard on issues of justice, equity, and inclusion.

New tools and initiatives, such as the launch of the **Halal Connect app** and the expansion of our **youth and matrimonial programs**, reflect our ongoing commitment to meeting community needs in innovative ways. Meanwhile, our **partnerships with CAIR Florida, Emgage Florida interfaith allies, and civic organizations** helped amplify the positive impact of our work across South Florida.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication and tireless efforts of our **Executive Committee leads, our member organizations**, and the countless **volunteers and supporters** who give their time, talent, and passion to this cause. Each of you has played a role in shaping the South Florida Muslim Federation into the strong, vibrant, and connected community it is today.

As we look ahead to 2026, **we are committed to building on this momentum with focus and purpose**. We will fully onboard our new Youth Coordinator to strengthen youth leadership across our masjid, expand our mental-health initiatives through additional workshops and suicide-prevention trainings, and partner with the Khair Institute to certify all Islamic schools in mental-health response. We will also advance advocacy, enhance security resources, grow our Endowment Fund, and deepen collaboration among community leaders through targeted retreats and shared initiatives. InshaAllah, 2026 will be a year of meaningful progress, one in which we elevate our standards, **strengthen our unity, and ensure every Muslim in South Florida feels supported, protected, and empowered**.



Samir Kakli

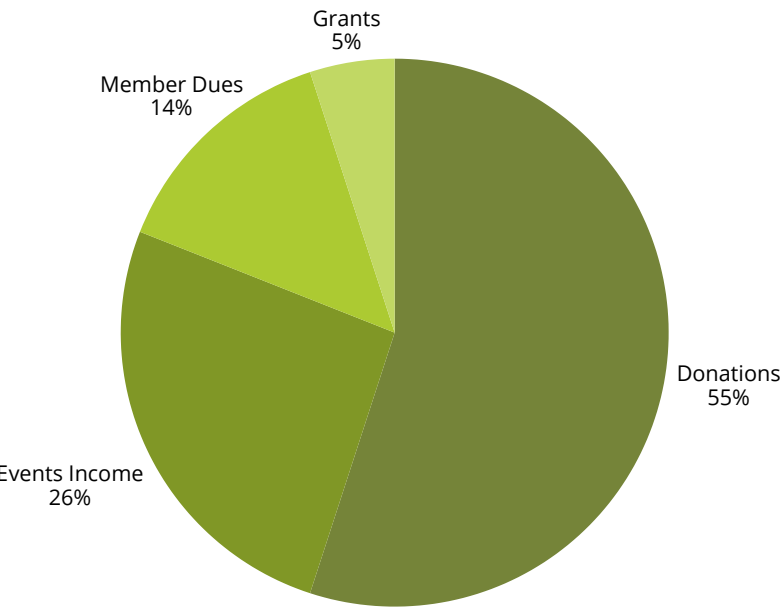
Samir Kakli

FINANCIALS

The South Florida Muslim Federation is proud to report another year of strong financial support from our generous donors. Your contributions empowered us to serve our community more than ever before. As we look ahead to continued growth and expansion through new capital projects, we remain committed to fiscal responsibility, long-term sustainability, and delivering high-quality programs that uplift every community we serve.

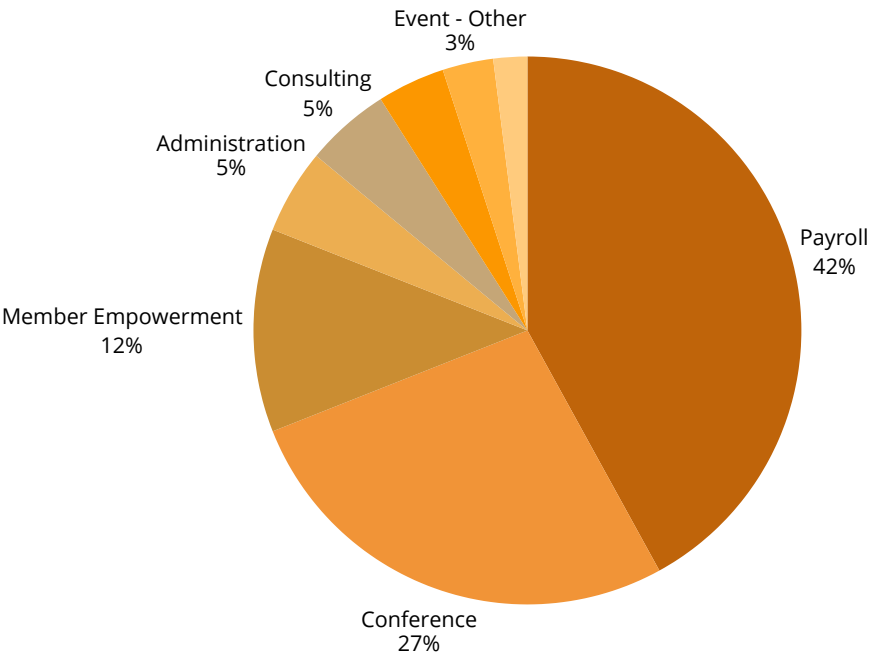


Revenues



\$302,431

Expenses



\$319,194

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Muslim leaders from across South Florida gathered for the first-ever **Connect and Thrive Member Retreat**.



Florida Muslim Conference returned with over 2,000 attendees with UFC champion Belal Muhammad and other exceptional speakers.

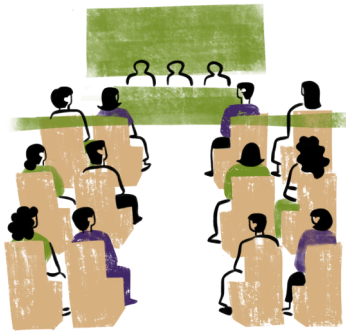


The South Florida Muslim Federation and **Inner Community Alliance** are uniting diverse communities to advance justice, compassion, and dignity.



Our mental health programs delivered impactful initiatives and workshops throughout the year, fostering greater **awareness, resilience, and well-being** across our community.

SERVICES BY THE NUMBERS



2000

Conference
Attendees



8

Member
Trainings



13

Mental Health
Workshops



\$50,000

Endowment
Fund



1

Youth Coordinator
To Be Hired



12

Media
Appearances

CONNECT

This year, our Connect initiatives brought the community together through impactful gatherings, including the Florida Muslim Conference, Camino al-Islam, and the Imams Council Meeting, fostering unity and collaboration among leaders and members alike. Reflecting our ongoing commitment to strengthening bonds.

Florida Muslim Conference

The South Florida Muslim Federation proudly hosted its **3rd Florida Muslim Conference**, marking another milestone in community collaboration and excellence. This year's event drew a record attendance of over **2,000 participants** and received overwhelmingly positive feedback, reflecting the strength, unity, and vibrancy of Florida's Muslim community.

Renowned speakers, including **Belal Muhammad, Imam Siraj Wahhaj, Imam Ahmad Deeb, Wasan Alobeidi, Afia Yunus, and Dr. Suzy Ismail**, delivered inspiring messages on faith, leadership, and service. Engaging youth sessions led by Aisha Bashir and Hamza Yaqoob energized the next generation of leaders, while a lively food court and well-coordinated volunteer efforts contributed to a seamless and welcoming experience. We extend heartfelt appreciation to our volunteers, sponsors, vendors, member organizations, and our dedicated staff and Executive Committee for making the conference possible. Special recognition goes to Conference Director Annie Hayat, whose vision and leadership ensured a truly exceptional event.

The 2025 Florida Muslim Conference stands as a testament to what can be achieved through collaboration, dedication, and faith, setting a strong foundation for even greater growth and engagement in the years to come.



Camino Al-Islam

In July, the South Florida Muslim Federation organized the **IslamInSpanish Weekend**, marking a significant step in strengthening engagement with South Florida's growing Latino Muslim population. We welcomed **Imam Isa Parada and Br. Alex Gutierrez** from the IslamInSpanish team in Houston for a two-day series of programs focused on the historical Islamic roots within Latino culture and the shared values that shape both communities.

The initiative featured two Spanish-language Friday sermons, delivered by Imam Isa at the Islamic Foundation of South Florida and by Br. Omar Uddin at Masjid Miami Gardens, providing culturally relevant religious guidance to Latino Muslims and the Spanish-speaking community.

members. A panel at the Islamic Center of Greater Miami further explored strategies to support and nurture new Muslims, emphasizing sustainable community integration.

The weekend culminated at Masjid Jamaatul Muttaqeen with the main lecture, **“Islamic Roots in Latino Culture,”** which drew strong attendance and reinforced the importance of dedicated programming for Latino Muslims across the tri-county region.

For community members unable to attend, photos, videos, and both Spanish khutbahs are available below. These recordings are also featured as part of our Connect Stories initiative, which continues to highlight the diverse voices, cultures, and experiences that enrich and strengthen our community. For additional coverage and reflections from the weekend, visit our blogs at soflomuslims.com/news/.

IMAMS COUNCIL

The South Florida Council of Imams met at a local restaurant to discuss key issues affecting the Muslim community. The meeting focused on holding regular Imams’ town halls to address important social and religious topics such as identity challenges, moonsighting, parenting, and maintaining faith.



The Council also discussed Boy Scout troop training and masjid safety and security initiatives. Plans were made to organize a community-wide town hall on identity crisis to further engage and support the community.

Attendees included Imam Abdul Hamid Samra (ICGM), Mufti Izhar Khan (MJAM), Sheikh Tarek Chebbi (Masjid Faiza), Mufti Ameeruddin (ICB), Sheikh Ahmad Ali (AICF), Imam Zayd Sharief (Masjid Muttaqeen), Brother Gamal (Nurul Islam), Mufti Bilal, Imam Fakhru Islam (Masjid Tawheed, Miami), Brother Shakeel Hye (ICW), Brother Shehryar Wahid (IFSF), and Brother Samir Kakli (South Florida Muslim Federation), under the leadership of Ameer Imam Abdul Hamid Samra.

This meeting highlights the Council’s ongoing **commitment to fostering guidance, collaboration, and resilience across South Florida’s Muslim community.**

Matrimonial Series

The South Florida Muslim community proudly hosted two events in its ongoing Matrimonial Series, offering a faith-centered space for singles pursuing marriage with sincerity and purpose. In partnership with Half Our Deen, the program combined guided matchmaking with interactive discussions and activities that encouraged meaningful conversations about compatibility, communication, and shared values.

Alhamdulillah, more than half of the attendees left with potential matches, **reflecting both the thoughtfulness of participants and the careful design of the event.**

Participant feedback consistently highlighted the high level of organization, thoughtful programming, and overall depth of the Matrimonial events. Attendees expressed appreciation for the intentional structure and respectful environment, noting that the experience was carefully aligned with Islamic values of privacy, sincerity (ikhlas), and reliance upon Allah (tawakkul).

The South Florida Muslim Federation extends its heartfelt gratitude to Half Our Deen for their expertise and partnership, to Nur Ul Islam Islamic Center for generously hosting, and to the many dedicated volunteers and community partners whose time, professionalism, and service were essential to the program's success. Through this ongoing series, the Federation continues to provide a nurturing and faith-aligned platform for building lasting relationships, strengthening trust and connection within the community, and supporting the next generation of South Florida Muslims as they pursue marriage with intention, integrity, and confidence.



EMPOWER

This year, our Empower initiatives strengthened and equipped the community through educational and safety-focused programs, including the first-ever “Connect and Thrive” members retreat, workshops on protecting places of worship, understanding Sharia law, and emergency preparedness for interactions with ICE.

Understanding Sharia Law Series

The South Florida Muslim Federation hosted a series on Shariah led by Imam Azhar Subedar, offering attendees a **clear and practical understanding of its true essence, what it is, what it isn't, and how it shapes daily life for Muslims.** This series aims to clarify common misconceptions, strengthen participants' connection to Islamic teachings, and provide knowledge deeply rooted in the Qur'an and Sunnah, while addressing contemporary challenges faced by the community. This year's session created a welcoming and inclusive space for learning, reflection, and meaningful dialogue, allowing community members to ask questions, share diverse perspectives, and gain deeper insight into **navigating modern-day conversations about Islam.** By fostering transparency and thoughtful discussion, the event empowered attendees to **engage confidently with their faith,** strengthen their connection to Islamic teachings, and contribute positively to the broader community.



Connect and Thrive Retreat

This year marked a major milestone for the South Florida Muslim Federation with the launch of its first-ever Connect & Thrive Member Retreat, held at the Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort. Over the course of one transformational weekend, Muslim leaders from across the region gathered to deepen relationships, reflect collectively, and build a unified vision for the future of our community. Many attendees described it as a turning point, a moment of renewed clarity, collaboration, and shared purpose.

Purpose and Vision

The retreat was created to bring together the diverse institutions that make up the Federation and ensure that leaders had the dedicated time and space to align around shared goals. The intention was not only strategic but spiritual and relational. Leaders came with a readiness to listen, learn, and build something greater together.

The retreat aimed to:

- Strengthen bonds among masjid, nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups, and educational institutions
- Build trust and reconnect leaders in an intentional environment
- Create a shared vision for addressing community needs
- Establish working groups capable of implementing long-term solutions
- Center member voices in shaping the Federation's priorities

Who Attended

The retreat gathered a broad and representative group of community leaders, including:

- Imams and religious leaders
- Masjid presidents and board members
- Leaders from relief and social service organizations
- Youth program coordinators and educators
- Legal and civic advocacy professionals
- Federation leadership and member delegates



Retreat Experience & Activities

Friday Evening: Welcome Dinner & Connection Building

The retreat opened with a warm, relationship-centered dinner that allowed attendees to reconnect and introduce themselves not just by title, but through the intentions behind their work. This informal evening created the foundation of trust necessary for the deeper conversations that followed.

Many participants stayed overnight, taking advantage of the serene beach setting to rest, reflect, and prepare for the full day ahead.

Saturday Morning: A Spiritual Beginning

The group gathered at sunrise for Fajr on the beach, creating a moment of spiritual unity that set the tone for the day. The tranquility of the ocean, combined with collective prayer, grounded the group in both humility and purpose.

Workshops, Breakouts & Strategic Planning

The remainder of Saturday was dedicated to structured sessions focused on the real challenges and opportunities facing the South Florida Muslim community. Facilitated by Oussama Mezoui and Shafaq Zia, the sessions were participatory, practical, and deeply thoughtful.

Participants engaged in:

- Large-group workshops on community-wide priorities
- Breakout discussions focused on specific areas of need
- Visioning exercises for long-term Federation growth
- Reflection sessions highlighting progress, gaps, and opportunities
- Candid conversations about organizational support, collaboration, and accountability



Key Outcomes: Formation of Five Strategic Committees

One of the most significant accomplishments of the retreat was the collaborative identification of priority areas and the creation of five new committees dedicated to advancing the Federation's mission.

The committees established were:

- **Youth Engagement** – Supporting and empowering the next generation
- **Board Governance & Compliance** – Strengthening organizational standards and accountability
- **Civic Engagement & Political Advocacy** – Enhancing representation and community influence
- **Financial Sustainability** – Ensuring stable, long-term institutional growth
- **Interfaith & Community Partnerships** – Building meaningful connections, promoting mutual understanding, and cultivating solidarity across communities of different backgrounds and faiths.



A Weekend of Renewal, Unity & Shared Purpose

Beyond the structured planning, the retreat served as a moment of realignment for the Federation and its members. Beyond the structured planning, the retreat served as a moment of realignment for the Federation and its members.

Protecting Places Of Worship Workshop

The South Florida Muslim Federation, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, hosted a virtual training session designed to strengthen the safety and security of places of worship while maintaining welcoming and inclusive environments.

Key focus areas included:

- Conducting basic risk and vulnerability assessments
- Developing and refining emergency preparedness and response plans
- Identifying and mitigating potential security threats
- Implementing proactive safety strategies that balance protection with community accessibility

Participants left the workshop equipped with actionable tools and practical guidance to better safeguard their institutions, reflecting the Federation's ongoing commitment to building resilient, prepared, and secure spaces for worship, education, and communal life.

Security Grant Awarded To Members

The FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is a competitive grant program that provides funding to non-profit organizations at high risk of terrorist attacks to support security enhancements. South Florida Muslim Federation's project team, in collaboration with Shooter Detection System based in Rowley, Massachusetts, assisted 2 mosques to submit FEMA grant applications. Alhamdolillah, one of the mosques was approved for a security grant of \$150K.

“What to Do if Approached by ICE” Session

The South Florida Muslim Federation hosted a virtual session on responding to encounters with ICE, providing community members with **crucial guidance on their rights and immediate steps to take if approached by immigration authorities.**

The session offered practical advice, legal insights, and resources to help individuals and families navigate these situations with confidence and awareness.

Attendees gained knowledge on emergency planning, documentation, and access to legal support, empowering them to protect themselves and their loved ones while maintaining a sense of security within the community. The session reflects the Federation's **ongoing commitment to education, preparedness, and advocacy** for all members of the South Florida Muslim community.

Financial Aid Application Tracking

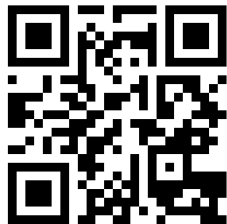
South Florida Muslim Federation has developed the website financialaidtracking.com to assist the Participating Muslim Organizations in entering and sharing limited information about the financial aid recipients assisted by the Participating Organizations. This tool provides a way to securely track recipients to facilitate collaboration to better assist those in need. This initiative reflects the Federation's commitment to responsible stewardship, data-informed collaboration, and the collective ability of the Muslim community to respond with greater efficiency, dignity, and compassion to those facing financial hardship.

SERVE

This year, our Serve initiatives amplified community impact through advocacy, outreach, and public engagement, including the launch of the Halal Connect app, media collaborations, townhalls, vigils, and participation in marches, reflecting our commitment to justice, support, and solidarity for all.

Launch of Halal Connect App

The South Florida Muslim Federation proudly launched **HalalConnect**, a location-based app designed to make it easier than ever for community members to find **halal restaurants, businesses, and services nearby**. Whether at home or exploring a new area, users can quickly locate trusted halal options, explore family-friendly spots, and discover local businesses that align with their values. The app's intuitive search and comprehensive listings eliminate guesswork, providing a convenient way for Muslims and allies to access services that meet their religious and ethical needs. Beyond convenience, HalalConnect serves as a tool for community empowerment. By **highlighting Muslim-owned businesses, halal-friendly services, and Islamic centers**, the app fosters a network of trust and connection while strengthening the local economy. **Download the app here:** soflomuslims.com/download-halal-connect/



Standing For Gaza

On August 8, the South Florida Muslim Federation joined community members and local organizations in a powerful demonstration outside the Sunrise district office of a U.S. representative to **raise awareness about the humanitarian crisis in Gaza**. The sound of pots and pans rang out, symbolizing the urgent need for the world to hear the voices of children and families suffering from hunger, displacement, and loss. The demonstration was a visible expression of solidarity and a call for immediate humanitarian attention.



Lubna Hamad shared a deeply personal story of her 22-year-old cousin, whose siblings and parents continue to face severe hardships due to critical shortages of food, essential medicine, and other basic necessities. His experience reflects the harsh reality confronting countless families in Gaza, vividly illustrating the human toll behind the news headlines. By centering these personal narratives, the Federation emphasized the importance of **empathy, compassionate understanding, and genuine human connection in meaningful advocacy work**.

Coral Springs Iftar Open House

In March, the South Florida Muslim Federation hosted its **annual Iftar Open House**, welcoming neighbors, interfaith partners, civic leaders, and community members for an evening dedicated to unity, dialogue, and shared understanding. Designed to offer guests a meaningful glimpse into the spiritual traditions of Ramadan, the event **highlighted the values of compassion, hospitality, and service that define the Muslim community**. The program featured a heartfelt Qur'an recitation by Br. Hamza Yacoob, followed by remarks from distinguished guests including Vice Mayor of Coral Springs Nancy Metayer Bowen, Judge Norman Hemming, representatives from the Coral Springs Multicultural Committee, Noor Siraj (CAIR Florida), Mugahed Alameri and Abdurauf (ICNA), Father Saul Mejia, Dr. Aisha Subhani, and guests from the Guatemalan Mayan Center, each underscoring the importance of interfaith engagement and collaborative community building.



Attendees broke fast together with dates and lentil soup before enjoying a meal catered by La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine, creating a warm and inclusive atmosphere that guests praised for its sincerity and hospitality.

The Iftar Open House continues to serve as a meaningful bridge between communities, fostering friendship, dispelling misconceptions, and strengthening the shared commitment to a more connected, compassionate, and collaborative South Florida.

Open Mosque Day

As part of Open Mosque Day 2025, the South Florida Muslim Federation supported two member mosques, Al-Amin Center in Boynton Beach and the Islamic Foundation of South Florida (IFSF) in Sunrise, as they **welcomed neighbors, local officials, and community members for a weekend focused on dialogue and shared understanding**. Guests toured prayer spaces, met imams and community leaders, and engaged in conversations about faith, family, and the role of mosques in community life. This event opens our doors to our neighbors and helps build meaningful connections.



Many expressed appreciation for the warmth and hospitality they experienced, as well as the opportunity to see Islam through genuine interactions with community members. By coordinating Open Mosque Day, the **Federation continues to promote transparency, build trust, and strengthen relationships across South Florida's diverse communities**.

Coral Springs Townhall

Following the Annual Florida Muslim Conference, the South Florida Muslim Federation participated in a Coral Springs Town Hall **convened in response to Islamophobic remarks** circulating after the event. The town hall provided an open forum to address misconceptions, engage city officials and residents, and strengthen trust between the broader South Florida community through **transparency, education, and collaboration**.

Youth Leadership Training

The **Spiritual Leadership NSU Youth Training Program** equips young leaders with a deep, faith-centered foundation grounded in intention, personal development, and spiritual purity. It teaches essential leadership skills such as active listening, consultation, problem-solving, empowerment, and compassionate service, all rooted in sincerity and the pursuit of Allah's pleasure. Through consistent spiritual practice and purposeful action, students learn to lead with ihsāan, plan with vision, serve with humility, and mentor others to uplift their communities. The program measures success by the positive impact on those they serve and the barakah that enriches their work.



March and Vigil for Immigrant Justice

The South Florida Muslim Federation actively demonstrated its commitment to immigrant rights and community service by joining immigrant advocacy organizations, community leaders, and elected officials at the Broward Transitional Center and a subsequent vigil in Lake Worth Beach. These gatherings called for compassion, justice, and humane policies for immigrant families, **highlighting the human impact of immigration enforcement**, including the trauma experienced by children and the disruption faced by families. Representing the Muslim community, the Federation stood in solidarity with partners from diverse backgrounds, creating spaces for reflection, support, and collective advocacy while emphasizing dignity, equity, and protection for vulnerable populations.



These events exemplify the Federation's continuing and dedicated efforts to promote justice and compassion, elevate and amplify marginalized voices, cultivate meaningful and sustained cross-community collaboration, and ensure that all families experience safety, recognition, and comprehensive support. **Scan the QR code below to listen to Br. Omar Uddin's deeply impactful and inspiring speech.**

Media Appearances

Throughout the year, the South Florida Muslim Federation contributed a series of op-eds addressing critical issues, including justice, Islamophobia, interfaith understanding, mental health, and community solidarity, amplifying our voice in the public sphere and fostering informed, constructive dialogue across South Florida and beyond.

Response to Voucher Controversy - *WLRN*

On November 5, 2025, the South Florida Muslim Federation published a response in the *WLRN* to statements made by Florida Attorney General James



Uthmeier, who suggested that publicly funded voucher for private Islamic schools violate state law and promote "Sharia law." Federation leader including Imam Azhar Subedar

clarified that these claims misrepresent Islam and the purpose of faith-based education. They highlighted that **Muslim schools operate in full compliance with Florida's academic standards** while providing students with a values-driven environment that integrates religious instruction, similar to other faith-based schools. The op-ed emphasized the importance of religious freedom, constitutional protections, and equitable access to educational opportunities for families of all faiths. The Federation reaffirmed its commitment to interfaith dialogue, community cohesion, and supporting inclusive education for Muslim families.

Say No to Islamophobia — *Sun Sentinel*

In this op-ed, South Florida Muslim Federation President Samir Kakli and Emgage Florida Organizing Manager Adam

Abutaa addressed the rising tide of Islamophobia in U.S. politics and society. They highlighted how anti-Muslim narratives are perpetuated by certain media outlets, political figures and think tanks, often for profit or political gain, emphasizing that these narratives unfairly target Muslim communities, ignoring constitutional protections. The authors underscored the role of Islam as a moral and ethical framework guiding daily life, including principles of compassion, justice, and civic responsibility.



Adam Abutaa is organizing manager of Emgage Florida. (courtesy, Adam Abutaa)



The piece also highlighted the Muslim Federation's **ongoing community service efforts, including free clinics, food pantries, and homelessness programs** that serve people of all faiths and backgrounds.

The op-ed concluded with a compelling call for collective action, urging all people of faith and conscience to actively reject fear-based discrimination, confront bigotry wherever it arises, and work together to build a nation where every community is respected, protected, and empowered.

Open Mosque Day — 610 WIOD News Radio

A radio segment covering National Open Mosque Day featured Azhar Subedar discussing open prayer sessions, Q&A opportunities, and “Islam-101” sessions designed to foster transparency and interfaith understanding.

Trump’s Gaza Proposal — Sun Sentinel

On February 16, 2025, the Sun Sentinel published an op-ed by Hisham Mohammed and Ken Barnes criticizing President Trump’s Gaza proposal. Writing from a joint Muslim-Jewish perspective, they argued the plan was prejudiced against Palestinians and risked repeating historical injustices like the 1948 Nakba.

Mental Health: Ending Suicide Stigma — Miami Herald

On October 16, 2025, the Miami Herald featured an op-ed highlighting the South Florida Muslim Federation’s efforts to confront the stigma surrounding suicide and mental health in the local Muslim community.



Miami Herald

It highlighted the Federation’s efforts to confront mental health challenges, promote suicide-prevention education, and collaborate with local professionals and faith leaders. The piece emphasized culturally sensitive outreach, storytelling, and the importance of normalizing mental health conversations.

Standing Together for Justice in Lake Worth — Palm Beach Post

On August 25, 2025, the *Palm Beach Post* featured an op-ed highlighting the South Florida Muslim Federation’s active participation in a vigil held in Lake Worth Beach to honor children and families affected by recent immigration enforcement actions. The op-ed emphasized the Federation’s collaborative approach, joining faith leaders, community advocates, and neighbors from diverse backgrounds to stand in solidarity with impacted families.



Standing in Solidarity for the Children of Gaza — Local 10

On August 8, 2025, *Local 10* featured coverage of the South Florida Muslim Federation’s advocacy on behalf of children and families affected by the **ongoing crisis in Gaza**. The report highlighted a demonstration outside U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz’s Sunrise office, where Federation members and community **advocates joined local residents to call for an end to U.S. funding that contributes to the humanitarian crisis.**

Free Speech and Islamophobia — Miami Herald

On May 20, 2025, the Miami Herald published an op-ed by CAIR Florida and the South Florida Muslim Federation warning of a record rise in Islamophobia, citing CAIR's 2025 Civil Rights Report and calling for stronger protections against discrimination and for free expression.



Inner Community Alliance — Palm Beach Post

On April 2, 2025, The Palm Beach Post published an op-ed by Imam Azhar Subedar on the evolution of interfaith work and the South Florida Muslim Federation's justice-centered approach. He emphasized that meaningful solidarity must be rooted in shared struggle and moral clarity.

Key points included:

- Strengthening bonds within marginalized communities
- Standing firm for justice, including support for Palestinians and immigrants
- Centering universal human dignity as the basis for collective strength
- Viewing solidarity across movements as essential to lasting change

Coming Together After Mamdani's Primary Win — Palm Beach Post

On June 25, 2025, the Palm Beach Post published an op-ed co-authored by South Florida community leaders, including Samir Kakli, President of the South Florida Muslim Federation, reflecting on Zohran Mamdani's primary victory in New York City's District 36. The piece framed Mamdani's win as more than a political milestone; it was a testament to courage, coalition-building, and the power of communities organizing with integrity and shared purpose. It drew parallels to South Florida and emphasized the importance of values-based engagement, diversity, and the growing civic presence of Muslim communities.



The Palm Beach Post



Mamdani's NYC win is a template for unity in South Florida

Op-ed by Donna Nevel
and Samir Kakli

Mental Health

This year, our Mental Health initiatives strengthened community well-being through workshops, awareness campaigns, specialized programs, and participation in conferences and public events, reflecting our commitment to behavioral health, prevention, and resilience for all.

Suicide Prevention Workshops

Alhamdulillah, as part of our mental health and suicide prevention initiatives, we hosted a series of Family and Community Nights at Al-Amin Center, Masjid Al-Ansar, and other locations. These events addressed critical topics such as **nurturing social and spiritual bonds, breaking stigmas around mental health in minority communities, protecting childhood, and fostering character development**. Each session featured esteemed speakers, including community leaders, mental health professionals, and faith-based experts, who shared practical strategies, led interactive discussions, and provided actionable guidance to support personal growth, resilience, and community well-being.



We are deeply grateful to all volunteers, speakers, and attendees whose dedication made these programs possible. Special thanks to the teams at Al-Amin Center, Masjid Al-Ansar, and partner organizations for their tireless efforts in planning and facilitating these events. Through these workshops, participants engaged in meaningful dialogue, learned tools to support mental health, and strengthened the bonds within their families and communities.



Character Development Workshop

Alhamdulillah, we hosted a transformative 3-hour Character Development Workshop in collaboration with Khalil Center, Zakat Foundation, SoFlo Muslims, and Al-Amin Center. The session focused on cultivating essential virtues such as self-control, gratitude, patience, and **reliance on Allah**, while providing practical tools to integrate Islamic values into daily life, strengthen relationships, and enhance spiritual and emotional well-being. The workshop included dinner and complimentary babysitting, making it accessible and welcoming for all participants.

First Couples Workshop in SFL

This year, the South Florida Muslim Federation hosted its inaugural Couples Workshop, “The Science & Spirituality of Marriage,” **bringing together nearly 50 individuals and couples** seeking to strengthen their relationships, deepen their faith, and invest in the sacred bond of marriage. The workshop provided a reflective and supportive space where participants could engage in meaningful conversations, explore the emotional and spiritual dimensions of their relationships, and gain practical tools for building compassionate and faith-centered partnerships.

The success of the workshop was enhanced through collaboration with partners at Zakat Foundation, Khalil Center, and Al-Amin Center, **helping to create an accessible and meaningful experience.** This event reflects the Federation’s ongoing commitment to family enrichment, emotional wellness, and faith-based guidance, and it sets the stage for future programs designed to nurture marriages, strengthen families, and build a South Florida community rooted in compassion, understanding, and shared values.



South Florida Behavioral Health Conference

This year, the South Florida Muslim Federation proudly played a central role in the **10th Annual South Florida Behavioral Health Conference**, a landmark gathering dedicated to advancing mental wellness, healing, and awareness across our community. **Through interactive workshops, panel discussions, and open dialogue**, participants explored critical mental health challenges, including rising anxiety, depression, and stigma,



while gaining practical tools and resources to support emotional and spiritual well-being. The conference created a safe, inclusive space for community members to share experiences, learn from experts, and connect with support networks that empower lasting growth and resilience. The conference served as a platform to highlight the importance of awareness, prevention, and resilience, emphasizing the critical role that community support and education play in promoting behavioral health. Participants gained practical knowledge, learned new tools for navigating challenges, and connected with resources designed to strengthen both individual and collective well-being. The Federation continues to champion initiatives that build a stronger, healthier, and more supportive community, reflecting our belief that addressing behavioral health challenges requires both faith-driven guidance and evidence-based practices.

United Way Drug Prevention Meeting

The South Florida Muslim Federation continued its active engagement in community behavioral health initiatives through participation in the United Way of Broward County's monthly Behavioral Health & Drug Prevention meeting. Federation representatives, including Operations Manager Nuha Mirghani, shared updates on ongoing mental health programs, such as monthly family nights, targeted workshops, suicide prevention initiatives, and partnerships with Imams, mental health professionals, and community leaders. The meeting provided a platform to discuss emerging priorities, including the launch of the Rotary Connection mobile service, the 2nd Addiction Solutions Summit, International Overdose Awareness Day, and Broward County's 2025–2028 Opioid Action Plan. By contributing to this collaborative dialogue, the Federation strengthened its role as a proactive partner in addressing behavioral health challenges in South Florida. Participants recognized the Federation's continued commitment to providing accessible, culturally sensitive resources and fostering partnerships that enhance the well-being of families and individuals across the community.



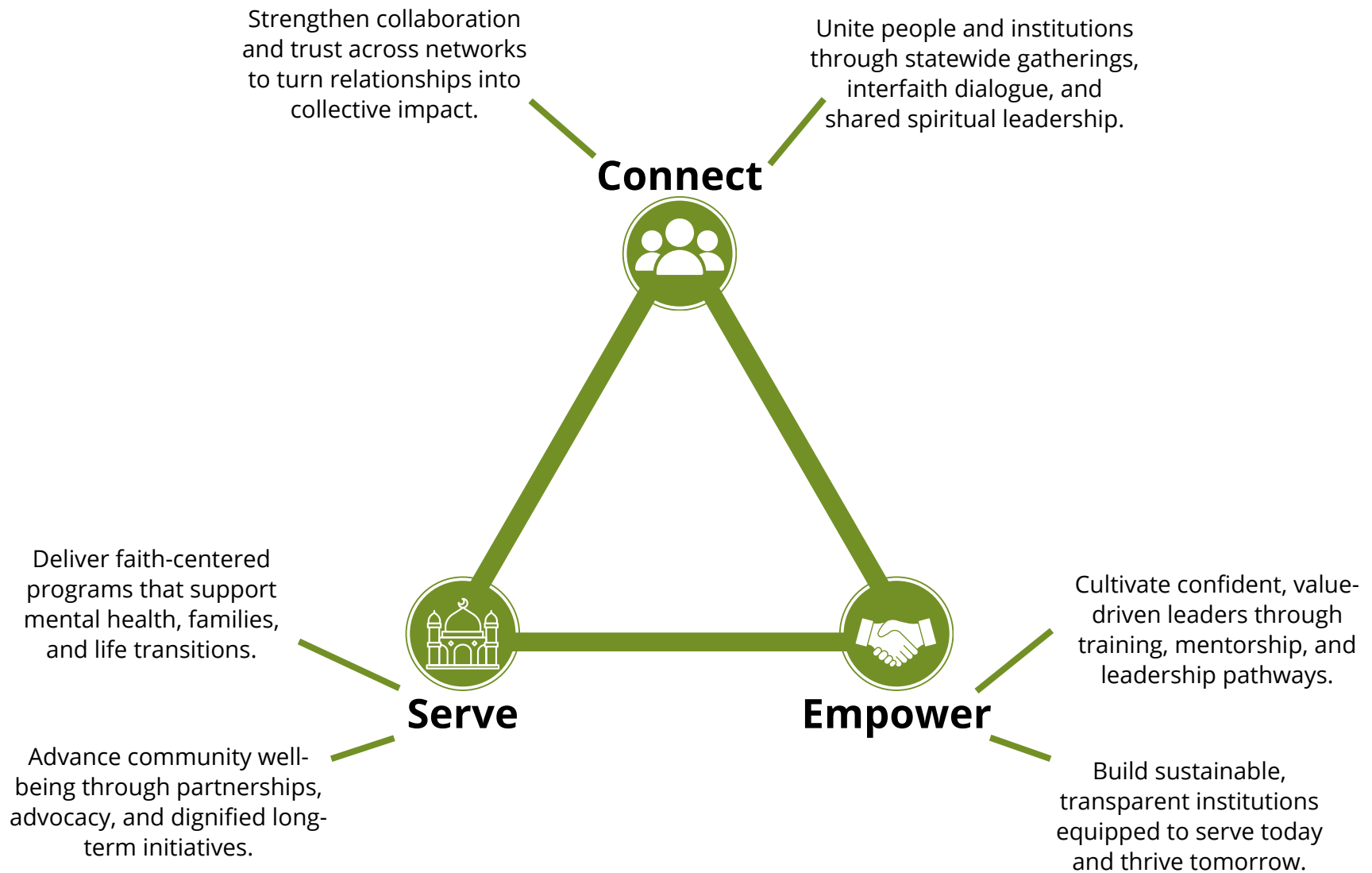
Protecting our Childhood: Awareness and Action

In recognition of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, the South Florida Muslim Federation hosted Protecting Childhood: A Family Night for Awareness and Action on April 25th at the Al-Amin Center. This engaging and educational event brought together families, community members, and experts to discuss **strategies for safeguarding children and promoting healthy, nurturing environments**. Attendees benefited from valuable insights shared by speakers Yasemin Saib, Kanwal Akhtar, and Imam Azhar Subedar, who highlighted practical tools, community resources, and preventive measures that support child well-being.

The event was designed to be both informative and inclusive, featuring interactive discussions alongside family-friendly activities and halal vendors, **ensuring an accessible and welcoming atmosphere for participants of all ages**. By creating a space where parents, caregivers, and community members could learn, reflect, and take action, the Federation underscored the importance of collective responsibility in protecting children.

Protecting Childhood exemplifies the Federation's commitment to fostering safe and resilient families while promoting community awareness on critical social issues. Through events like this, the Federation continues to champion education, prevention, and community engagement, **helping to ensure that every child in South Florida grows up in an environment that is safe, supportive, and filled with compassion**.

Future Plan (Strategic Plan)



Our Team & Members

Federation Staff

Development Director: Imam Azhar Subedar

Administrative Supervisor: Yusuf Ahmad Rivera

Operations Manager: Nuha Mirghani

Executive Committee

President: Samir Kakli

Vice President: Junaid Akhter

Secretary: Annie Hayat

Community Outreach: Hesham Ali

Revenue: Abbas Hachem

Treasurer: Mim Khan

County Representatives

Broward: Yunus Ismail

Palm Beach: Omar Uddin

Miami Dade: Patricia Salahuddin

Advisory Committee

Advisor: Afifa Khaliq

Advisor: Muhammad Irshad

Al-Amin Center

American Islamic Center of FL

American Muslim Community

Foundation (AMCF)

Masjid Baitul Mukarram

BASMAH

CAIR Florida

Darul Uloom Institute

Emgage Florida

Friends of Humanity

Helping Hand for Relief & Dev.

Human Appeal

ICNA Relief USA

Islamic Center of Boca Raton

Islamic Center of Broward

Islamic Center of South Florida

Islamic Center of Weston

Islamic Foundation of S. Florida

Islamic Jaffaria Association

Islamic Relief USA

Life for Relief and Development

Masjid Al-Ansar

Masjid Al-Hijrah

Masjid Al-Ihsaan

Masjid Faiza

MCA of South Florida

Masjid Jamaat al-Mumineen

MSA for Middle & High School

Muslim Knowledge Seekers

Nurul Islam

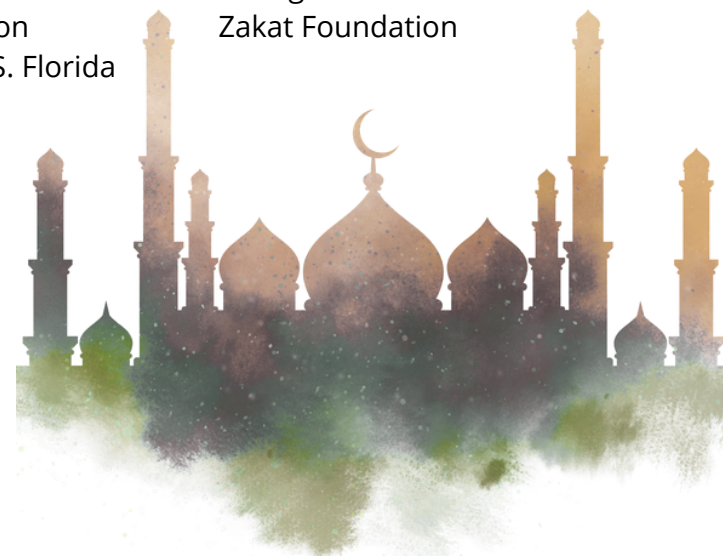
SFL Young Muslim Professionals

Sanad Trust Foundation

Universal Medical Clinic

Young Muslims of South Florida

Zakat Foundation





SOUTHFLORIDA MUSLIM FEDERATION

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

For more information about supporting the South Florida Muslim Federation (SFMF) and getting involved in your community, please visit:

<https://soflomuslims.com/>

Sign up for our mailing list or action alerts at

www.soflomuslims.com/about-us/join-us/

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Support the work of the South Florida Muslim Federation by contributing through:

www.givebutter.com/FOF

Ways to support:

- Become a monthly supporter
- Make a one-time donation
- Inquire about employer matching programs
- Sponsor community programs or initiatives

Please refer to the website for donation details and tax information.

All donations are tax-deductible and zakat-eligible (Tax ID 82-3494506)

CONTACT US

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