

ANNUAL PROGRAMS

National Arab-American Service Day

The National Arab-American Service Day is an annual community service program spearheaded by the NNAAC's Arab American

Tahani Hussein Volunteers at the Service Day in Detroit

Resource Corps program. On this day, Arab-Americans around the country join together with their friends and family to serve those in need in other communities. Over a thousand volunteers have carried out dozens of service projects in cities throughout the country. The motto "Serving Communities, Connecting People," truly captures the spirit of the event.

The Mission of the National Arab-American Service Day is to:

- Foster and encourage volunteerism and service among diverse communities
- Build bridges and connect people through the common experience of service
- Highlight Arab-American commitment to serving their local communities

Examples of Service Day Projects:

- Preparing and serving food to sick children at the Ronald McDonald House in Orlando
- Volunteering at a soup kitchen and homeless shelter in Philadelphia
- Serving at the Ohio Youth Advocate program in Cleveland to spend one-one time with orphans reading books, playing basketball, and doing crafts

Annual Conference

The annual conference provides a forum where NNAAC member organizations meet and work with experts, advocates from partner coalitions, the funding community and Arab-American leaders. This unique conference brings together a diverse group of participants in order to discuss issues facing local communities and creates

a forum in which important issues can be identified and addressed. It also provides a distinctive opportunity for community based organizations to network and learn from each other's experiences.

The Conference Program Includes:

- Panels on a broad range of issues facing Arab-Americans locally and nationally
- Training workshops
- Networking events
- Peer-to-Peer learning opportunities
- Discussion of current and future NNAAC programs



Tahani Hussein Volunteers at the Service Day in Detroit



4th Annual NNAAC Conference in Dearborn

MEMBERS

ARAB COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL SERVICES

Dearborn, Michigan

GREATER LANSING ARAB AMERICAN SOCIAL SERVICES

Lansing, Michigan

ARAB AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICES

Burbank, Illinois

ARAB AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL SERVICES

Cleveland, Ohio

ACCESS CALIFORNIA SERVICES

Anaheim, California

PHILADELPHIA ARAB AMERICAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

THE ARAB-AMERICAN FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Brooklyn, New York

AMERICAN ARAB HERITAGE COUNCIL

Flint, Michigan

THE ARAB AMERICAN ACTION NETWORK

Chicago, Illinois

ARAB AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Orlando, Florida

THE ARAB-AMERICAN CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTER

Houston, Texas

THE ARAB CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTER

San Francisco, California

ARAB AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

Brooklyn, New York

ALIF INSTITUTE

Atlanta, Georgia



National Network

for Arab American Communities



ABOUT ACCESS

Established in 1971 in Dearborn, Michigan, The Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services (ACCESS) is the largest Arab-American human service organization in the United States. ACCESS has over 70 programs in the areas of social services, employment, community health, youth, cultural outreach and national outreach. To learn more, visit www.accesscommunity.org



National Network
for Arab American Communities

c/o ACCESS National Outreach Department

2601 Saulino Court • Dearborn, MI 48120 • (313) 843-2844

www.nnaac.org

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Introduction

The National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC) is a network of local independent Arab-American social service organizations.

The Network's primary mission is the development of institutions that can meet the needs and represent the concerns of Arab Americans locally, while collectively addressing these concerns nationally.

The network supports the development of financially strong and effectively managed community based organizations through a broad range of programs. By leveraging the collective efforts of its members, the network is able to improve the lives of local communities, and empower the Arab-American community on a national level.

The network is a project of the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) in Dearborn, Michigan, and is housed at its National Outreach Department.



Programs



ARC Members in Service

ARAB-AMERICAN RESOURCE CORPS

The Arab-American Resource Corps (ARC) is the only national AmeriCorps program in the country offering individuals the opportunity to serve Arab-American community based organizations. AmeriCorps is a federal community service program that engages volunteers in service to meet critical needs of individuals and communities around the country. ARC members provide thousands of services a year to clients of NNAAC members and the community at large in the areas of immigration services, social services, youth empowerment and cultural outreach.

Mission

The Arab-American Resource Corps (ARC) brings together Americans from all backgrounds to promote civic engagement and economic empowerment in Arab-American communities.

ARC Aims to:

- Inspire new leadership through a commitment to voluntary service and hands-on activism
- Strengthen communities by serving Arab-American community based organizations
- Build bridges between diverse communities that make up America's rich cultural fabric



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Supporting the sustainability and growth of member organizations is a core mission of the network. By providing technical assistance to strengthen organizations, the network ensures their long term sustainability. NNAAC members are able to make a lasting impact on their local communities and remain a vibrant part of the national effort to strengthen the Arab-American community.

The Organizational Development Program Helps Members Through:

- Providing customized one-on-one technical assistance in areas such as resource development, program management and board development
- Organizing workshops at the national conference and providing financial support to members to attend workshops in their cities
- Providing small grants to enable members to hire local consultants and make other capacity building investments
- Providing members access to local, national and online training resources for organizational development



Fareen Ramji conducts training at the annual conference.

ADVOCACY

NNAAC members provide services to tens of thousands of Arab-Americans and community members at large, and thus are uniquely qualified to identify the key issues their communities face. As service providers and grassroots organizations, NNAAC members are positioned to tackle the complex, multi-faceted issues facing the Arab-American community. The network's advocacy program focuses on the following areas:

- Civil rights and civil liberties
- Increased funding and support for human services
- Immigration Policy
- Civic engagement

Advocacy Program Activities

- Organizing national campaigns around key issues facing the community, including letter writing campaigns, educational forums and action alerts
- Conducting research and policy analysis on issues facing the Arab-American community
- Playing an active role in national civil rights and immigrant rights coalitions
- Providing technical support to NNAAC members to improve their ability to become effective advocates for their community



ACCESS at Pro-Immigrant Rally

PHILANTHROPY

The Philanthropy Program, called The Collaborative for Arab-American Philanthropy, encourages Arab-Americans to give more of their time, resources and energy for the empowerment of their community and for the social good of all Americans. The program also works with NNAAC members to strengthen their ability to reach out to donors and build community support for their programs.

STRATEGIC PHILANTHROPY

The program supports Arab-American donors by providing them the support and tools they need to practice strategic philanthropy. Traditional philanthropy or giving helps one person at a time by providing charity for immediate short term needs. Strategic philanthropy focuses on change that builds for the future. It is designed around focused research, creative planning, proven strategies, careful execution, and thorough follow up in order to achieve the intended results.

Philanthropy Program Activities Include:

- Organizing workshops for donors and community organizations on effective fundraising and giving practices
- Reaching out to Arab-Americans to encourage them to invest both in their community organizations and in other social and charitable causes in the community at large
- Establishing a permanent resource center at the network to support Arab-American philanthropic giving
- Empowering Arab-American donors by providing the tools and support they need to make an impact with their strategic philanthropy
- Working with Arab-American community organizations to strengthen their ability to reach out to donors and build community support for their work