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# ISGH Elected Officials

## ISGH Executive Body

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISGH President</td>
<td>Sohail Syed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISGH Vice President</td>
<td>Ayman Ali Kabire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISGH Treasurer</td>
<td>Fayez Ghwari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISGH General Secretary</td>
<td>Badar Alam</td>
</tr>
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## ISGH Zonal Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zonal Area</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Zone</td>
<td>Ayman Khalil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Zone</td>
<td>Sitwat Siddiqui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Zone</td>
<td>Javed Malik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Zone</td>
<td>Faizan Atiq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Zone</td>
<td>Basset Choucair</td>
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## ISGH Associate Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zonal Area</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>Musaji Chauhan</td>
<td>Adel Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mohammad Youusuf</td>
<td>Cypress</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nadir Tayyab</td>
<td>Champions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ramez Shokeir</td>
<td>Woodlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>Azmi Alwan</td>
<td>Bear Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selma Tamez</td>
<td>Spring Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hanif Mohammad</td>
<td>Katy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>Javed Malik</td>
<td>Brand Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>Aamer Jamil</td>
<td>River Oaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ahmad Shaikh</td>
<td>Mission Bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anwer Wadiwala</td>
<td>New Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abdul Alim Khan</td>
<td>Synott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>Mohammad Naeem Aulakh</td>
<td>Baytown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emran Gazi</td>
<td>Highway 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mohammad Al-Hammoud</td>
<td>Northshore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mohammad Elias Biswas</td>
<td>Pearland</td>
</tr>
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### ISGH AREA REPRESENTATIVES

#### NORTH

**ADEL ROAD**
- Amir Ahmed Ismail
- Alifah Ayub
- Baber Ahmed
- Faisal Syed
- Kasim Patel
- Khaled Arabi-Katbi
- Mohammed Iqbal
- Mouheet Hayat
- Munirah Vaid
- Nabeel Patel
- Noheed F. Malik
- Osmun Fuad
- Lashkarwala
- Ubaid Ur Rahman
- Zaigham Arshad Butt

**CHAMPIONS**
- Adnan Fareed Zafar
- Irfanul Hasan
- Jawed Sheikh Mirza
- Athar Baig
- Misbah Ahsan Abbasi
- Mohammad Amjad
- Usmani Mohammad
- Zakir Husain
- Rabia Ali
- Rizwan Syed
- Seema Khan
- Syed Abdul Razzaq
- Syed Zabehullah Beybani

- Wahaj S. Khan
- Yoseph M. Noor

**CYPRESS**
- Hunain Qureshi
- Hassain Abbasi
- Mominul Haque Miah
- Qaiser Khan

**WOODLANDS**
- Amjad Shahab
- Kiram Eddine Lezzar
- Omar Mohammed
- El Kordy
- Suhail M. Nabi

#### NORTHWEST

**BEER CREEK**
- Aasim Waheed
- Ahmad El-Masri
- Ashfaq Wadiwala
- Hasan M. Syed
- Khurshid Qureshi
- Mohammad A. Baqa
- Nazar Iqbal Siddiqi
- Naveed Jamil
- Nusrat Mir
- Rehan Akram

**KATY**
- Ahsan Abbas
- Imad Rehman
- Mohammad Abdul Moqueet

**SABOOR SALAHUDDIN**
- Syed Rauf Sajjad
- Zafraullah Rahman
- Zaka M. Malik
- Zunara Saeed

**MAHMOUD KHALIFA**
- Sami Elsadigh
- Shahahan Nooruddin
- Yasin Sahib

**SPRING BRANCH**
- Amera Elsaied
- Fatima Mohiuddin
- Tehmina Masud
- Nadeen Mustafa

#### SOUTH

**BRAND LANE**
- Abdul Aziz Gopalani
- Abdul H. Khatri

**ABDUL RASHID ZAKARIA**
- Asif Malik
- Feroze Parekh

**MOHAMMED ASLAM**
- Mohammad Shabbir Shekhani
## ISGH Area Representatives

### South

#### Brand Lane cont.
- Mohammad Umar Khalid
- Peter Waxali
- Tahir Mehmood
- Tariq Aziz
- Tauqir Muhammad Sheikh
- Umar Ahmed
- Zuhal Duarni
- Mahummad

### Southwest

#### Synott Road
- Abdur Rahman Siddiqui
- Feroza Ali
- Ghous W. Khan
- Jafar Hussain
- ABDUL-SOBI
- Manzoor Naeem
- Naeeem Khan
- Najeeb Ismail
- Nazir Khan
- Rasoul Faizi
- Sayyadain Zariif
- Syed I. Naseer
- Syed Jawed Hussain
- Tamoor Aziz
- Tariq Khalil

#### Mission Bend
- Abdullah Elasma
- Abu Bunnaya
- Farrukh Shazad
- Ismail Bhayat
- Jawad Farooq
- Khandaqar Rahmain
- Khaled Al Hawi
- Khurram Iqbal
- Matin Bajighar
- Nisar A. Shakir
- Rafay Khan
- Sameeka Ahmed Vaid
- Taimur Siddiqui

#### New Territory
- Aaman Javid Mian
- Haroon Dosani
- Khawaja Kamran
- Rasheed M. Khan
- Safia Mistry
- Sheikh Abdullah Qayyum
- Sohail Hilal
- Waleed MoHiUddin
- Zeeshan Khurshid
- Ziaur Rehma

#### River Oaks
- Imran Akhtar
- Mohammad Bayan
- Waafa Taiyam

### Southeast

#### Hwy 3
- Ameer Alam
- Al Mamun Choudhury
- Izziddin Kamal
- Kazi Barakatullah
- Md. Imtiaz Khan
- Neil Mohammed
- Nurul Azman Saiyan
- Syed S. Alam
- Wali Alam
- Yulfa Snow

#### Pearland
- Abul Kasem Chowdhry
- Ashraful Haque
- Deowler Aziz
- Nasir Bhuiyan
- Ramadan Youness
- Samia Sheik
- Sheraaz Ahmed
- Khan Syed
- Shahid Hasan

#### Baytown
- Saqib Hussain
- Tariq Mansoor
- Vacant
- Vacant

#### Northshore
- Vacant
- Vacant
- Vacant
- Vacant
# ISGH STANDING COMMITTEES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORTING TO PRESIDENT</th>
<th>CHAIRPERSON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AL-DAWAH</td>
<td>DR. FAROOQ MALIK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MAIL DAWAH</td>
<td>DR. MAZHAR KAZI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NEW AND NON-MUSLIM CLASS</td>
<td>DR. MAZHAR &amp; SR. ALIA KAZI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• PRISON DAWAH</td>
<td>DR. SYED ARSHAD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY</td>
<td>DR. BASEM HAMID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELIGIOUS AND ULEMA</td>
<td>DR. SALAH AS SAWY</td>
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<td>ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION</td>
<td>RASHID KHOKHAR</td>
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<td>DR. MAZHAR KAZI</td>
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<td>DANISH HASAN</td>
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<td>ZAFAR TAHIR</td>
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<td>PLANNING</td>
<td>DR. AHMAD DURRANI</td>
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<td>WOMEN</td>
<td>SHAZIA ASHRAF</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS</td>
<td>ASHFAQ S. PEER</td>
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<td>FUNERAL &amp; CEMETERY</td>
<td>BADAR ALAM</td>
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<td>FATIMA SULTAN</td>
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<td>YOUNG MEN’S</td>
<td>ZAIN KHAN</td>
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<td>SAFRA KHAN</td>
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<td>DR. ABDELHAMID MOURSY</td>
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<td>ELECTIONS</td>
<td>RASHID KHOKHAR</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ABDULSABUR BELLO</td>
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<td>FUNDRAISING</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZAKAT &amp; WELFARE</td>
<td>FUAD FLEYFEL</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENDOWMENT FUND</td>
<td>FAYEZ GHWARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRAL CONSTRUCTION</td>
<td>SHAHEM BARAZI</td>
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ISGH PRESIDENT REPORT
SOHAIL SYED

In 2018, ISGH voting members entrusted me with the responsibility of Islamic Society of Greater Houston President with the expectations of making necessary fundamental and structural changes in the areas of governance, policies and services to raise the organization’s status. Establishing an Islamic organization in North America as a flagship representative organization of Muslims in the fourth largest metropolis in the United States is a unique experience.

Accomplishing these objectives and goals of a higher order in ushering this great organization into 21st century by introducing the best business practices at all levels of its operations — particularly streamlining the work at ISGH Headquarters in the areas of administration, human resources, accounts and finances, and the array of services such as Zakah and Sadaqa, education, and others — is a serious responsibility.

We are also fully engaged on interfaith and intergovernmental activities. We forged a broader alliance with other faith groups to highlight the issues concerning Muslims at home and abroad. We involved the law enforcement agencies at city and county levels to safeguard the lives and properties of Greater Houston Muslim community in addition to securing our places of worship.

PERSONNEL CHANGES AT THE MAIN CENTER OFFICE

Operations Director.

The ISGH Board of Directors reviewed the overall operations and personnel needs at the Main Center Office and decided to hire an Operations Director to oversee ISGH operations at all levels. The new director, Shazia Ashraf, will implement necessary changes by way of introducing much-needed management and technological tools and upgrade existing infrastructure to enhance efficiency — this will address the negative perceptions and genuine complaints of the community about ISGH. She has rich experience in building community, bringing support groups to spiritual spaces, and is tech-savvy — this is needed to change the face of ISGH on social media with improved response time for service requests. She will work to implement policies and procedures across the board, bring the organization to operational excellence, and oversee regulatory compliance. She optimized the use of electronic platforms like Facebook and Twitter for quick dissemination of important information, made drastic changes in personnel conduct for a speedy workflow, and quickly responded and follow-upped to any and all matters. She possesses practical ideas to improve and move ISGH to higher levels of efficiency.
**Comptroller.**
The board also hired a highly qualified sister with a wide array of industry experience to spearhead changes in ISGH accounting practices and financial reporting. Sr. Saira Fattah holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Master of Business Administration degrees and is a certified public accountant. With a rich experience of working for oil and gas companies she started working on a financial reporting structure to bring ISGH up to date with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for a 501C(3) Nonprofit Organization. She plans to implement standardization of all financial policies and procedures. Under the guidance of the Executive Body, she will serve as a liaison between all Accounting Personnel throughout various zones, making certain all financials are reviewed on a consistent basis.

**Contents Administration.**
Sr. Alina Nusrat was brought on board as a full-time CRM and Content Administrator responsible for graphic design and content management. She is responsible for updating the website, creating visuals for digital marketing, working on the monthly newsletter, promoting ISGH through social media and coming up with strategies to increase engagement.

**SAFETY AND SECURITY.**
In the aftermath of the unfortunate incidents in New Zealand where a number of Muslims lost their lives in a terrorist attack early this year, we assembled diverse groups of religious and civic organization not only to condemn the heinous crime perpetrated on our sisters and brothers on the other side of the globe, but also actively engaged with the local law enforcement agencies to highlight our collective concern for the safety of our Masjid in Greater Houston area. The mayor, HPD chief of police, and surrounding county's sheriffs cooperated with us to check on any security vulnerabilities of our Masjid, HPD and the sheriffs provided free services for the survey of Houston Masjid and suggested improvements for upgrades or installations of security equipment for better surveillance of the properties.

**LEGAL OVERHAUL.**
Immediately after taking the oath of office, I convened a meeting of the ISGH Planning Committee and tasked them with preparing recommendations to ISGH Constitution and Bylaws both fundamentally and structurally, as the report envisioned: “With the intent to create a more vibrant, empowered, and engaged Muslim community, a new structure is being proposed that leans away from the continuous demands of the election cycle and is based more on the talents of its constituents.” "The newly proposed structure centers around the four core goals of Islamic Education and Practice, Community Service and Engagement, Visionary Leadership and
Organizational Effectiveness, and Strategic External Relations.” It emphasized that governance structure be divided into three components. The committee’s proposals, or rather, the narrative, will be seriously considered by the Majlis Al-Shura to commence the far-reaching changes to serve the organization well into the next 50 years, insha’Allah.

RECOGNITION.

The Texas House of Representatives recognized ISGH for its efforts in helping those affected by Hurricane Harvey through rescue operations, opening doors of Masjid to provide shelter, and the financial contributions by launching national and international Muslim community fundraisers throughout the country. Texas State Rep. Gene Wu sponsored the bill and the House adopted HR 1481. “RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commend the Islamic Society of Greater Houston for its response in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and extend to its members sincere gratitude for their hard work and generosity … and an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.”

EDUCATION.

The Institute of Islamic Education in Texas (IEIT) is a subsidiary of ISGH which operates six full-time Islamic schools with a sizable student enrollment and with qualified and certified teachers. These schools provide a much-needed standard education in addition to providing an Islamic environment for the future of the Muslim community in Greater Houston; it is a very safe and secure violence-free environment for our children. Recently, the Board of Trustees of IEIT hired Sr. Zuhaira Razzack — with a rich experience in education including serving as principal of the ILM Academy where she set high standards of excellence — as the superintendent. “Her works revolves around improving the academic and social dimensions of Islamic schools” as her core objective.

DEMOCRATIC OPENNESS.

The uniqueness of the ISGH governing structure is its open democratic system of choosing its leadership cadre — from the top to the grass-root level — through ISGH voter elections held every year in December. This democratic process lets ISGH stand tall with pride among its peers. The Muslim community of Houston has a major say in this organization’s running and administration — it also holds us accountable to our members, the real assets of ISGH.

LOOKING FORWARD.

Sisters and Brothers, with its wide array of Masjid, unparalleled education and services, the Islamic Society of Greater Houston is a unique organization.
This organization’s visionaries, through a labor of love, laid the ISGH cornerstone for this dynamic Islamic entity in a small house in 1969. They hoped their good effort would grow and would one day carry on the significant work of Dawah; they wanted to bring the pristine message of the Creator to humanity and establish a network of Masjids so that fellow Muslims could practice their Deen without much hardship in a land far away from their ancestral homes — but still keeping the warmth of Islam in their hearts and pass it on to their progeny. Later generations would add schools and clinics to serve the community.

We are the inheritors of this great effort and it is incumbent on us to do our utmost to add — tangibly and intangibly — onto the existing structure and leave this legacy to our children in much better form and shape. We can only accomplish this by bringing in new voices with innovative ideas who will uplift this organization to the excellence this community deserves. We will double our efforts to keep adding best-practices in conducting the affairs of ISGH and will utilize all useful tools in the realms of management and administration by the infusing new ideas, and employing all technological tools for maximum efficiency. We are making profound changes in bylaws to iron-out any loopholes — with the special emphasis on accountability from the top leadership down to the local levels. All areas of administration are being scrutinized by the Executive Body for improvements and necessary changes.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE EXISTENCE.

Brothers and Sisters, 2019 marks ISGH’s 50th year of existence. It has been a long journey for the community and the organization; this institution was built brick-by-brick, one day at a time.
The slow but methodical progress of bringing this great society of ours to this point, with widespread physical structures and expanded services, speaks volumes of the founder’s hard work, as well as the work of those who followed them and shared the same objective — i.e., building a first-class Islamic organization in North America to serve the Deen of Allah (swt) in different facets of life so that a vibrant Muslim community could devote its material and spiritual resources to one, and only one, goal: worshipping our Lord.

It is, without any question, the blessing of Allah (swt) Who made that dream a practical reality for us all in the fourth largest metropolis in the United States. Allah (swt) rewarded the sincere efforts of our sisters and brothers who sowed the seed of this organization and He (swt) blessed it with many good-hearted Muslims who worked hard so that the seed germinated into a fruitful tree; we all are benefiting from it after 50 years.

We only express our utmost gratitude to Allah (swt) for giving us the strength of dedication and determination to serve His (swt) cause from the platform of ISGH.

We ask Allah (swt) to reward the founders of ISGH and shower His mercy on those who are still alive and those who have returned to Him (swt). May Allah (swt) purify our hearts to work for His sake only and take care of our fellow Muslims and the community at large, ameen.

“... bringing this great society of ours to this point, with widespread physical structures and expanded services, speaks volumes of the founder’s hard work, as well as the work of those who followed them and shared the same objective”
ISGH VICE PRESIDENT REPORT
AYMAN KABIRE

Alhamdulilelah, all praise is due to Allah for bestowing His mercy and blessings upon us here in Houston and beyond. 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the organization; it has been yet another rewarding year for ISGSH and the community. The sacrifices of this organization’s pioneers are the foundations on which we attempt to build and continue the legacy of the largest Muslim organization in North America. The sacrifices continue with many dedicated volunteers who are keen to seeing our community thrive and prosper. I ask Allah to bless all and enable us to follow the footsteps and tread the path of our beloved Prophet Mohammed Peace and Blessings Be Upon Him.

My main focus this past year was to continue and expound on the efforts started in 2018 with the support and partnership of the Shura of 2018 and 2019 — this included the organization's infrastructure, operations, culture, and brand image, in addition to the new Muslim Cemetery Development project.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

With the growth in the organization and community, the ISGH leadership remained focused this year on revamping organizational operations and laying out the foundations of a culture that thrives on performance and execution. To that end, a concerted effort was placed on increasing the human resources, improving the organization’s culture, governance, processes, adopted tools, and overall performance management.

• Review of Constitution & Bylaws — Shura approved the committee to holistically evaluate the C&B and recommend amendments needed to improve the governance of the organization. Fifteen amendments were proposed and passed in the March 2019 Joint Shura Council meeting. Eleven more amendments were proposed in the September 2019 session. The committee also proposed new policies and revisions to existing policies, a majority of which were approved by the Shura.

• ISGH Rebranding Initiative — Infographics, posters, and media material were the catalyst in branding the ISGH. The already underway 50th anniversary branding efforts and the recent September 29th gala showcased a glimpse of the organization’s timeline and outlook.

• Developing Annual Sustainability — Partnered with the Muslim Philanthropy Initiative, ISGH centers offered a weekend-long training session in November, focused on developing annual sustainability and best practices in fundraising and sustaining the operations of our centers. Each Islamic center nominated individuals to attend this essential training.
VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

CENTRAL SERVICES

With the many challenges our community faces, Houston area-focused services and workshops were developed and presented to the community in partnership with other organizations.

- **ISGH Pre-Marital Training** — Beginning in January 2019, ISGH began offering a monthly eight-hour state certified training workshop to the community. Made possible by partnering with Suhbah Institute, the sessions were taught by Imam Mahad Qamar and Ustadha Safya Ravat. ([www.isgh.org/marriage](http://www.isgh.org/marriage) to register). This program aimed to address a rampant marital dilemma in our community.

- **Write Your Will Seminar** — Brought to the community by partnering with MyWassiyah and Sh. Joe Bradford (cofounder), the organization began offering a seminar aimed at bringing awareness to the importance of having a will and practicing the Sunnah to preserve the wealth of community members. The seminar will begin in the 4th quarter of 2019 and will be offered in different ISGH zones. The plan is to hold recurring seminars throughout the year to ensure our community members are aware of, and have, their wills written. A discount is offered to ISGH members who attend the seminars and create their wills through MyWassiyah.com. ([www.isgh.org/writeyourwill](http://www.isgh.org/writeyourwill) to register)

- **ISGH.ORG email addresses** — Phase I of this initiative included email addresses to a center’s administrative standing committee chairs in addition to our Imams. This year, Phase II extended the implementation to all elected officials, namely area representatives. More than 150 of them can be reached by emailing yourzipcode.centername@isgh.org, for example 77070.Champions@isgh.org. To reach your local Shura/Council, email council.centername@isgh.org, for example council.cypress@isgh.org. While some don’t utilize these addresses, we aspire to have full adoption soon Insha’a Allah.

TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS

We continued to progressively improve our ventures into digital technology. These are the updates toward that goal — on top of the first phase shared in the 2018 annual report.

- **ISGH.ORG email addresses** — Phase I of this initiative included email addresses to a center’s administrative standing committee chairs in addition to our Imams. This year, Phase II extended the implementation to all elected officials, namely area representatives. More than 150 of them can be reached by emailing yourzipcode.centername@isgh.org, for example 77070.Champions@isgh.org. To reach your local Shura/Council, email council.centername@isgh.org, for example council.cypress@isgh.org. While some don’t utilize these addresses, we aspire to have full adoption soon Insha’a Allah.

- **Our Donation Management Software** (Kindful) that was utilized in 2018 proved to be a necessary component for our fundraising efforts, especially for community members who don’t live closer to a Masjid and/or are digitally savvy. The user experience has helped in the rebranding efforts of the organization (through automated receipts and targeted campaigns).
• The **Membership Management Software** (WildApricot) that was revived in 2018, leveraged the membership portal that hosts content only available to ISGH members (financials, minutes, organization records, etc.)

• The **Publication** committee chair is rolling out a new mobile app (currently in beta now) for the Champions Islamic Center and plans to expand it to the Central ISGH

• The **Funeral & Cemetery** committee continued to develop the website launched in 2018. This year, the committee created a dedicated Facebook page (@isghfuneralhomes) and began a WhatsApp group for funeral announcements. Our community members are now more aware of funeral announcements than ever before.

• A reactivated **Jobs Placement/Networking** committee has exciting plans for the 4th quarter. The ISGH website is dedicated to the committee’s efforts (www.isgh.org/networking).
HUMAN RESOURCES

Running a professional organization requires high caliber resources to ensure operational excellence; the Shura of 2018 was instrumental in making this a priority. The current Shura is also supportive of these efforts.

Imams — The Executive Body approved the hiring of Imam Ahmad Khan for Maryam IC at New Territory, Imam Nessar Ahmadi for Hamza IC at Mission Bend, and rehired Imam Hasan Siddiqi for Al-Mustafa IC at Bear Creek.

Operations Director — Following the approval for creating the Operations Manager position in the Shura late 2018, the Executive Body hired Sr. Shazia Ashraf for the position in June 2019. The organization’s operations manager will streamline our performance, centralize much needed services, and help us reach our goal for excellence.

ISGH Comptroller — The search for a comptroller began in 2018 and in early 2019, the Executive Body used online job services to attract new talent. Sr. Saira Fatah was hired as the first ISGH comptroller in the history of the organization. She is a certified CPA and holds an MBA. She was a comptroller in for-profit corporations; her addition is a boost to our efforts to professionalize the organization.

Content Specialist — In an effort to continue out 2018 goal of branding and an improved social media presence, Sr. Alina Nusrat was hired as a new content specialist in August 2019. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary this year, you must have noticed some of the work of our content specialist and her skills in graphic design: newsletters, banners, and organizational timeline.

Financial Assistance Case Manager — As suggested by the Treasurer, the Executive Body is interviewing candidates to fill this important role; the position will focus on administering and managing ISGH’s financial assistance program.

Development Director — Shura approved the position of ISGH Development Director suggested by the President. This is an important role and will help the organization attain financial stability and sustainability. The Executive Body is launching a search for the right candidate.

Masjid Administrators — Following the Shura’s resolution in June 2018 to hire paid administrators at the Islamic centers, the executive body approved the hiring of full-time Masjid Administrators at At-Taqwa Synott IC and Brandlane IC.

ISGH 2019 Summer Internship Program — Our operations director spearheaded the hiring of two interns over the summer to help ISGH in areas where improvement is desperately needed: membership drive and record updating and organization branding and office/operations management.
TRANSPARENCY

We take pride in being a community service based religious organization. Our community members are the owners of the organization and need to be aware of the governance and decision making in ISGH. Alhamdulelah, we continued the efforts started in 2018 — a focus on transparency.

- **Accessible Membership Portal** (accessible only to ISGH Members)
  - Shura meetings are live streamed and recorded in the portal
  - Central financial statements posted monthly along with the member’s center financial statements
  - Center’s approved meeting minutes

- Islamic Centers are mandated to post Approved Meeting Minutes and Monthly Financial Statements on bulletin boards. The ISGH bulletin board in your center should include the following:
CHALLENGES AND SETBACKS

While the annual report is meant to share positive news about the organization, I am obligated to share with you the areas of challenge and setbacks. It is through the realization that we have deficiencies to overcome that we can reach operational excellence.

- **Volunteer Draught** — Repeated requests for dedicated volunteers to step up were faced with dismal responses. Community involvement and engagement is paramount to improving the organization. We need help and support.
• **290 Muslim Cemetery Development Delays** — The development effort of the exclusive Muslim cemetery was twice delayed during the civil plans development phase. Harris County had an updated Storm Water Management plan that necessitated an update to our designs. Most recently (post verbal approval for our plans), the County Flood Control District split off from the Harris County Public Infrastructure Department review process which necessitated a separate application.

• **288 79 Acre Land Status** — A third party was hired to assess the feasibility of using the 288 land as a cemetery. The conclusion is that the land cannot be used for a cemetery. There are further details in the Funeral and Cemetery Committee report section in this report.

**CONCLUDING REMARKS**

The road to organizational operational excellence is long and requires consistent execution as a long-term strategy. This can only be done with the community’s support and realization that our options are limited. Our focus on improving the organization’s operations needs to continue while simultaneously addressing all the community’s needs. Our services ought to address the hierarchy of needs within the community — *from the cradle to the grave*. We look forward In Sha’a Allah to a prosperous year filled with community building, service, and fellowship. We look forward to focusing on key aspects of our mission: **faith, service, and community**. I ask Allah to bless the founding members of ISGH, the dedicated volunteers past and present, our Imams and religious scholars, our employees and office staff, and all Muslims in Houston and around the globe. Special thanks to the Shura of 2018 as they helped lay the foundation for the aforementioned initiatives. Without their concerted efforts, our organization wouldn’t be where it is today. Special thanks to the current 2019 Shura for continuing the efforts of 2018 and further improving the operation and vision of the organization. Jazakum Allah Khairan.

“Our services ought to address the hierarchy of needs within the community — from the cradle to the grave.”
The General Secretary position, as defined in our ISGH bylaws, has three main components: First is to maintain all the ISGH records and books, second is to maintain the record of membership, and third is to make certain elections are conducted in a fair and transparent manner.

ACHIEVEMENTS:
ISGH set a new membership milestone in terms in 2019 — we crossed the 8,000 member threshold, a 25 percent increase from 2018. The work of countless ISGH volunteers and the services this organization provides the Houston community led to that achievement.

This year, we started a campaign to clean up the membership system of record (Wild Apricot). We have reached out to members to get missing information such as email information or other contact information that was not in our system. We received good responses and were able to make a dent in the missing information — but more work needs to be done.

Last year, we started putting meeting information on our membership portal. That work continues in 2019 as Shura meeting videos — accessible to give members a way to see what is being discussed — are available on the portal. continue trying to dispense meeting information easily through our membership portal. We hope to continue the trend of making information available to let members stay informed.

CHALLENGES:
As mentioned above, we still have plenty of work to do on filling in the missing information for some of our members. We are missing email addresses, phone numbers, and dependents' information. We continue to make a concerted effort to get this information so we can communicate efficiently to with our members.

We have a lot of work to do on dispelling the notion that an ISGH membership’s value is simply for voting. A strong organization is dependent on its strong membership base. Numbers matter in this country, as with others. ISGH is composed of 15 big centers, all under one umbrella. This structure gives us leverage when speaking to elected officials in the county or city. It also gives the Houston Muslim community a platform to approach and be recognized by our law enforcement agencies such as Harris County Sheriff’s Office, Houston Police Department, and Sugar Land PD.
A healthy membership base will help ISGH stand tall and demand that elected officials listen to our concerns. In the end, elected officials care about an organization's numbers; that is why it is imperative that the Houston Muslim community become members of ISGH. Regardless of your personal views on ISGH on certain issues, the bigger picture for Muslims in the U.S. — especially Houston — is becoming a part of this organization and to have our voices heard.

FUTURE INITIATIVES:

We would like to add value to becoming ISGH members. The Champions Masjid location began a program letting ISGH members receive discounts at area businesses. I have sat with the team and Insha-Allah we plan to duplicate this effort and take it citywide. This will be a good incentive for Muslims to join ISGH and should help increase our membership. As I mentioned in Challenges, having a higher memberships number helps Houston Muslims have a stronger voice in society. ISGH allows us to look at different programs across the centers and duplicate them across all of Houston. We need to use the synergy that this structure affords us to help all our Masjids perform to their best.

“ISGH set a new membership milestone in terms in 2019 — we crossed the 8,000 member threshold...”
2019 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Alhamdulillah, our financial position keeps growing. We are sincerely grateful to those whose donations provided resources for our vision. Even though we are growing we still have a need for funds. Our future administrations must continue to control future projects and fulfill the forecasted needs of 2020 and beyond. Also, we cannot overemphasize the need to continuously raise funds for each program. Alhamdulillah, general funds available for the main center operations have also considerably improved. YTD 2019, we have disbursed 89 percent of funds received.

We had an increase in Zakat from 2018 of $1.3M to $1.81M — an increase of 14 percent for current fiscal year. In 2019, we did have a decrease of Construction Funds from $3.9M to $1.8M — a decrease of 46 percent.

One of the major things to tackle in the coming year is to have better forecasting and budgeting models to predict future needs.
• Through the end of August 2019, we collected $1.81M in Zakat and distributed $1.04M in rent, utilities, food, and education.

• Alhamdulillah we had a great Eid Ul Fitr at NRG Stadium. In 2019, The Zakat Ul Fitr distribution was $217,848.

ISGH began using a great system, the ISGH Crate Application — created by a humble volunteer, a very talented developer — that allows to not only request and disburse Zakat and Sadaqah on a monthly basis, but to also make reports for each center. Alhamdulillah, this allows ISGH to reach each zone’s need for its Community and immediately take action to disburse funds as needed per needy individual and/or family. This financial application has also helped us document and address ways to improve our community’s lack of resources.

Although we received $1.8M in Construction Funds this year, we spent more than $2.01M in Capital Expenditures for Construction Expenses. We are proud of the contribution, under the guidance of a loyal construction committee, has accomplished.

As for matters relating to subsidiaries, we consolidated accounts of Institute of Islamic Knowledge (IIK) and Islamic Education Institute of Texas (IEIT) with our (ISGH) audited accounts treating them as our subsidiary.

We will continue using HRSS LLP for our 2018 Audit. This helps us stay in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and the best practices for a nonprofit.
2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MILESTONES

We finally have a comptroller for the first time in ISGH history!

Please join us in welcoming Saira Fatah, CPA. MBA, as the ISGH Comptroller. Sister Saira comes to us with more than 10 years of experience in the financial industry, serving in controller roles for private equity, public accounting, Oil & Gas, healthcare, and real estate positions. Her attention to detail and expertise come from her accounting background where she worked with clients dealing with $5M to $1.8B in annual revenues. As comptroller for ISGH, Sister Saira will work to bring ISGH up to date with all compliance rulings for a 501C(#) Nonprofit Organization.

We ask the community to make dua that this appointment is pleasing to Allah and beneficial for her, ISGH, and entire Houston community, Ameen.

In the following months, we will work diligently to improving all Zakat and Sadaqah Policies, along with enforcement of all internal control systems.

ISGH celebrated its 50th Anniversary Gala this year at Hilton Post Oak. Our goal was to raise funds for the year ahead.

I thank Allah SWT for enabling us to continue to work for the service of our community. Also, my sincere thanks to the brothers and sisters who helped us and supported us in different ways for the pleasure of Allah swt alone. It is my most sincere supplication to Him, to grant us all in voluntary service, the true guidance to fulfill our duties. Ameen.
# ISGH CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT

(AMOUNT IN THOUSAND DOLLARS)

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<td>3,297</td>
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If you have any questions or need further detail regarding the above consolidated statement, Please contact Treasurer - ISGH / Accounts Department Main Center
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE ISGH PRESIDENT

AL-DA’WAH COMMITTEE
MUHAMMAD FAROOQ-I-AZAM MALIK, CHAIRMAN ISGH AL-DA’WAH COMMITTEE

Alhamdu-lillah, we have completed another successful year. This committee has five programs:

- **General Da’wah** – Muhammad Farooq Malik (chairman) and Abul Azad (secretary)
- **Mail Da’wah** - handled by Dr. Mazhar U. Kazi (vice-chairman)
- **Prison Da’wah** - handled by Dr. Syed Arshad (vice-chairman)
- **Interfaith activity** – coordinated by Abdur Rahman Siddiqui (vice chairman)
- **Community Outreach** – coordinated by Br. Ahsan-ul-Haq (vice chairman)

Each ISGH center should have a Da’wah committee — the chairpersons of these committees are supposed to be members of central Da’wah committee. Of the 16 regular centers, 11 have Da’wah committees, while five centers do not — even though the ISGH Constitution requires the establishment of Da’wah committee at each center. To accomplish Da’wah task, we have assigned various programs to various individuals so that rather than contacting the chairman of ISGH Da’wah committee people can contact the concerned vice-chairperson.

I made trips to some of our centers and response from our members was very good. I could not get all the volunteers together in a combined meeting to finalize our program because I could not complete my visits. I am still in process of getting volunteers from all centers to organize a comprehensive program relating to our general Da’wah efforts.

At central level, Da’wah brochures — Introduction to Islam, Concept of God in Islam, Status of Woman in Islam and What is and Who are the Muslims? — were printed and distributed. Some of our centers are using brochures developed by other organizations — which are fine, but we are also in process of developing more and updated brochures on current topics.

The following decisions were made for enhancing our Da’wah activities during the Central Da’wah Committee meeting:
Action Items for 2019-2020

- Quarterly countywide meetings.
- Develop toolkit for local Masjids for interfaith activity.
- Open house in each center of faith — Q&A sessions.
- Peace walk from Houston City Hall to the Islamic Da’wah Center, to the The Hines Center for Spirituality and Prayer, and to the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.
- From City hall to Tranquility Park— interfaith peace festival, art exhibits, etc.
- Promotional “Month of Da’wah” event in April 2020 for all ISGH Masjid.

Unique Da’wah Opportunities

1. Toy giving to sick children in a local hospital.
2. Encourage volunteering at local hospital.
3. Volunteer at local TV stations during their fundraising events, such as KUHT-TV yearly drive or KPRC-TV’s Habitat for Humanity function.
4. Volunteer for Thanksgiving dinner.
5. Volunteer for other organizations, such as mentoring kids with single parents at Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.
6. Take part in citywide parades:
   a. Thanksgiving Parade.
   b. MLK Parade.
   c. Cinco De Mayo Parade.
   d. New Year’s Day parade.
7. Da’wah thru art and culture exhibition — Display diversity of Muslim world through art and cultural programs.

Da’wah in non-Muslim focus group

Da’wah to Neighbors:

1. Door to door distribution of Da’wah materials
2. Ramadan iftar, gift baskets, and discussion panels regarding benefits of fasting
3. Food distribution
4. Blood drives and health fair
5. Health clinic service
6. Masjid Tour
7. Open house (such as an interfaith ministry dinner dialogue)
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO 
THE ISGH PRESIDENT

Al-Da’Wah Committee

Da’wah to other faith organizations:
1. Da’wah outreach
2. Islam 101 presentation

Da’wah through multimedia:
1. Mail
2. Facebook
3. Twitter
4. TV and Radio shows
5. Billboards
6. Brochures and pamphlets

Prison Da’wah:
1. Presentations to adults
2. Presentation to juvenile detention centers

Da’wah to local government officials:
1. Honoring First Responders.
2. Supporting families of fallen officers.

Da’wah Booths:
1. At local Masjid events — picnics, carnivals, or family nights
2. At local church events
3. City sponsored events — Winterfest
4. University events, such as International food fest or cultural day

Da’wah to new converts:
1. Educational classes in Islam — at center level
2. Welcome event — “New U” in December
3. Financial planning classes, job assistance, and marriage counseling
Da’wah for Muslims Focus Group:

Da’wah for adults:
1. Education activities

Da’wah for Teenagers, Struggling with faith:
1. Mentorship — Imam, youth counselor, or family therapist
2. Support group — Muslim friend circle
3. Crisis management — suicide prevention, depression, or other mental disorders

Da’wah for Refugees:
1. Islam 101 classes.
2. Financial assistance and counseling
3. Job assistance
4. Language classes — English as a second language
5. Child education

Volunteer recruitment and training:
1. Masjid Da’wah chairman training — Scheduled for 10 a.m. to noon, April 7
2. Volunteer recruitment and training event — to be determined
3. General Da’wah awareness event — centrally or locally

Declaration for the month of Da’wah in April 2020; address the following:
1. Khutbah encouraging Da’wah.
2. Da’wah table in Jumu’ah prayer.
3. Volunteer sign-up for distributing door hangers around local Masjid neighborhood.
4. Masjid tour and open house — invite neighbors and other faith groups.
5. Mailing out invitation card to neighbors for a meal and information session or a free copy of the Quran.
6. Mail out cards promoting facts about Islam.

Various Da’wah activities take place at each center through various seminars, night vigils, lectures, and open house programs. Reports relating these activities are in the reports of our zonal centers.

Details of Mail and Prison Da’wah activities are being reported by their respective vice-chairmen, Br. Mazhar U. Kazi and Br. Syed Arshad.
MAIL DAWAH PROGRAM
DR. MAZHAR KAZI,
CHAIRMAN ISGH MAIL DAWAH SUB-COMMITTEE

ISGH Shura in July 1997 entrusted me with the responsibility of organizing and conducting a “Mail Dawah Program.” This is a very comprehensive program that sustains and helps three different sectors.

**First sector:** We have an icon on computer: FreeKoran.com. Brother Imran Akhtar is responsible for this program. Following is a summary of his report. “In winter of 2018 the FreeKoran.com site was updated with a new design. Visitors are still given the opportunity to order a free Quran but are also given the option of ordering various booklets, brochures, and printouts regarding important dawah related topics. I have mailed a total of 1,423 Quran this year.”

My book, *Seeking Treasures of Quran*, is sent along with the Quran. Thanks to Allah! We are now using the 10th edition of this book.

**Second sector:** ISGH receives letters from prison inmates, from prisoners in halfway houses, and from prison chaplains for bulk supply of Islamic material. ISGH also receives similar letters from hospitals, youth camps, and libraries. I note down the material requested by each letter that is mailed by ISGH.

**Third sector:** Islamic Institute of Knowledge also receives similar letters. Since they do not have a mailing facility, these letters are brought to ISGH — usually at the end of month. I respond to each letter accordingly.

I make arrangements with a volunteer to pick up these envelopes from ISGH office and to deliver them to the local post office. I have run this program independently for the last 23 years.

As stated above, ISGH also receives regular requests from prison chaplains, youth camps, hospitals, and libraries for bulk material. I prepare boxes of needed material, take them to the post office and mail them myself. This is a part of my regular duty.

The program was initiated in the month of July. Following is data from July 2018 to August 2019:
ISGH provides only a few Salat booklet and postal expenses. All other expenses, for Qurans, books, and bulk postage to prison chaplains come from my personal resources.

Needless to say, the above data is correct to the best to my documentations and calculations.

Most earnestly I thank first Allah SWA and then ISGH for entrusting this blessing to me.

There is no strength and no power without the blessings of Allah (Quran)
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE ISGH PRESIDENT

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM: ISGH CLASS 101
DR. M.U.KAZI & MRS. ALIA H. KAZI,
CHAIRPERSONS ISGH ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

In fall of 1994, I along with my wife started informal weekly classes for new Muslim sisters at the ISGH main center; the classes started with six sisters, but their number increased. In Jan 1998, ISGH Shura approved the classes as an “Adult Education program” under ISGH dawah activities. The classes are held from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. every Sunday at the ISGH main center. This class is listed on the ISGH web page as “Islam 101 class” and open to born Muslims, new Muslims, non-Muslims … to all men and women.

All praise and thanks to Allah that ISGH this year completed 25 years of regular weekly classes for non-Muslims and new Muslims. The main focus of these classes isn’t lecture, but rather to offer non-Muslims a family support for their personal and religious needs. The classes have almost equal number of male and female participants — my wife has been an active participant and host in all of our activities. With attendance varying from 25 to 35 students, the classes are composed with international flair of race and ethnicity of Muslim Ummah — Indo-Pakistani, Arabs, Caucasians, African Americans, Chinese, and Spanish-speaking people. We end each class with refreshments.

Usually I start the class by saying, “We agree to disagree but respect each other.” I have a strict rule that no one will pass any book, brochure or tape to a newcomer, but will welcome them as a guest — with a smile. The journey of a newcomer starts with a dinner at our home. Even at home we avoid direct preaching and ask them why they want to visit our class, then I respond. This goes on for several weeks — often for several months. Allah guided countless persons to embrace Islam; several of them found their soul mates in these classes. Since this has been a regular class for the past 25 years, several people attend the class on a consistent basis. Moreover, several people call ISGH for various questions about Islam; they are all directed to these classes. I guide them in completing their projects.

Another unique feature of these classes is that they serve as a support group for convicted Muslims inmates re-entering society; they help them adjust to the Muslim world.

Every year, we have our annual get-together at the end Eid al Fitr; each new Muslim describes his or her experience before and after embracing Islam. In one these events a newcomer said, “We took Shahadah because of the love we received in these classes.” We made professional videos of a few parties and put it on YouTube. They are available for anyone interested at YouTube.com.
I have reached the ripe age of 83 plus years. This has slowed down my productivity and reduced my attendance of the class. I am now leaving Houston to live with my son Yasir Kazi in Dallas. Nevertheless, I have trained a brother — Ahsan Ali and a sister — Sonia Chen to conduct these classes independently. Moreover, I have also trained two young brothers — Nabeel and Ammar Habib and two sisters — Maleha Ali and Farah Habib to give effective lectures. It is my hope these people will continue these classes without my support. Insha Allah!

Most humbly, I offer my sincere apology if I have hurt anyone during my residence of 50 long years in Houston. At the same time, I earnestly thank first Allah SWA and then ISGH for entrusting this blessing to me and my wife.

“There is no power and no strength except by the Mercy of Allah”. (Quran)
Khutbah Committee Team

Chairman - Danish Hasan

Scheduling Coordinators
- a. Team Lead: Irtiza Hasan — South & Southwest Zones
- b. Camran Khan — SouthEast Zone
- c. Arshad Syed — Northwest Zone
- d. Hamza Kassim — North Zone
- e. Seeking South Zone Scheduling Coordinator

Training & Support - Basit Goplani
- a. Seeking new individual for this position because Basit is moving to Austin

Sister’s Rep — Amber Ansari, inactive because of school and other commitments
- a. Need to follow up if she is more available, or else will be seeking someone to replace

Quality Control & Improvement - Manage the feedback surveys
- a. Currently being taken care of by Chairman
- b. Spoke to and discussed with a sister who agreed but it didn’t work out; she was never brought onboard.
- c. Still seeking the right candidate

Potential new committee members to add
- a. Muhammad Hussein — Khutbah Depository project (see below for details)
- b. Seeking individual to handle tech & social media presence
- c. Seeking individual to head up Khateeb Academy

Khutbah & Khateeb Scheduling Process

1. There are 79 active & approved khateeb in current rotation
- a. Three pending khateebs applications to join, fulfilling requirements
- b. Five inactive — just stopped giving khutbahs
- c. Four unapproved, did not fulfill requirements but can return
- d. Four retired khateeb — moved, health, or age
- e. Three Removed

2. There are five zones — 18 ISGH Centers & two non-ISGH centers part of our rotation
- a. Three locations provide support services for khateebs requests
  - i. UHMSA - every other Friday
  - ii. Rice MSA - once per month

3. KC maintains khateeb background, area of work/residence, and time flexibility for optimum schedule.
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE ISGH PRESIDENT

Khutbah Committee

4. Schedules are released every two months
   a. Collect availabilities one month in advance
   b. Goal is to release schedule prior to last week of the next two-month period

5. Khateebs availability dates are collected every two months

6. ADs are asked to make requests for khateebs, if any.

7. The latest current schedule is maintained at: https://isgh.org/schedule

8. ISGH resident Imams/Scholars are assigned first Khutbah usually at their home Masjid (unless otherwise noted) and one to two khutbahs in other Masjid
   a. Assign five to six khutbahs to each ISGH Imam every two months

9. Volunteer khateebs are assigned per their availability and Masjid needs/requests

Khutbah Quality Control

1. KC does constant evaluation and provide feedback to all khateebs to improve quality through:
   b. Direct input from ADs
   c. Input from local organizers and activists
   d. Evaluations done by KC Chairman randomly
   e. All negative and positive feedback is shared directly with the khateebs, and monitored closely

2. KC holds semiannual Khateeb Meetings to go over the processes, policies and resolve any issues from khateebs

3. KC plans to have an annual meeting with all ADs to address their concerns and roll out some future initiatives

4. Many positive feedback comments have been coming through feedback forms. Since beginning, positive feedback has been steadily increasing vs negative feedback

5. Any online negative feedback is directly addressed by chairman and contacted directly to get their feedback and improvement suggestions

6. External organization provided some complaints and negative feedback on khtubahs.
   a. Contacted them to address concerns and see what process and data collection process they utilized to come up with their feedback. Did not return my request for meeting or discussion.
   b. Feedback was very anecdotal and unfair, but will try hearing their perspective
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE ISGH PRESIDENT

Khutbah Committee

7. All specific negative feedback for any Masjid or khateeb is directly handled by Chairman by contacting the khateeb or AD directly and discussing and coming up with a solution to avoid any future criticisms.

Khateeb Training

1. Only launched the new khateeb training
2. Three to four times yearly in each part of city — S/SW, N/NW, Southeast, & Central
3. Six-hour training with three-hours of practical delivery and evaluation
4. Already conducted at:
   a. Masjid at Taqwa — June 2018
   b. Pearland Islamic Center — Oct 2018
   c. An-Nisa Center, Hilcroft Area — Feb 2019
5. Planned for:
   a. ROIC — Oct 2019
   b. North Zone — Dec 2018–March 2019
   c. UHMSA — Nov–Dec 2019
6. Each training attended by 15–20 potential khateebs
   a. Sisters welcomed to attend to learn the process for their own benefit and to provide input and improvements
7. Out of a total of 35 attendees that attended the workshop:
   a. Eleven began doing khutbahs at various locations across Houston
   b. Five fulfilled all requirements to join the khutbah rotation as trainees by initially starting at smaller Masjid
   c. Two have been fully approved
8. Future goals
   a. Launch Khateeb Improvement workshops and trainings
   b. Create videos for part of the training via Khateeb academy

KC Future Projects & Initiatives

1. Khateeb Academy — no progress has been made, but the initial phase would make the current version of training’s first two to three hours available online to watch, learn, and take exams
   a. Which will always need to be followed up by practical khutbah evaluations
2. Khutbah Depository — Muhammad Hussein
   a. A depository of general khutbahs to be used as a reference point, for special topics, and talking points for commonly ignored or rarely mentioned issues on the minbar needed for the community.
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE ISGH PRESIDENT

Khutbah Committee

b. Initially started as a side project but planned to make integral part of khatib training, khutbah quality, and tackling a diverse array of relevant topics
c. Will utilize it to encourage khatibees to address topics relevant to general community, will also tackle issues relevant to special populations — converts, women, minority communities, and youth
d. Currently has 20 khutbahs in depository

3. Khatib Survey Responses
   a. Planning a campaign to increase responses
   b. Create flyers/posters for each Masjid — posted visibly every jummuah so people can take the survey
   c. Increase online presence by posting in various Houston Muslim groups

Finances & budget

1. Current budget from ISGH — lunch for 30 to 40 khateebs twice per year, approximately $1,500
2. Requesting a set yearly budget to achieve goals such as:
   a. Khatib Academy — $1,250
      i. Video recording and editing — Phase 1: training videos
      ii. Online platform set up with quizzes and testing
      iii. Contracting speakers to create videos
   b. Marketing and Awareness for Khutbah Feedback — $250
      i. Designing and printing posters to place in both brothers' and sisters' sides of Masjid
   c. Khateebs training — 15–20 attendees per training, printing packets and food (pizza/small sandwiches, $5 per attendee) ~$150 per event, four times per year ~$600
      i. Compensating instructors — $100 each, $200 per event, four times per year = $800
   d. Gas reimbursement — for those khatibees that ask for it, per ISGH discretion

Challenges

1. Too many Masjid, especially in the Southwest, are changing first jummuah time during the fall and not notifying the KC of their changes. KC has resolved not to make any changes to first jummuah schedule going forward as this is not responsible. We will accept these changes once they can inform us at least two months in advance.
2. Two Masjids with frequent coverage issues — Masjid Muhajiroon on Harwin & Alvin Musalla
   a. Mainly because of small crowd and distance, not many willing to go
   b. Chairman usually stays back up for any last-minute cancellations to cover Masjid
COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE ISGH PRESIDENT

Khutbah Committee

3. Resolved almost all issues to cover — Woodlands & Masjid al-Amine
4. Resolved previous khateeb’s no shows by removing or strictly reprimanding khateebs of this behavior
   a. We have had only two no-shows out of a total 1,040 Khutbahs in the last year = 0.19% no-show rate
   b. No longer give any reminders except post the khutbahs a week in advance to all groups
5. Recruited local emergency backups for most of the Masjid in case there is a no-show

Action Items
1. Recruitment— need to fill above vacancies in KC
2. Increase awareness of Khutbah feedback and survey form
3. Start soft launch of Khutbah depository
4. Year-round calendar of ranging topics (especially those often ignored) that need to be addressed at every Masjid at some point
5. Finalize procedural documentation of the following policies and procedures:
   a. New Khateeb Requirements and Approval Process
   b. Guest Khateeb Approval process
   c. Khateeb removal/banning process
      i. Finalize Khateeb grievance form and process
   d. Khutbah Feedback and how to handle negative feedback
   e. Khutbah scheduling process
6. Begin Khateeb Academy project proposal once interest is shown in providing a budget
As the Islamic Society of Greater Houston (ISGH) approaches its 50th anniversary, it has made tremendous strides as an organization and seen remarkable growth in the city of Houston. As such, the organization that was formed to serve the needs of the Muslim community in this city must naturally reflect upon not only what it means to serve the community, but how it does so. The services the organization provides are directly linked to structure of the organization and its ability to adapt to the rapid growth the city has seen not only within the Muslim community, but the community at large.

When ISGH was formed through the sacrifices and forethought of our immigrant generation, they could hardly conceive of the nature of the community they would need to serve today, either demographically or geographically. The diverse group of individuals that came together over the course of the past 50 years to support each other in establishing a religious foundation for themselves and their families realized that they needed democratic representation from across various sectors of the community. As the size of the city has grown, however, the structure has been challenged to keep up with maintaining an equitable representation of the Muslim demographics of the city as well as the talent the community has to offer. A re-examination of the structure would allow ISGH to offer a more inclusive, welcoming structure that taps into the strength of the human capital the Muslim community has to offer to both itself and the greater Houston community at large.

With the intent to create a more vibrant, empowered, and engaged Muslim community, a new structure is being proposed that leans away from the continuous demands of the election cycle and is based more on the talents of its constituents. The current structure is rooted in a short-lived election cycle that, due to the necessity of maintaining one's elected positions in order to accomplish even minor goals, shifts the focus away from productivity and servicing the needs of the community. With such a short election cycle, long-term progress is limited by the focus being on elections and membership rather than on programming or the needs of the community.

The newly proposed structure centers around the four core goals of Islamic Education and Practice, Community Service and Engagement, Visionary Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness, and Strategic External Relations. Islamic Education and Practice are the heart of what ISGH does through maintaining centers of learning and spiritual upliftment, but to be relevant in a changing society, the scholarly talent that provides that education must also be able to connect and relate to the diversity inherent within the community; the focus must be on building character alongside providing content instruction. This extends to the second goal of Community Service and Engagement, which puts Islamic Education and Practice into action. By engaging with the community and for the community, as a believer, one can fulfil the commandment of serving Allah through serving His creation.
These first two goals require an organization that is dynamic and resourceful. With Visionary Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness, we envision an organization that is both responsible and responsive to the needs of the community while holding itself to a higher standard. It is guided by the core values of spirituality, servitude, stewardship, transparency, diversity, compassion, and excellence and sets the strategic direction for the community. However, in doing so, it can and should engage in Strategic External Relations — its fourth goal — along the way. These relations with both Muslim and non-Muslim partners to serve the needs of the community and promote peaceful coexistence and religious understanding are critical to creating a healthy, dynamic society for all.

ISGH is truly a unique organization and the only one of its kind in the country in its scope, providing an umbrella structure to bring together in unity and coordination one of the most diverse Muslim populations in the world. The proposed structure would help raise the operations of the organization to better serve the needs of this population while also bringing it in line with other professional nonprofits. Some of these essential changes include separating operations and governance with operations being undertaken by paid staff; the governing body would be responsible solely for governance. Paid staff would include personnel such as an executive director and comptroller.

The essential governance structure would be comprised of three components: a board of directors selected through a nomination process, elected Islamic center directors representative of each geographic area, and individual Islamic center portfolios consisting of various committee chairs elected based on their talents to fulfill a specific role, such as outreach, social services, education, finance, or facilities management. What this overall structure provides is a balance between capitalizing on the talent within the Muslim community and democratic representation of the community. By selecting a governing body through a nomination process, the organization is able to bring in individuals based on the needs of the organization as well as the talents of its community members and is able to relieve the primary governing body of the burden of the election cycle such that it can focus on setting priorities to best serve the community.

The proposed structure will not only eliminate some of the discord caused by the election cycle, but will help bring in much of the talent pool and diverse community that has been unfortunately alienated by these politics or that have just not been invited in. The Muslim community in Houston has grown tremendously over the past half century. With the flourishing of new organizations serving the needs of this community, it’s important that the existing organizations also adapt to meet its needs.
Alhamdulillah, by the grace of God, 2019 marked a period of significant growth for the ISGH Sisters Committee. With an eye toward making a substantial impact, the Sisters collaborated and partnered with many organizations and experts to bring a diverse offering of quality programs to the community.

Red Tent storytelling
Fifty women from various faith traditions gathered to share their stories of joy and sadness, fear and adventure, and trial and error. There were many tears — and lots of laughter — as these women bonded over life’s peaks and valleys.

Hunger Games
We gathered and donated more than 1,200 pounds of food and volunteered 20 hours of labor to the Houston Food Bank.

Documentary Night
We set out to host a documentary night at every center to give families more opportunities for halal fun and intellectual discourse. Dr. Muthanna led a discussion at Bear Creek Islamic Center following a viewing of Koran by Heart, an award-winning film about a Quran memorization competition. We see potential in reigniting this series.

7 Habits of Highly Effective Families
Sister Rose Ashraf, a certified and trained 7-Habits trainer, conducted a three-day workshop covering these life-changing habits in light of the Quran and Sunnah. Many attended and benefitted from the event.

Convert Care Coaching
Shaykh Abdullah Oduro, formerly of KnewU and now a part of Yaqeen Institute, offered convert care coach training; he brought several new convert kits, which included books and a prayer mat. Oduro is scheduled to conduct the follow-up convert conference in 2020. Leaders from several organizations attended and are using this training to improve services for converts.

Last Will & Testament
We asked Shaykh Joe Bradford, an expert in the world of Islamic finance, to conduct a workshop on writing wills. The program was a big success in the Houston area and led to a series of workshops titled Write Your Will. Hundreds have signed up through ISGH to fulfill this Islamic obligation.

Support Group Development - Life After Divorce
We worked with several shuyukh and counselors to develop the Life After Divorce support
group, which includes a set of videos and a workbook that discusses different aspects of life after divorce such as healing, forgiveness, depression and loneliness, finances and caring for children. We completed our third group of seminars, helping many women and men along the way.

**How to Be An Ally — DV Awareness + Khutba Toolkit**
We asked Salma Abugideiri, Licensed Professional Counselor and Co-Founder of Peaceful Families Project to conduct a webinar discussing the effects of Domestic violence in our community, what responsibility an organization has and how we can all work together to bring better awareness and prevention. Her webinar was recorded and well-received here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeYQ-r8G8L2yUcGxtN7qGw

**Empowered Muslim Woman**
The Sisters Committee was a proud sponsor of Empowered Muslim Woman, a program delving into Abu Shuqqa’s eight-volume Tahrir al Mara fi Asri Risalah (Liberation of Women During the Time of the Message). The author intended to write a book about seerah using ahadith alone but found himself intrigued by the number of ahadith about women. Ustadha Safiya Ravat led discussions on Shuqqa’s work, centering on women praying in the masjid, mixed-gender gatherings, working, and other topics focused on female empowerment and education through re-aligning with the Islamic tradition. Many women joined this program and built long-lasting connections.

**Drawing Your Line**
Life coach Dawn Koufakis-Basel presented a workshop about prioritizing and finding balance between being a parent, a child, spouse, friend, or volunteer without overextending ourselves. The workshop was well attended and enjoyed by both brothers and sisters.

**Volunteer Onboarding**
To help ISGH recharge its volunteer base, the Sisters Committee held a volunteer onboarding event attended by more than 60 people. The community wants to participate in ISGH at all levels; we need to do a better job matching volunteers with meaningful work and help them feel like part of the team. The SC also created a volunteer page for anyone interested in signing up at isgh.org/volunteer

**Leonard Sax**
We partnered with Risala to bring world-renowned author and speaker Dr. Leonard Sax and well-known California religious teacher Imam Tahir Anwar to discuss technology’s effects on both boys and girls and how parents can stay connected while preventing potential harm.
CAIR
We had the opportunity to collaborate with CAIR to bring a series of workshops to ISGH mosques, including the importance of civic engagement and knowing one’s rights.

Intra Deen Dialogues
TAIBA joined the Sisters Committee to hold private dinner where diverse Muslims gathered to discuss their takes on important issues in the community. The conversation was a wonderful learning experience for all; we hope to continue them.

Gratitude Intensive
Ustadha Dunia Shuaib came to our community and discussed ways to cultivate gratitude, patience, and reliance on Allah. Her interactive talk helped attendees adopt a grateful mindset and find inspiration through the Quran and Sunnah.

Muslim Marriage Conference
We partnered with Suhba Institute and Shaykh Omar Husain to bring a conference about marriage to the community. Talks included preparing for marriage and how to navigate digital suitors for the singles track, healthy sexuality, and seeking help in a marriage for the married track.

Auto Clinic for Women
An experienced mechanic with more than 30 years of experience, Br. Naeem Khan led sisters on a two-hour workshop to learn more about how to maintain their cars — checking fluids and tire pressure, changing tires, and understanding the cost of common repairs.

Reclaim Your Life
Thirty sisters attended a spiritual retreat set in the natural beauty of the Piney Woods to connect with God, each other, and inner selves. Speakers Sarah Sultan, LMHC and Ustadah Safiya Ravat led sessions about building a direct relationship with Allah, reframing ideas about trials in life and looking forward to the future.

MS150
Team Sisterhood raised more than $10,000 at the MS150 as several sisters joined the fight against Multiple Sclerosis. ISGH sponsored the evening dinner for the team of 20-plus riders.

Good Grief for Helping Professionals
In a first-of-its-kind event in June, Muslim counselors, religious teachers, educators, and community organizers gathered to learn about grief theory, therapeutic elements, and intervention to effectively provide support for those who have lost loved ones. Plans of creating a bereavement group are in the works as way of giving assistance to the community.
Raising Fund for Barbara Bush Library
With the help of the Sisters Committee, ISGH donated $10,000 using Hurricane Harvey funds to help the Barbara Bush library stock its shelves with diverse titles.

Scholarship to ALIM
For the second consecutive year, the Sisters Committee awarded a scholarship to the renowned American Learning Institute for Muslims program to a sister in the community. Students learned about the structure and framework of Islamic sciences in a three-week intensive in Chicago.

Chair, Sister Shazia Ashraf, joined the organization as a full-time employee as Operations Director in June 2019. The Sisters Committee seat is open and we are actively looking for a sister to chair this committee.
Standing committees Reporting to the Vice President

ARTICLE VIII:
COMMITTEES SECTION 2 (J-Q)

ISGH FUNERAL & CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Composition
Organizational chart is shown to the bottom of the Funeral & Cemetery Committee.

Staff and Employees
Managing Director: Usman Vaid
Funeral Directors: Ahmad Rashad Blanton & Hassan Zahid (provisional)
Supportive Staff: Muhammad Rashid, Najiyah Kirk Abdullah, Abdul Rahman Jemal
Summary

With the Mercy and Grace of Allah, ISGH is operating two funeral homes in Houston and one Ghusul center. The funeral homes are located in the North and Southwest parts of Houston, close to Masjid Bilal and Masjid Hamza. We have a Ghusul center in the Southeast side of town at Masjid Abu Bakr Highway 3. In 2019, up until end of September, ISGH has performed 160 funerals, with an average monthly burial rate at 18 per month. The funeral committee is also developing the first exclusive Muslim cemetery in Waller Texas (290 and 99 area). Our reach to the community utilizes our website (www.isghfuneralservices.org), our Facebook page (@isghfuneralhomes), and WhatsApp groups for instant notification of funeral services.

- Operating three facilities
- 160 funerals from January 2019 to the end of September 2019
- Average of 18 funerals per month
- 290 Cemetery development ongoing
- 288 Land use as a cemetery is cost prohibitive
- Website launched in 2018. WhatsApp groups created to keep community informed. Facebook page live!
290 Cemetery Development

SWA was our landscape architect for the 290 cemetery. Landev Engineers (a company of Binkley and Barfield) is our Civil Engineering firm for design and development and preparation of the construction drawings. Status of the project is shown in the following slide. Delays in construction permit include: (1) Harris County modifications of the storm water management regulations, (2) County flood control district split off from Harris County Public Infrastructure department review process, and (3) County request to modify our roadside ditch design. Kickoff meeting between Landev and Harris County in July went well. Landev is in the process of submitting drawings to Harris County for approvals.

Funeral Information:

http://isgh.org/funeral
(832) 941-0766 / (832) 330-9905
funerals@isgh.org
Cemetery Development Fund

The Cemetery Development fundraiser was held October 21, 2018. The community came forward and donated $476,000 toward the fund’s overall goal of raising $1M. As of today, the balance of this fund is $511,663 (other monies were donated online and outside the fundraiser). We need your continued support to reach our goal and complete the development of this long-awaited cemetery.

288 Land Status

A third party (LIA Engineering) was hired earlier this year to study the feasibility of using this land for a cemetery. We reported last year that the land is in the 100-year floodplain. The findings report presented to the Shura indicated the land is in a 100-year floodplain with water table in the 4.5–5.5ft in 2 of the 3 areas monitored in the land. These levels were the same five weeks later. Cost of developing the land as a cemetery is prohibitive outpacing the original cost of the land. Land needs to be mitigated in the process losing acreage to perform the mitigation. The land is at a boundary with Iowa Colony. An ordinance published states the population was at 6,185 on April 1, 2018 (few months post purchase of land) deeming this land not adhering to the one-mile requirement for a cemetery. We are looking for feasible options in the South, Southwest, and Southeast sides of town.
ISGH EIDAIN COMMITTEE

Eid ul Fitr was organized and held at NRG Stadium this year. As always, a large group of enthusiastic Muslim sisters and brothers, dressed in colorful outfits, participated in big numbers. More than 12,000 people attended the Salat and listened to an inspiring Khutba by Shaikh Faraz Khan of Zaytuna College. We used LED screens for the first time and received positive feedback about them; they will be used in the future.

A special thank you goes out to all the volunteers who made this event a success, notably the following leads: Sr. Shazia Ashraf, Br. Zaheer Sheikh, and Br. Imran Tahir.

New this year:

- Food Trucks serving halal food after Eid Prayer at NRG
- MoonWalks for Children to enjoy after the prayer
**ISGH CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE**  
**ASHFAQ S. PEER,**  
**CHAIRMAN ISGH CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

1. **Composition:**

   ISGH Constitution & Bylaws Committee ("CBC") is composed of seven (7) members: Ashfaq S. Peer (Chairperson), Dr. Moien Butt, Afaq Durrani, Rashid Khokhar, Farooq Malik, Midhat Syed and Abdullah Najjar

   Changes: In January 2019, two members — Omar Khawaja and Saira Shah — resigned because of work and family commitments.

2. **Activities:**

   Significant activities which occurred (or are in progress) since the last annual report are:

   1. In third quarter of 2018, CBC developed necessary and appropriate language for eight draft bylaw amendments that were approved as Resolutions of Amendment by the Board; some of them were ratified by the joint session of the Board and the Councils at their annual meeting in September 2018 and became a part of the ISGH bylaws.

   2. In pursuance of the mandate given earlier by the Board in May 2018, to holistically review the Constitution and Bylaws, CBC identified, developed, and recommended in first quarter of 2019, 15 changes (as a first tranche) which were approved as Resolutions of Amendment by the Board and thereafter ratified by the joint session of the Board and the Councils at their semi-annual meeting in March 2019; they are now a part of the ISGH bylaws.

   3. During the second and third quarters, CBC recommended 18 changes, including one governance structural change package (as a second tranche). While some of these changes have been approved by the Board, others are under consideration ("tabled"). Upon completion of its approval process, approved changes will be presented as Resolutions of Amendment for ratification by the joint session of the Board and Councils at the annual meeting at the end of September 2019.

   4. As a part of its ongoing review of ISGH Policies and Procedures Manual, CBC recommended revisions to six existing policies and submitted 11 new policies during the second and third quarters of 2019, many of which have already been approved by the Board while some are under consideration and are expected to be approved in due course.

   The Committee membership remains committed, focused and engaged in its work.
ISGH JOB NETWORKING COMMITTEE
ABDELHAMID MOURSY, CHAIRPERSON

Composition:

Although JNC is an ISGH committee, it has members from ISGH and Non-ISGH communities. The ISGH Job Networking Committee (“JNC”) is composed of fifteen (15) members: Abdelhamid Moursy (Chairperson), Nasir Majeed (Vice Chairperson), Arshad Khawaja, Adnan Zafar, Hani Nouval, Farzana Ahmad, Afreen Rangoonwala, Bweny Kamaua, Mariem Khachane, Qamer Shah, Ghazala Anjum, Dalia El Metwally, Aabedah Abdulbari, Munezzah Shear, and Zona Bokhari.

Members cover the following communities (both ISGH & Non-ISGH):

- Masjid Bilal (Adel Road)
- Masjid Al-Salam (Champions)
- Masjid al-Ansaar (Woodlands)
- Masjid Al-Aqsa (Katy)
- Masjid Hamza (Mission Bend) & Tajweed Institute (Westheimer)
- Masjid Maryam (New Territory)
- Eastside Main Center (River Oaks)
- Masjid Al-Sabireen (Brand Lane)
- Clear Lake Islamic Center
Vision:
Empowering communities with career opportunities.

Mission:
Provide resources and networking opportunities to all for employment and career growth for a better community.

Approach:
Provide training/coaching, outreach programs, offering career connections with hiring companies, educational workshops, networking, career resources, and job leads in targeted Greater Houston Area networking groups.

Core Values:
- Uphold Quran and Islamic principles when serving local communities
- Foster an attitude of success, sharing and helpfulness
- Empower individuals to increase confidence within themselves to reach a dream through the help of professional coaches, therapists, lawyers, and Imaams
- Work as a community to help everyone — not only to be employed but also to excel in their career plans
- Provide Training to community members on needed subjects and skills
- Facilitate the certification of community members
- Advise and guide community members suffering from unemployment
- Provide citywide job fairs
- Provide practical and relevant connections
- Activate a citywide Mentoring Program
- Provide local workshops at every community tailored to their needs

Unified Action Plan For All Teams:
- Reach out to local community seeking training/jobs/internships/mentoring
- Reach out to local community members who can mentor/coach/train
- Reach out to local Job/Business Owners
- Identify skill sets/subjects which core team can facilitate and utilize Q4 to shine these skills and rebrand them
- Design and implement media plan
- Hold a remote monthly meeting to discuss the team progress

Contacts: Email: Jobs.networking@isgh.org  Website: http://isgh.org/networking
Activities:

Significant activities occurred (or in progress) since the last annual report:

1. JNC met twice to approve the committee's mission, vision, approach, core values, budget, and a unified community outreach approach throughout the city.

2. The ISGH job networking page is now live [isgh.org/networking] and currently hosts three different fillable forms for:
   - Employers looking to hire,
   - Individuals seeking employment or training, and
   - Those with the skills to offer mentorship within a particular subject or field

3. The committee is actively working to establish a sustainable and repeatable operation model that does not rely on any sole individual.

4. An effective advertising plan is being drafted to help promote the networking group by way of banners, flyers, post cards, animated advertisements, inclusion in weekly ISGH newsletters, and by having khateebs address the community during Friday Khutbah.

5. The committee is working to establish an effective mechanism to distribute job openings. Many avenues are currently being considered including various social media outlets.

6. On August 15th, 2018, five Whatsapp groups were created for job networking in Champions Community to facilitate career related networking opportunities. These cover IT, Engineering, Medical, Business, and General group. More than 200 community members joined the groups. This model is being replicated across greater Houston.

7. As of today, many job openings were shared within greater Houston. Many training workshops and job fairs took place in the past year.

The Committee membership remains committed, focused, and engaged in its work.
ISGH PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

With the improvements in the human resources in the main office, many strides are made to connect with the community. Special thanks to our Content Specialist, Sr. Alina Nusrat for the excellent work she is doing in this regard. Below are continued improvements:

- 2019 ISGH Calendar — Beautiful art-based calendar
- Graphically Aesthetic Monthly Newsletters
- Organization Press Release
- Active Presence in Social Media (Facebook, Instagram)
- Posters, Banners, Flyers — Creation for Events and Programs
- Infographic Design for our Financial Assistance Program
THE INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC KNOWLEDGE (IIK)
MUHAMMAD FAROOQ-I-AZAM MALIK – CHAIRMAN B.O.T.

Al-Hamdu-lillah, 2018-19 was another successful year. Major publications of the Institute, namely Al-Qur’an, the Guidance for Mankind — English as well as Spanish translation — have been well received by Muslims and non-Muslim entities throughout the United States and other countries including Canada, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, Australia, India, Singapore, Indonesia, South Africa, Bangladesh, and Malaysia.

Al-Hamdu-lillah, Al-Qur’an’s unique feature of Subject Index relating to various topics such as subjects relating to human life’s personal, family, social, cultural, economic, and political — national and international — aspects was appreciated by numerous individuals and organizations in United States and overseas. With the grace of Allah Suhanahu Wa Ta’ala we have been able to distribute more than 526,000 copies to date and this distribution does not include the publication and distribution in Pakistan, Malaysia, and Bangladesh.

We are pleased to inform that the Spanish translation of Al-Qur’an, the Guidance for Mankind is being well received by Spanish speaking communities in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, and other South American countries. Personal efforts were made to physically meet the Ulema in those countries with request for their reviews of this translation because we did not have enough reviews done to meet our comfort level. Its cover is similar to the English version, but green color is the base color in the Spanish version; the inside printing is in two colors — text and side notes are separated by a beautiful green border. We are in process of adding Arabic Text to this edition after significant reviewer input.

Like last year, we received several requests from overseas from countries such as Australia, India, South Africa, and United Kingdom. Based on the requests IIK has shipped several thousand copies of Al-Qur’an to these countries. A special request for more 2,000 copies was received from one Indian organization claiming several Hindus are accepting Islam (taking Shahadah) after reading this translation.

Al-Hamdu Lillah, Al-Qur’an is being published in the following countries:

- In Malaysia by A. S. Noordeen located in Kuala Lumpur
- In Pakistan by: (a) Al-Huda International, located in Islamabad and KARACHI (b) Islamic Medical Association located in Islamabad
- In Bangladesh by Banga Garments Ltd., ABC House, 3rd Floor, 8, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Dhaka-1213
The only condition IIK has is that the publication shall not be commercialized by these organizations. These organizations may, however, recover the cost of printing or solicit donations for free distribution.

Al-Hamdu-lillah, other projects accomplished include the development of Al-Qur’an software. Ayah by Ayah, paragraph by paragraph display with audio recitation in Arabic and reading in English, more than 11,000 references from the Holy Qur’an on various topics to be displayed in Arabic as well as in English, and the ability to export Arabic as well as English texts to word processors for developing books, writing Khutbahs, seminars and lectures. There is also Al-Qur’an audio CDs and Al-Zakah software — all verses of Holy Qur’an relating to Zakah, all ahadith in six authentic Hadith books relating to Zakah, calculation wizard, and latest fatwahs relating to Zakah have been made a part of this unique software. Al-Zakah software was not compatible with Windows 7 and Windows 8, Al-Humdu-lillah it has been upgraded and released.

What is Islam? Who are the Muslims?, our Da’wah booklet offered in English and Spanish is another successful publication. This booklet is in full color and is especially designed as a Da’wah tool for marketing Islam and to promote the understanding about Muslims and Islam. To date, we have distributed more than half a million copies. Al Hamdu-lillah, several organizations and individuals have declared What is Islam? Who are the Muslims? as one of the best Da’wah tools presently available. The English edition is in red-orange while Spanish is in green — like the color of the Spanish Al-Qur’an translation.

**New project completed:**

We have published As-Salat – the 2nd Pillar of Islam booklet, the Rules of Islamic Prayer, tabulating the Pillars / fraa’z (if one is missed intentionally or unintentionally, salat is not valid, Salat has to be repeated), Compulsory / wajibat (if one is missed, salat can be completed with sujud-e-sahw) and Required / Sunnan (if one is missed, salat is still valid, only reward / thawab will diminish — you do not have to repeat or do sujud-e-sahw) of salat and then explaining how Rasool Allah sullalaho alehi wa sallam offered his salat and he sullalaho alehi wa sallam said:

“Pray as you see me praying.”

We have completed and finalized Al-Wasiyyah software and made it available on the website for our Muslim community members to be able to execute their own Islamic Will through answering a few questions; this software completes the Islamic Will document ready to be notarized.
Last year we received a request from South Africa to print booklets for free distribution and to translate them in Afrikaans, Zulu, and Portuguese languages. We released Copyright to Muhammad’s Hardware, Laudium, and Pretoria and requested three copies each after its printing for our record. It appears this project is still in progress and has not been completed because we did not receive the requested three copies after their publication.

Projects in progress

Allah SWT said: “Who is better in speech than the one who calls people towards Allah, does good deeds and Says; I am a Muslim”

1. Booklets in progress:
   Siam / Fasting, the forth pillar of Islam, and
   Hajj / Pilgrimage, the fifth pillar of Islam

2. State of the Art Da’wah Center

Background

It is with Allah swt’s blessing that in 1969, ISGH started in a small house on 1756 Richmond Avenue and grew to more than 20 locations, started weekend school, started IIK, and now has its publications accepted and appreciated throughout the world. ISGH started IEIT and now has six full-time Islamic school locations. It started a Shifa clinic and now has five clinics. It started funeral services and now have three locations, two of which are operational. Now the only thing that we dreamed have not been able to accomplish yet is a state-of-the-art Da’wah center. We wanted this center to be more than 10 acres, to be located on a major freeway, and close to an intercontinental airport.

Al-Hamdulillah Allah swt has granted our wish and we are able get 14.139 acres on I-59 N, one exit before the airport, having almost 1,000 feet on the freeway. (See map for location)
With the special blessings of Allah swt, we plan to go beyond more than just building our community with Masajid only and giving Da’wah through pamphlets and booklets alone. We also need to provide physical wellbeing through soccer, baseball, and other games as well as space for interfaith, academic, and research activities.

Imagine a true state-of-the-art Da’wah center, that can fill our community with pride, one that would host both the Muslim community as well as the broader Houston community, opening true doors of friendship through Islamic Da’wah.

**Our Vision**

This new facility is to feature spiritual, family, and community resources for strengthening our community. On almost 13 acres of land it will feature showcases and halls about the lives of our great Prophets and room to share the rich history of Islam. We can offer audio, video and physical library for knowledge and spiritual wellness. It will house an excellent auditorium and broadcasting station for emancipating Islamic knowledge through broadcasting Khutbahs, lectures, seminars, and symposiums relating to various topics, providing guidance based on the Qur’an and Sunnah. There will be an interfaith center and an academic and research center. The well-maintained landscape will allow for outdoor celebrations, community barbecues, and interscholastic activities. There will be space for outdoor soccer, baseball fields, playgrounds, swimming pools and activities to strengthen physical wellness.

**Programs to include:**

- The state-of-the-art showcases for Adam alehissalaam and all five Ululazam Rasools: Nuh alehissalaam, Ibraheem alehissalaam, Musa alehissalaam, Isa’ alehissalaam, and Muhammad -ur- Rasool Allah sullalho alehi wa sallum. Each showcase depicts their lives and missions through posters based on information taken from the Holy Qur’an and Ahadeeth will teach the local community, colleges, and high schools’ GT classes. These showcases may also include interactive presentations on the monitors or TV screens. Our unique audio, video, and physical library will provide a relaxed and quiet setting for students and community members to learn and enjoy videos, books, and knowledge. The library will combine traditional Islamic manuscripts along with modern writings and technologies. Study areas and reading seats will provide space for visitors to research.

- The state-of-the-art auditorium will host lectures, seminars, symposium, and debates with broadcasting capability throughout the world. Conference rooms and modern classrooms will be added to accommodate regional conferences of ISNA, ICNA, and other such organizations.

- Interfaith dialogs, programs, and various activities to build the bridge between communities.
The modern gym will include a rock-climbing wall, a basketball court, and bleachers so that participants and their families can enjoy the facility. Our gym will be available for a member’s physical activity, as well as for community functions.

This facility will also include modern fitness studios featuring an array of exercise equipment and amenities. This uniquely designed studio will also offer a private atmosphere for male and female community members to enjoy, hijab-free. The fitness studio will also host a variety of exercise programming, from spin class to kickboxing.

Similar to Olympic-sized swimming pools for both males and females to use, enjoy, and train.

Free Offices for other Da’wah organizations such as ISNA, ICNA, MAS, Risala, etc.

Youth leadership training during summer vacation, including accommodation onsite.

Youth camp facilities for various youth programs of various religious organizations.

Vital services such as clinic, travel, groceries — on the complex.

Programs relating to drug abuse, battered women, child abuse, domestic violence, and senior citizens, with interaction and activities.

With a commercial kitchen, we will have onsite catering services and a hands-on learning space for students. This commercial kitchen will serve the community during events, Ramadan Iftars, and charitable soup/meals kitchen programs.

An onsite Café to provide the community with a cozy atmosphere and modern lounge where community members can meet, socialize, and enjoy delicious food as prepared by our kitchen. For business meetings or fun with friends, the Café will be a great place for people to relax and feel at home.

**Please NOTE:** Above description is what we have planned and is open to all for additions and improvements for maximum impact of practical aspects of Da’wah at large.

**CONCLUSION:**

All IIK Trustees appreciate the help, contributions, and cooperation of all our brothers and sisters, including ISGH Shura, Islamic Centers, Masajid and other organizations throughout the United States; they have helped in our mission of conveying the Message of Allah, in complying with the Mission of our beloved Rasool Allah Sullalaho Alaihi Wa Sullum, and of conveying Allah’s Message to the whole of mankind.
ISLAMIC EDUCATION INSTITUTE OF TEXAS (IEIT)

SALIM KUDIA, CHAIRMAN, IEIT BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT)

It was 27 years ago that ISGH established the Islamic Educational Institute of Texas ("IEIT") as a dedicated organization to provide "Excellence in Academics and Islamic Education" in both secular and religious tradition, to the children of our Community in Houston. The unique IEIT system of Islamic schools includes six (6) fully-accredited scholastic programs in the greater Houston area. Our mission is to ensure that every child achieves his or her maximum educational potential through an enriched academic and Islamic curriculum that is focused on preparing students for tomorrow’s challenges through the establishment of high Islamic values, community service, and moral standards. With the blessing of Allah (SWT), the IEIT School System currently serves over 1,100 students at its six campuses from Pre-Kindergarten to High School as noted below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Masjid - Location</th>
<th>Program / Grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Darul Arqam - North</td>
<td>Adel Road – Houston</td>
<td>Pre-K to 12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Darul Arqam – SW</td>
<td>Synott – Sugar Land</td>
<td>Early Childcare to 7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Darul Arqam – SE</td>
<td>Hwy 3 – Clear Lake</td>
<td>Early Childcare to 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 ILM Academy</td>
<td>Conrad Sauer - Houston</td>
<td>Early Childcare to 8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Everest Academy</td>
<td>Brand Lane - Stafford</td>
<td>Pre-K to 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Houston Peace Academy</td>
<td>Old Louetta, Champion</td>
<td>Early Childcare to 3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The IEIT Board of Trustees (BOT) continues to provide leadership and oversight to ensure each school has the resources to position itself for success and follows highest standards and guidelines. The IEIT BOT is made up of seven (7) citywide at-large members with diverse backgrounds and professions, and six (6) Advisory Panel Chairs representing each of the six (6) schools in the system. The September 2019 BOT is compromised of the following members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOT MEMBERS – AT LARGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Salim Kudia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Iman Ali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Eman Arabi-Katbi</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Mohammet Baianoni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Rizwan Quadri</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Faisal Afzaal</td>
</tr>
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<td>7 Muhammad Hanif</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>BOT MEMBERS – ADVISORY PANEL CHAIRS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Afaq Durrani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Fizza Butt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Fatima Khan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Camran Khan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Yemeen A. Rahman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The increase in enrollment at some of our new schools continues unabated; however, with most of these schools having reached their grade limits, i.e., no new grades can be added, the overall student enrollment is leveling out at around 1,100 students. Many of our schools have capital projects in progress to accommodate the growing needs of the community. Facility extensions have become a critical priority for all schools. 

Below are highlights from each of the IEIT schools:

**Darul Arqam North — (DUA-North) School:**
One of the first schools in the system, with more than 190 students, produces many successful high school graduates who have become doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, scientists, and Imams; some are active BOT and AP members giving back to their school and community for the last 27 years. The school needs a facility expansion and upgrade to be more efficient in serving its community. Space limitations are capping the growth of DUA North.

**Darul Arqam Southwest — (DUA-SW) School:**
A school with about 80 students that concentrates on strengthening the elementary and middle school. As one of the oldest Islamic schools under the banner of IEIT, its curriculum is based on TEA approved state standards. Its enriched Quran, Islamic Studies and Arabic (QIA) curriculum is an essential part of the student enrichment program. DUA-SW believes in strong character-building, a foundation for productive Muslim American citizens.

This school is also evaluating a project to upgrade its facility because of continued shortage of space and an aging infrastructure

**Darul Arqam Southeast — (DUA-SE) School, Hwy 3:**
Darul Arqam SE received its AdvancED Accreditation through June 30, 2024, Alhamdulillah! a commendable accomplishment. The school has about 65 students and focuses on Early Childhood Learning. This school takes small steps towards stability, consistently overcoming many challenges. The Southeast team is committed to continuous improvement, Insha’Allah!

**ILM Academy:**
Enrollment has increased to more than 200 students. Alhamdulillah, with phased construction, the new school building program is finally completed and is now fully operational. Although a spacious trailer has been added at the facility to provide space for the growing Early Childhood Learning Center, the “old” building was demolished and removed as plans are developed for a separate new Early Childhood Learning Center building on location.
Everest Academy:

From its humble beginnings — beginning in a 5,000 square foot space, with two staff members and an enrollment of five students — to 12 years later, Masha’Allah Everest Academy stands at about 450 students, a team of 55 staff, and a finished school space in excess of 40,000 square feet. First and foremost, this is due to Allah SWT’s Grace and Rahma and then the benevolence and support of our community, including students, parents, teachers, staff, and donors.

All of Everest Academy’s teaching staff hold professional certifications or are certified. Everest Academy continues to improve its infrastructure and facilities for the students, staff, and parents by A.) significantly contributing towards the purchase of approximately 2.5 acres of land next door and B.) recently completing renovations to create dedicated teacher’s lounge, a counselor officer, Qur’an Intervention Lab, as well as the 9th grade virtual classroom space.

Combining a unique blend of online 9th grade curriculum from Connections Academy and in-person religious studies and Beta Club under the guidance of master coaches, Everest is piloting a 9th grade classroom initiative as its first foray into the high school arena.

Everest Academy project management team is currently exploring plans for eight (8) additional classrooms and a high school caliber gymnasium facility.

IA our growth and continuous improvement plans will be shared with the community over the coming months

Houston Peace Academy (HPA):

This newest IEIT school showed a fast growth rate in enrollment since its inception, reaching an increase of 15 percent to 143 students in the 2018-19 school year. As the school was in the process of launching the design phase of its new school building to accommodate the growing number of students, HPA was approached by Spring Educational Foundation (SEF), an affiliate of Paradise Farms (PF), to merge with SEF. Paradise Farms is a for profit real-estate development company owned by some members of the Champions community. Paradise Farms was in the process of acquiring a 58,000 square feet existing school building and planned to lease it to SEF as a lease-to-own structure. Paradise Farms and Spring Educational Foundation proposed a merger of HPA (an ongoing operating school bringing in faculty and student body) and new SEF (bringing in the lease on a 58,000 square-foot school building).

In the midst of the discussions of the merger, SEF unilaterally signed a school operator agreement with Brighter Horizon Academy (BHA) of Dallas.

In order to keep the community together and combine its resources, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for merger was signed between ISGH-IEIT and PF-SEF in March 2019 with a goal to complete the definitive merger agreement by April, 2019.
This accelerated schedule was to accommodate and allow the “new combined school” to have enough time to plan its opening in the newly leased building. The HPA students and teachers were signing on to the new school entity SEF in a good faith merger process anticipating its completion.

PF-SEF, because of its unique for-profit (PF) & not for profit (SEF) corporate structure, was not able to deliver on the merger MOU with ISGH-IEIT — a response from SEF with this structural limitation was received on June 19, 2019. This course of action, by this time, left HPA without its students and faculty. Given the Champions Masjid Al Salam Community still needs a full-time elementary Islamic school, HPA decided to continue with its toddler, Montessori and k through 3rd grade elementary school program. Because of the lost time in the merger process, the enrollment had a late start. The registration currently stands at about 30 students. Given HPA’s 10 years of successful history and excellence in education, Insha’Allah, the enrollment is expected to increase.

All IEIT schools are focused on providing the highest level of Islamic and secular education in alignment with respective ISDs in their area. Our students participate in many standardized tests, scholastic competitions, sports competition, and other extra-curricular activities with other schools within and outside of IEIT School System.

As with all private schools, where the tuition rarely covers the expenses, IEIT has financial challenges that are overcome through the generosity of its community donors that allow our annual fundraisers to successfully cover operational cost deficits. Besides the individual school-focused fundraisers, organized by specific schools, IEIT conducted its citywide fundraiser late last year to raise funds to assist any schools with the most acute needs. Additionally, through a generous collaborative program, the first Friday of Ramadan — for a second year — was recognized and dedicated as “Islamic Education Day” in all of ISGH Masjids and Mussalas.

We would like to thank all our parents for putting their trust in IEIT and entrusting their children to us to provide them with the best education and Islamic foundation. We also recognize and thank all our staff for their dedication and support; their commitment is vital in ensuring that each student has a quality and positive learning experience. The willingness of the BOT and the individual school advisory panels to build a positive rapport with students, parents, staff, and community members will Insha’Allah add to the success of IEIT and the community at large. We would like to encourage parents’ involvement through the local informational meetings, parent workshops, parent/teacher conferences, parent surveys, and many other school activities. As IEIT continues to move forward, please know that your time, feedback, and support are all greatly appreciated.

The continued support of ISGH and its centers (IS) in many critical areas is also recognized and held in high esteem.
Alhumdulillah, Masjid Bilal is one of the largest and oldest Masjids in Houston. We are constantly trying to improve how we cater to our congregation, and every year, Masjid Bilal strives to provide the best and safest environment for our community members to practice and learn about Islam. Our Imam — Sheikh Eiad Soudan, and other members of the Masjid — work with the community providing different services which will be highlighted below along with a construction update.

Construction
Alhumdulillah, we have been able to complete the project we had planned for this year, as well as some more projects, aiming for an end of year completion date insha’Allah.

1. Community Center/Gym Roof Project
   - Masjid Bilal has successfully completed the gym roof project we planned last year. The total cost of this project was around $26,000, all of which has been paid off with the help of our donors, alhumdulillah.
   - Events and sports are held in the building, and now there is no worry of a leak during and after heavy rains that fall in Houston. We regularly hold dinners and youth events and will continue to do so insha’Allah.

2. Security Camera System
   - Another project we have is upgrading our entire security camera system with the generous help of one of our community members.
   - This will give us a uniform system that will make the Masjid a safer place for all insha’Allah.
   - We are about 80 percent complete with this and aim to have it finished by the end of 2019. New cameras have been placed in and around the Masjid compound, allowing us to increase the security and safety of our members.

3. Fence Project
   - The newest project for Masjid Bilal is to build a wooden fence surrounding the Masjid compound. At the moment, the fence surrounding the Masjid is very old and damaged in some places. It has been replaced in pieces but has not been fully renovated. Insha’Allah, the completion of this project will not only increase the security around the Masjid, but also help beautify it.
This project will cost around $30,000, which will be covered by a generous donor. It has been approved by the Masjid council, as well as the Shura and Construction Committee.

We aim to finish this project by the end of 2019.

Admin Position
Masjid Bilal is looking to hire someone for an administrative position. This position would handle the day to day activities required to run the Masjid operations. We are currently in the search for a good candidate with the right experience.

Social Services/Dawah Outreach
At Masjid Bilal, we hope to give our community members a place they can come for many different reasons besides just to pray, such as counseling, Quran classes, halaqas, and more. Below, we have highlighted some of the services we provide.

1. Halaqa with the Imam
   - Led by Imam Eiad Soudan
   - Held Sunday through Friday, between Maghrib and Isha salat
   - Different topic every week followed by a Q&A session
   - Youth night held every Friday — food and snacks are provided

2. Counseling with the Imam
   - Led by Imam Eiad Soudan, who is also a medical doctor
   - Addresses Islamic marriage/mental health issues
   - Held every Monday between Maghrib and Isha salat, or by appointment

3. Adult Quran Study Classes
   - Led by Imam Eiad Soudan, Hafiz, Dr. Laeeq Khan, and other teachers
   - Held every Saturday and Sunday after Fajr salat
   - This includes recitation as well as tafsir of the Holy Quran

4. Full time Hifz program for boys
   - Led by Sheikh Ansar Farooqi
   - Held 7:30 am to 2 p.m., Monday through Saturday
   - We currently have 20 students enrolled in this program and have produced many huffaz that lead prayers and teach Quran, alhumdulillah attending
5. Najra Quran Classes for young boys and girls
   - Boys class led by Sheikh Fareed, Girls class led by Alima Sadiya Bilal
   - Both individuals are highly qualified Quran teachers. Sister Sajda Lashkarwala also assists in teaching the children
   - Held 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, with 60 to 70 students attending

6. Weekend School
   - Around 110 students currently enrolled in our weekend school
   - We have a new and very qualified principal, Sister Chrystal Said. We have also introduced a new curriculum
   - Held 10 a.m. to 1:55 p.m., every Sunday, coinciding with the regular school year

7. Spanish Da’wah outreach
   - Masjid Bilal has a Da’wah event for our large Spanish speaking community in Houston
   - Held 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays

8. Prison Da’wah
   - Masjid Bilal started a prison Da’wah program many years ago that has expanded to other Masjid. Throughout the year, members of the community leading this program visit prisons to spread the Deen as well as connect with incarcerated Muslims
   - A group of members create a schedule and go on these visits every week on Saturdays and Sundays.

Dar-ul-Arqam North
Masjid Bilal is the home to Dar-ul-Arqam North. We are proud to provide a full-time Islamic school for our community. There are currently around 200 students attending, ranging from pre-K to 12th grade. Every year, Dar-ul-Arqam produces highly educated graduates who go on to colleges and universities, becoming successful members of our society and always giving back to the Masjid.
Finances
Alhumdulillah, we received many donations throughout the year, and collected $240,000 (including pledges) during Ramadan that will go toward construction, maintenance, payroll, security, sadaqa, and more social services. This generous help from our community will help us cover the remaining construction projects mentioned above. The charts below show the totals for each area of donations and expenses for 2018.

With the help of Allah, we had a good, productive year at Masjid Bilal. We plan to keep improving all aspects of our Masjid and hope to keep working to provide the best service to our community, insha’Allah. For more information, www.MasjidBilalNZ.org.
CYPRESS ISLAMIC CENTER
MOHAMMAD YOUSUF - ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

In this year we have progressed much more than previous years.

- Ground breaking of New Cypress Islamic Center complex May 4th.
- Fundraising during Ramadan was very successful, community donated $649,000.
- Construction is already in progress and building has been ordered.
- Dawah program is in progress.
- Interfaith dinner was scheduled and went very well — more than 110 attended; program committee chairs: Br. Ahmed Yousuf and Sister Ambreen.
- Zakat and Sadaqa has been very active, helping needy; committee chair — Br. Momin.
- Youth program is active with Br. Hafiz Hamza Ahmed, weekly programs.
- Women Program (Da’wah-e-Quran for Women).
- Communication and information — Br. Asif Siddique.
- Social media, information to community — Br. Hasan Abbasi.
- Sunday school is back in full swing and run by our community, volunteer teachers and Principal Sr. Anjum Naeem Hasan.
Masjid As-Salam (Champions) is located in Spring, Texas, and serves a large Muslim population Alhamdulillah. Masjid offers a wide range of programs and services catering from toddlers to seniors. Details are available on Masjid website, www.alsalammasjid.org, but the following are highlights from 2019:

Education Focus

1. **Weekend Islamic Schools**: Sr. Shahana Huq joins us as the weekend Islamic school principal for the 2019-2020 school year. She has 20+ years' experience in education and was the founding member of the Sunday school program at Bear Creek Masjid and full-time school at Darrul Arqum North.

2. **Summer Camp**: The camp was focused on building positive leadership among our children and creating a sense of community among the younger generation. The camp provided a creative learning environment with fun activities, field trips, basic math and reading skills, and daily reviews of Islamic studies and concepts.

3. **Houston Peace Academy Islamic School (IEIT)**: Elementary accredited school at Champions serving Preschool through 3rd grade (AdvancED and CISNA accredited, and G Suite for Education)

4. **Quranic Education**:
   - Weekday Quran memorization program; more than 60 students
   - Hifz and Nazirah program for girls, ages 5 to 18
   - Quran Classes for adult sisters
   - Tajweed with Sheikh Mamdouh

5. **Youth Development and Leadership**:
   - In 2012, Masjid began offering ACT/SAT College preparatory classes for grades 7 and up. The latest session was held during this summer.
• Enriching scouting programs at the Masjid serve our community’s youth. All levels of youth organizations are offered at Champions: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts — and the new Venture Crew program for girls, ages 14 to 21. The Masjid has been named the “Phoenix District Chartered Organization of the Year” for supporting the scouting program; it’s an honor to be selected among many organizations sponsoring more than 83 scouting units. Our Girl Scouts Troop 13467 Robotics Team (STARbots 40648) won the First Place Champions Award in their qualifier and advanced to the regional level.

6. New Muslim Class: Meets biweekly and addresses the needs of new Muslims in the community. The program is run by Sh. Yahya Graf.

7. General Lectures: Lectures and khutbah are planned and focuses on a monthly theme set by the Education Committee and our resident scholar. In addition to the many lectures offered by Sh. Mamdouh in hadith, Fiqh and Islamic sciences, awareness programs are held at the Masjid; they focus on volunteerism, leadership, health, legal, counseling, and other topics.

8. Fatwa Night: A regular monthly event held on the first Friday of the month, led by Sh. Salah Elsaway and moderated by Sh. Mamdouh.

9. Ramadan Adult Program: Spiritually uplifting educational program was held this year.

10. Ramadan Youth Program: The Youth Director’s office delivered a well-attended and engaging youth program.

11. Life Skills: Active shooter training

12. ESL Classes: Classes will begin soon

Human Resources Focus

Increasing the Masjid’s human resources footprint has been an essential part of the administration’s focus since 2017. Below are the two different roles and positions that were created and filled:

1. Masjid Administrator: After a full-time administrator was hired in 2017, we added a part-time administrator to handle tasks mainly related to weekend schools and two weekdays to provide seven days a week service to the community. This position will also handle administrative tasks.
2. **Masjid Youth Director:** Br Hassan Masood joined us as the full-time youth director at the start of the second quarter, 2019. He has years of youth development experience and has innovative plans for the tarbiyah of our youth. The Office of Youth Director works closely with our Education Committee and resident scholar.

**Dawah and Outreach Focus**

The Da'wah and Outreach Committee have been working to improve community engagement. Following are highlights of the programs and activities sponsored by the team:

1. **Open House events**
2. **Blood Drives with Gulf Coast Blood**
3. **Interfaith Activities:**
   - Honoring our First Responders
   - Interfaith joint youth activities
   - Iftar and dinner during Ramadan
   - Ramadan gift baskets for neighbors
   - Spring Interfaith Muslim Jewish Eid luncheon
   - Leadership dinner meeting organized by Houston Northwest Church

**Civic Engagement**

The Committee is in regular contact with local law enforcement agencies as well as both political parties — especially after the New Zealand terrorist attack on a Masjid. The Committee is also planning on holding a “Meet the Candidate” event before the 2020 Election.

**Construction Projects at Champions**

1. **Athletic Complex Development:** A shared soccer/cricket field with a 6-foot wide walking trail surrounding the field. Civil and architectural designs are complete and received County approval. We need to submit drawing update to address drainage flow in the drawings. Construction Committee recommended to manage the construction in-house. Contract for water well was awarded. Contractor to apply for the permit from the concerned authority. Contractors for sprinkler system, fence, and walkway have been shortlisted.
2. **Storage, conference room, & senior’s lounge development**: The approved location is next to our Multipurpose Hall. The two-level building will feature a covered area of 5,400 square feet (2,700 at each level). It will cover kitchen, storage, and senior’s lounge/toilet on first floor and conference room and youth lounge on the second level. Drawings have been submitted to the County for approval, and we submitted our reply to the queries. Currently waiting on the final approval and release of the permit from the County.

3. **HPA/Weekend Islamic School Building, Phase 1**: Project is on hold because of change in the scope and current need for the building.

4. **ADA building improvement**: Project has been successfully completed within the budgeted amount.

**Social Services and Financial Assistance**

Many avenues are available at Champions to address the needs of distressed community members. The following are notable accomplishments on the social services front:

1. The merger of Sadaqah and Zakah in 2017 increased the efficiency and timely responsiveness to the community’s needs. We witnessed an increase in the number of families assisted — averaging 22 to 25 households per month. We also assisted other Islamic Centers as well as our non-Muslim community members on a regular basis from Sadaqah funds.

2. Since the beginning of 2019, the **Save A Dime program** has catered to one-time, urgent in nature needs. Save A Dime has benefitted 20 plus individuals with help for rent, utilities, medical bills, and other important expenses.

3. The **Interest Free Loan program** provides up to $2,000 loans to address urgent unexpected needs.

4. **Student Scholarship** — The need to establish an education fund to assist students in paying for college and vocational training courses began in 2017. Using some of the Sadaqa funds as seed money, Masjid Al Salam Scholarship Program has delivered the aid to help 11 students in 2018 and eight students in 2019.
5. **Advanced Job Networking Group** — This group was formed to use networking to find jobs, switch jobs, and career advancement. Attendees learn how to develop networking skills and how to write effective resumes.

6. **Community Events** — Spring Community Picnic, Eid Clothing Drive

**Media and Communication Focus**

Several improvements were executed in the Masjid media and communication front:

1. **Masjid website, alsalammasjid.org**: a responsive platform that pushes notifications and serves as the central repository for all Masjid social media channels

2. **Masjid AV Infrastructure**: Livestreaming capability being upgraded to reduce downtime with reliable remote controlled scheduling capabilities. This will ensure the outreach of our program’s audience, thereby serving a larger community.

3. **Masjid App**: The current app was used primarily for push notifications. A new App with enhanced features is in development and will soon be available for download.

**Seniors Focus**

Masjid Administration’s goal is to always provide our seniors with all the recognition, provide comfort and ease in accessing to, and movement around, our facility. The following are some of the key initiative taken:

1. **ADA compliant building improvement** for our seniors and handicapped guests of Allah swt.
2. Hold “Seniors’ Panel Discussion” to benefit from the wisdom of our elders.
3. **Seniors’ Club**

**Youth Focus**

In addition to the aforementioned youth leadership programs and interfaith youth events, the youth committee’s focus has been on reminding children and teenagers that the Masjid is a welcoming place. The end goal is to develop patience and raise leaders of the pious. Some of the Champions Youth Committee large-scale events:
1. Youth Panel Discussions — e.g. vaping and smoking
2. Puberty Classes for boys and girls for ages 11 and up
3. Youth Tarbiyah nights
4. High School Sisters Halaqas
5. Elementary Halaqas
6. Spring and Summer carnivals
7. Spring and Summer youth BBQ
8. Youth campout
9. Bonfire, followed by a lecture by young khateeb
10. Eid celebrations

Champions Sports/Athletics Program

Our Masjid welcomes youth and adults, boys and girls, to utilize the Multipurpose Hall and hold different sports/leagues in the Masjid. Following are the highlights of our sports activities at the Masjid:

1. Summer basketball training and basketball league for youth from elementary to high school. Regular weekly women’s only basketball practice games
2. **Badminton** — games are held weekdays and weekend mornings; currently, there are about 20 active players.
3. **Table tennis** — regular weekly games played in the evening, about 15 regular players in this club.
4. **Soccer** — Alsalam Masjid soccer club was winner of *Houston 2018 Intermasjid Soccer Tournament* comprised of many Houston area Masjid teams. Our club is one of the largest Masjid sports clubs; it has more than 40 members with active games every Friday and Sunday. The team is comprised of kids, youth, and adults.
5. **Cricket** — The Champions cricket club has 15 active players. Our team is a very promising and talented squad that consistently performs well in Houston cricket tournaments and finished second in the 26 team fall tournament. Also, our cricket team’s captain won the **best bowler award** in the TCC tournament.
6. **Volleyball** — Youth team plays frequently in the new indoor basketball court in our Multipurpose Hall. The team is comprised of about 15 active players.
7. **Mixed Martial Art** program for kids and adult
Other Activities / Initiatives

Our masjid took several initiatives and collaborated with non-ISGH organizations to provide wider services to the community:

1. **ISGH Discount Book:** In 2018 our Membership team came up with the idea of launching a Vendor Discount Book to encourage community member to become ISGH member. The response was very positive, and we noticed an approximate 20 percent increase in membership.

2. **Muhsen Certification:** We initiated the Muhsen Certification Process in order to provide accommodations for Muslims with Special Needs within our community. We expect to be certified by the end of Oct 2019.

3. **TAIBA:** One of the few Masjid in ISGH who has started the Jum’uah Welcome Initiative program to create a more welcoming Masjid to ensure we don’t alienate people — especially women, young adults, and converts.

4. **HHRD:** Feed 800 Syrian Families in Jordan/Lebanon in Ramadan

5. **Stem Cell Drive:** Houston Swabs for Sawab

6. **Write Your Will Seminar** by Sh. Joe Bradford

7. **Islamic Art Society:** Hold yearly IAS Festival in November, attracting approximately 5,000 community members during this two-day event.

Thanks and Gratitude

We thank Allah for His bounties and blessings. We would like to thank all the volunteers at Champions for ensuring smooth operations at the Masjid and for being in the forefront of executing the aforementioned projects/activities. We also would like to thank the community and our generous donors for stepping up whenever they are called to fulfill any needs at the Masjid. Jazakum Allah Khairun.
Alhamdulillah, ILM Academy was able to complete construction of the upstairs of the building with the completion of the science lab as well as an additional staff work room. Enrollment remained steady at 204 students from infants through grade 8. We continued having a full-time security officer and expanded security officer duties to cover any after-school activities. Security cameras were upgraded/updated. The “Old Building” (original building on the site) was demolished and grass was laid in its place to create a play area. Plans began for expansion of the main building.

Events & Highlights:

- STEAM classes continued one time per month for all elementary and middle school students through Smart Core Labs. Teachers began incorporating STEAM type activities into their classes to encourage higher order thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Hot lunch program was expanded to provide lunches to students five days per week.
- We continued to have guest Khateebs come in to provide Khutbas that are relevant to our students.
- Our 7th grade boys go through “Khateeb Training” and take a turn giving the Friday Khutba. Girls take turns giving a Khatirah on Friday morning.
- Safety Patrol was trained and took responsibilities for arrivals and dismissals.
- Student Council elections were held after a week of campaigning.
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing was continued, three times per year, in order to track student progress and identify students in need of interventions, as well as those students who need to be challenged. Results were analyzed to determine if curriculum adjustments were needed.
- PTO held a successful teacher “Meet and Greet” which saw high attendance.
- Continued with ILM Alumni Meetings and expanded the definition of those who were eligible to be more inclusive.
- Counselor was made available to students and staff at least one day per week.
- Continued providing monthly “Conversations with the Counselor.”
- Quarterly “Coffee with the Principal” events to provide a forum for parents.
- PTO organized a “Fall Festival” for the community.
- During Health and Safety Week, arrangements were made for visits from a fire truck, ambulance, and a dentist. During this week, there were also puberty talks and a blood drive.
The whole school participated in Spirit Week.
Students participated in Science Fair.
Professional development courses were provided for teachers.
Montessori parent events — Muffins with Moms, Breakfast with Scholastic Book Fair
Grandparent’s Lunch
Students participated in DUA Basketball Tournament
PTO made an addition of climbing equipment to the playground to provide activities for older students.
Students participated in PSIA competition
Students participated in Quran competition
Arranged for Crimestoppers to give a talk about cyber safety
Annual ILM Academy Gala Fundraising Event
Interfaith — Partnered with St. Cecilia’s Catholic School for three events: Students shared the basics of their faiths and noted similarities, and at a later date partnered in a community service event.
Eighth grade Washington, D.C. trip
Held Ramadan celebrations with parents to present student writings related to their reflections on the month, and crafts
STREAM activity day (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts & Math)
Annual ILM Academy Iftar fundraising event
Interfaith — Iftar event with Jerusalem Peace Builders

For middle school we continued with our Model UN classes for 7th grade to prepare them for the 8th grade Capstone class. Public speaking and drama curriculums were updated; advisory topics were adjusted to meet the needs of the students.

Our Quran curriculum was updated to meet the needs of the students and was on a five-year plan for gradual implementation, which was completed this year.

Overall student population has become much more diverse.

Challenges:
We don’t have any additional rooms available for expansion, which also limits the number of students and new families we are able to accommodate from year to year. This also limits our fundraising abilities. Plans for expansion will begin in the next school year.
SPRING BRANCH ISLAMIC CENTER, WEEKEND SCHOOL  
LAILA ZARIFF - PRINCIPAL

Alhumdulilah we had a successful year with a full calendar of activities. During the school year, 140 students attended the weekend school (Sundays only). The current school session finished in May and ISGH upper management attended the graduation ceremony.

We are teaching three subjects: Quran, Salat & Dua, and Islamic Students/Seerah. We hired qualified Arab teachers to teach Quran. We now have 13 teachers — nine are paid and others volunteer. The administrative staff consists of one paid clerical staff, one security guard, and one cleaning person. The principal, vice principal, and treasurer are all volunteers.

We are proud to continue partnering with Sakina (first ever weekend school program for special needs children). Ten Sakina children integrated with our regular Sunday school; five of them were part of the inclusion track where they attend one class with regular Sunday School students.

Some of the highlights of the year:

- Community Service Day: We held our Annual Community Service Project in March and partnered with FEAST — Friends Engaging in Serving Together — an organization providing food and clothing for the homeless. Its purpose is to inculcate the concept of charity and give back to the community. Our students prepared 180 hygiene packs — all donated — for the homeless and the distribution was done near Minute Maid Park.

- We had Breakfast with Moms in which mothers, grandmothers, and students participated.

- A Teacher Appreciation Lunch took place where teachers were honored for their hard work.

- Special Eid lunch was arranged for our students.

- We held two interactive sessions on “Anxiety: How to recognize it, communicate to the parents and seek help,” led by a pediatric psychiatrist Dr. Sadaf Javed.

- We honored our teachers and staff at the graduation ceremony in May.
Senior boys, girls and adult Quran classes:

Besides our regular classes, we have multiple Quran classes for adult brothers and sisters which take place every Sunday. We have senior boys and girls Quran Tafsir and Hadith classes.

Br. Joe Bradford teaches the adult Quran Tafsir and Sr. Farhat Shamsi teaches ladies Quran Tafsir. Participation of parents in these classes is overwhelming.

Recent changes:

Security cameras are in place to monitor the premises activities around the clock. A black fence screen has been placed around the school fence for additional security and safety. We hired a security guard who patrols the area during school hours.

Challenges:

We support families who cannot afford tuition fees for their children, as well as convert students. We continue to face problems in trying to get tuition fees from the ISGH Zakat fund. This coming semester we will include refugee families at our weekend school at no charge. We need help from ISGH Upper Management to solve the Zakat related issue.

Vendors are not being paid on time when purchases are made for Sunday School books.
RIVER OAKS ISLAMIC CENTER
AAMER JAMIL - ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Highlights

- Regular Urdu classes held by Indus Arts Council (IAC); Sunday School is operating at full capacity with growing waiting list.
- Daily Ramadan/Shawaal Iftar with monthly attendance of more than 7,500. Additionally, we had Taraweeh, Qiyam Layl, and I’tikaf for both men and women.
- Monthly family programs and events, including partnership with local Muslim groups such as AlMaghrib and Risala Foundation.
- Interfaith events for local high school students, Jewish organizations, and churches.
- Continued financial support for individuals and families through Sadaqah and Zakat Monthly.
- Qiyam Breakfast Club — last Sunday of the month.
- Quranic Arabic classes taught by Dr. Muthana Alkhadi — Level 1/2.
- Islam 101 — Dr. Mazhar Qazi.
- ROIC Sister’s Group has a growing list of activities including bi-monthly marriage matchmaking events.
MARYAM ISLAMIC CENTER
FAIZAN ATIQ - DIRECTOR
ANWER WADIWALA - ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Maryam Masjid serves the Muslim community in Sugar Land and surrounding areas.

Weekend Islamic School:
Our Weekend School has a total of 360 students. Our principal, Sister Dalia, trained the ISGH teachers extensively to prepare for the 2019-2020 school year. Our mission is to teach kids about Islam in a very friendly and positive environment.

Maryam Quran Academy:
Maryam Masjid’s full-time Hifz program expanded into three classes, 35 students, and three full-time teachers; the classes take place in the marble area.

Nazra classes:
These classes, led by the Imam and qualified teachers Monday through Thursday, are held to teach proper tajweed and recitation of the Quran.

Youth Development and Leadership:
We have youth Halaqa Fridays after Maghrib and invite speakers from the Muslim community to speak to the youth and engage them in various activities. We have two Halaqas specifically for girls held Fridays and Saturdays. The focus is on learning topics related to Seerah and Spirituality; we encourage bonding and support from other young Muslimahs.

- Maryam Islamic center has Junior Girl Scouts that engage in community programs.
- We have a soccer team and very soon the weekend school will be starting a basketball team.
- We have sports Sundays where sisters are encouraged to participate in sports on the field.
- The Fajr club is a very active part of our community — kids and parents come every Sunday to hear lectures and talk about Islam, followed by breakfast.
- Twenty students attended our Teen Quran camp during spring break. This gave them a chance to stay engaged during their vacation.
- High tea for girls and ladies was held. Mothers and daughters thoroughly enjoyed this event, which featured different female speakers and activities for the attendees.
• Mom and Tots Fitness and Nutrition, a bi-monthly workout class, is a class where mothers not only find mutual support from other mothers but also engage their toddlers in Islamic classes and Nausheed’s.

• Imam Ahmed Khan spearheaded different initiatives and lectures aimed at the youth in the Masjid. One of his main initiative is AMAL — American Muslim Active Learning Initiative — developed by Maryam Islamic Center to promote practical application of Islamic ethos. His classes, which garnered plenty of interest and excitement from the youth, included topics like changing one’s condition and developing future leaders. There are various speakers for youth Halaqa nights.

Dawah and outreach Activity:
In January, we held the Fort Bend Interfaith Martin Luther King Youth Day of Service. Our youth did service projects, introduced themselves to youth of different faiths, and encouraged conversations about Islam.

We have Arabic grammar, Aqeeda, and Fiqh classes that take place on various days of the week.

Maryam Masjid’s interfaith team meets once a month to discuss various programs that they run with community schools and local organizations. Various schools take field trips to and tour our beautiful Maryam Masjid and learn about the beauty of Islam.

During Ramadan, Maryam Islamic Center held one of the largest interfaith Iftars at our facility; leaders from the Jewish and Christian faiths engaged with different faiths visiting our center. The congregants invited their friends from other faiths to learn about Ramadhan and experience Iftar. The Mayor of Sugar Land and other dignitaries attended this event.

Summer Camp:
We had the most successful summer camp in our Masjid, with more than 100 students attending this five-week long event. The camp, which included art classes, Quran and tajweed classes, and Islamic history lessons, was organized by Sister Dalia, the weekend school principal.

Ramadan Program:
Alhamdulillah we had a successful Ramadan with two community Iftars per week. The taraweeh was led by three Hufaaz. We had ample police officers to direct traffic and to keep the premises secure.
Construction project:
Alhamdulliah Maryam Masjid was able to buy the land opposite the Masjid which gave us space to build a new parking lot before Ramadan. Masjid has collected funds to create a multi-purpose facility/community center. During Ramadan we presented a documentary to the community about the construction of Maryam Meadows, a community center that will include a basketball court, classrooms, and a banquet hall for events. The MIC construction team met with the mayor and the engineering department of the City of Sugar Land and were informed that the City is drafting a development agreement to present to Sugar Land City Council for approval. The approval is expected by the end of October, at which time the construction of MIC extension will begin, InshaAllah.

Zakat and Sadaq:
Maryam Masjid has a Sadqa and Zakat committee that meets weekly. Those in need come to the office with their bills and documents. The committee determines eligibility of cases that need Zakat and Sadqa help. MashaAllah Maryam Masjid has been able to help numerous people in need.

Yearly Backpack Donation:
Led by Sister Safia Mistry those students in need are provided backpacks full of school supplies for the year.

Mediation and family Counseling:
Families meet with Justice Shahzado to discuss marital and family issues. He has resolved numerous conflicts.

Our Goals for the year:
Maryam Masjid is thankful to our Southwest Director Faizan Atiq and Associate Director Anwer Wadiwala for their extreme hard work and dedication in keeping the operations of Masjid running smoothly. Our main goals for 2019 are to further engage the youth of Sugar Land in community programs and to unite the Muslim community and generate awareness on the real meaning of Islam and the message of peace. We intend to have more family nights, workshops, and classes for the community. We also emphasize to our members the importance of an ISGH membership.
Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh,

Masjid Hamza has been a great blessing for not just the immediate community but for Houston as a whole. We provide many programs and activities for the youth, adults, men and women, boys and girls along with interfaith projects. It has been our utmost concern and goal to make sure every member of the community can find something for themselves and benefit both physically, mentally, and spiritually.

For the youth we have a set of activities such as:

- Quran classes both in the morning and evening hours.
- Islamic education with a thorough understanding of the five pillars of Islam along with the six pillars of Emaan.
- Student counseling and advice regarding student affairs.

These programs have been a great benefit to the youth and aids them in bonding as a community. It has also been an encouragement for the youth to take comfort in the Masjid, protecting them from today’s pressures. It allows them to gain the necessary knowledge needed in making the best decisions as a Muslim. As for the adults, we take key measures to ensure that they benefit both spiritually and intellectually. These programs consist of numerous workshops and lessons along with the many services we provide. Amongst them are:

- Aqeedah, fiqh, and taharah lessons after prayer
- Family counseling
- Marriage counseling
- Nikah services
- Ruqyah services
- CPR classes
- Accounting classes
- Workshops on numerous business ethics
We have received a tremendous response. The community seems to be in good spirits; many have expressed their contentment and have benefitted greatly. We provide the entire community with essential services needed in order to aid them in the many aspects of life. Among the services are:

- Funeral home to assist in the preparation for the families of the deceased — washing and shrouding.
- Community center to carry out programs and activities.
- Helping and assisting the sick.
- Interfaith dialogues to have cooperative, constructive, and positive interactions between people of different faiths.

Masjid Hamza provides a great benefit to the community and its interests. We will continue dispensing beneficial knowledge, both from the religious and social standpoints.
ISGH SOUTH ZONE

BRAND LANE ISLAMIC CENTER
JAVED MALIK - DIRECTOR

ISGH South Zone is located on the south side of US Highway 59. Its boundaries on the south west side stretch to Rosenberg -Richmond area and to the north-east side up to Houston Medical center. South Zone has one Islamic center (Brand Lane Islamic Center) and three musallas (Almeda, Hilcroft, and Riverstone). The center and musallas provide a welcoming atmosphere to all community members and visitors from around the area. Though zonal activities have increased over the past one and a half years, there has been a temporary pause in the activities at Brand Lane Islamic center due to Masjid expansion.

Brand Lane Islamic Center (BLIC): Masjid As-Sabireen & Everest Academy

Brand Lane Islamic Center campus (BLIC) is the biggest facility in south zone that is located at 610 Brand Lane in Stafford, Texas. The Campus occupies twelve and a half acres and consists of several buildings including:

- Prayer Hall
- Covered patio that also serves as an overflow area for Friday prayers
- Cafeteria
- Buildings for Everest Academy, a full-time Islamic school offering classes from pre-KG to 9th grade

In addition to a full-time school, BLIC has a well-established weekend Islamic school that operates from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sundays. The campus has several sports facilities for soccer, cricket, basketball, and volleyball.

Renderings of the New Masjid
ACQUISITION OF NEW LAND TO INCREASE THE PARKING CAPACITY

The campus has a current parking capacity for about 300 cars. Last year a 2 ½ acre parcel of land adjacent to the existing facility became available for sale and was promptly bought via generous donations of community members. The land has been fenced and levelled. Future plans include using it for parking and school buildings in addition to a small retail area in front.

EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING MASJID

The expansion of Main prayer hall was planned for the last several years. Hashmat Wali & Associates, Inc. was commissioned in May 2018 to prepare design and construction drawings. Construction documents were issued for Pricing and Permit in October 2018. After negotiations with a few contractors, Construction Contract was awarded to SteelCrete, LLC in April 2019. The construction activities are ongoing. The existing restrooms and wudu area were demolished and new facilities are being built. Existing prayer hall is being renovated with new air conditioning system, lights, fans, ceiling and interior walls. We anticipate this renovation to be Insha Allah completed in another month, or so, and renovated prayer hall, restrooms and wudu area will be available for prayer services.
Acquisition of New Land to Increase the Parking Capacity

The campus has a current parking capacity of about 300 cars. Last year a 2 1/2 acre parcel of land adjacent to the existing facility became available for sale and was promptly bought via generous donations from community members. The land was fenced and levelled. Future plans include using it for parking and school buildings, and a small retail area in front.

Expansion of the Existing Masjid

The expansion of main prayer hall was planned for the last several years. Hashmat Wali & Associates, Inc. was commissioned in May 2018 to prepare design and construction drawings. Construction documents were issued for Pricing and Permit in October 2018. After negotiations with a few contractors, a construction contract was awarded to SteelCrete, LLC in April 2019.

The construction activities are ongoing. The existing restrooms and wudu area were demolished; new facilities are being built. The existing prayer hall is being renovated with a new air conditioning system, lights, fans, ceiling, and interior walls. We anticipate this renovation to be Insha Allah completed in another month, and renovated prayer hall, restrooms and wudu area will be available for prayer services. The construction of a new prayer hall addition and men's entrance lobby area is moving slow. The building pad has been built and foundation piers installed. The remaining foundation will be built soon after the renovation work is substantially completed. The installation of new steel frame and new exterior façade will follow. This expansion work will Insha Allah be completed before Ramadan 1441. Upon completion, the renovated and new facility will accommodate around 1,200 worshippers.
Everest Academy

Everest Academy is a highly innovative Islamic school that provides a unique, one-of-a-kind academic experience. The school’s mission is to prepare students for tomorrow’s challenges and the Hereafter by providing them with an exceptional academic experience, empowering them to become successful Muslim Americans.

Everest educational facility comprises two buildings that include spacious, state-of-the-art classrooms, library, computer labs, and spaces for science, Hifdh, and art. Everest’s user-friendly electronic parent portal allows parents to access homework assignments, lesson plans, grades, and tuition, communicate with teachers, and order a hot lunch. Everest is accredited with exemplary status from AdvancED, SACS CASI, and CISNA — the leading accreditation and awards organizations for private and Islamic schools globally; students continually score above state average on STAAR and IOWA exams. In addition to state mandated curriculum for ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies, Everest offers Islamic studies, Arabic, and Quran; ESL, RTI, Gifted and Talented programs, extracurricular clubs, sports and Pre-A/P classes that carry over into the high school level.

Expansion of Everest Academy

About 450 students are currently enrolled in Everest Academy at this time, with a long waiting list for lower level classes. Several proposals have been considered to increase the classroom capacity. These include the addition of temporary structures and acquisition of land next door to build new school buildings. The existing school space has been reconfigured this year to add a new conference and classroom. Planning is underway to build a new gymnasium that would be located on the south end of the two-story building so students can have more extracurricular activities. The acquisition of new land last year has increased the possibilities of adding new classrooms and other facilities.
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6+ Islamic Schools
5+ Free Health Clinics
Friday and Eid Prayers
Zakat and Sadaqah
22+ Islamic Centers
Funeral Services
Marriage Services
Hifz Classes
Civic Engagement
Youth Programs
Job Networking
Support Groups