



MAC
MUSLIM AMERICANS FOR COMPASSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Interfaith Iftar will take place April 19

Ray West, president of Moldova World Children's Fund, will be among the special guests.

April 18, 2022 (LOUISVILLE, Ky.) – In a rare 30-year occurrence, the sacred holidays of Ramadan, Passover and Easter all took place this past weekend. This brings special significance to the 12th annual Iftar celebration hosted by Muslim Americans for Compassion in partnership with Interfaith Paths for Peace. The event will take place Tuesday, April 19, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at Second Presbyterian Church (3701 Old Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40207). The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited, and registration is required. To find out more and to register, see www.paths2peace.org.

Iftar is the fast-breaking meal observed by Muslims each evening during the holy month of Ramadan. The annual Interfaith Iftar is an opportunity for non-Muslims to join our Muslim friends for an evening meal as they break their Ramadan fast. The event includes presentations by community peacemakers followed by a traditional Middle Eastern meal.

The keynote presenter for this year's Interfaith Iftar is Ray F. West, Jr., who is founder, president and chief operating officer of Moldova World Children's Fund, Inc. Throughout the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, Moldova has taken in more Ukrainians per capita than any other country. The Moldova World Children's Fund is a nonprofit organization that provides support to thousands of the Ukrainian refugee children that continue to arrive in Moldova seeking shelter, food and a new home. A former U.S. European Command projects manager, West has been engaged in providing humanitarian assistance in Moldova since 1998.

"Ramadan, Passover and Easter are occasions to celebrate liberation, compassion and personal/spiritual transformation," said MAC President Dr. Muhammad Babar. "However, we cannot overlook the pain our world endures from the ongoing struggles of COVID-19, the horrific war in Ukraine and so many other social injustices. We very much look forward to welcoming Ray West to this year's Iftar."

U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer will also be among the special guests for the event, which usually brings together about 500 people of different faith traditions from across Louisville and beyond.

Doors open for the Interfaith Iftar open at 6:45 p.m., and the program begins at 7:10. Following a ceremonial breaking of fast at sundown, a buffet dinner catered by Jarfi's will be served. The dinner will include light Kosher food for Passover refreshments.

About Muslim Americans for Compassion

Muslim Americans for Compassion is an organization built to engage the community through interfaith, environmental, and philanthropic outreach initiatives and to promote educational activities and events, whether hosted by MAC or another organization, focused on interfaith dialogue. MAC hopes to provide a platform by which Muslim Americans are able to engage their fellow citizens in such a way as to increase mutual understanding and respect through service and compassion for all. See www.macus.org for more information.

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