



## MAC Expands Reach in Kentucky and Overseas

April was a significant month for Muslim Americans for Compassion (MAC). Together with Interfaith Paths to Peace, we celebrated the 12th Annual Interfaith Iftar Dinner. This year's event was particularly special because Easter, Ramadan and Passover all arrived the same week. Persons of a variety of faiths came together to celebrate the ways we're alike and can care for each other. (Right: MAC President Dr. Muhammad Babar, Congressman John Yarmuth, Volunteer Salik Chowhan, and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer.)



Outside of Iftar, MAC supported Muslims and refugees both in Kentucky and far overseas in the country of Moldova. Because we had so many examples of Outreach, we'll also be sharing some events in next month's newsletter. Thank you to all those who donated their time, treasure or talents to make these endeavors successful. If you'd like to join a future MAC volunteer opportunity, email [macusa502@gmail.com](mailto:macusa502@gmail.com)

## MAC Celebrates Iftar with Friends and Family



One of our favorite events of the year is the annual Interfaith Iftar Dinner held during Ramadan. This year was special for several reasons. Most notably, this was our first time breaking our fasts together since 2019 due to the pandemic. It was wonderful to see everyone, celebrate and remember those we've lost.

This year's Iftar Dinner had several special guests including Congressman Yarmuth, Mayor Fischer, and Ray F. West, Jr., Founder and CEO of the Moldova World Children's Fund. Moldova is an Eastern European country that is currently being flooded with refugees from the war in Ukraine. Mr. West shared the story of his organization and thanked MAC for raising awareness of their work. MAC recently raised \$2,000 for the Moldova World Children's Fund to help support those refugees.

Thank you to all our sponsors, as well as Second Presbyterian Church for once again hosting this dinner and Jarfi's restaurant for catering food for hundreds. It was wonderful to be with you all, and we hope to see you again soon.

You may view speeches and video from this year's event on the [MAC Youtube page](#).



## MAC and APPNA Provide

# Ramadan Supplies

MAC and the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America (APPNA) continued their fruitful collaboration during Ramadan 2022.



Volunteers delivered donations to the deserving families of a local Somali community. Farhan Abdi, executive director of the Somali Community of Louisville, is pictured to the right with Dr. Muhammad Babar.

Volunteers also delivered donations to the Islamic Center of Louisville (ICL) at 1715 S. 4th street. These donations were then delivered to local refugees and Muslims in need during the month of Ramadan.

MAC is proud to partner with APPNA, a 501(c)(3) organization which represents more than 15,000 physicians and health care professionals of Pakistani descent serving across North America. APPNA aims to foster scientific development and education in the field of medicine, assist newly arriving Pakistani physicians in orientation and adjustment, institute ways and means to cooperate with other North American medical organizations, encourage medical education and delivery of better health care in Pakistan, participate in medical relief and other charitable activities, and educate decision makers in problems which confronting the medical community in general and Pakistani-American physicians in particular.

To see a personal message recorded by Farhan Abdi, [click here](#).

## Dr. Babar Spoke at "Together We Welcome" Conference

MAC President Dr. Muhammad Babar joined Christine Ellis, Andrew Mashas and Derek Feldman for an "Organizing for Welcome" session at "Together We Welcome: A Virtual National Faith Gathering to Strengthen Support for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants." This conference took place March 4-6, 2022 and was arranged by Church World Service.



For the last 75 years, Church World Service (CWS) has actively worked in solidarity and intentional focus with faith partners and community groups from across the world. CWS, along with the Faith Solidarity Team, invited faith leaders, clergy, community organizers and immigrant leaders to join this dynamic virtual, inaugural event to hear from impacted voices as well as share timely and relevant information about resettlement & migration from faith leaders, national and local resettlement staff and other experts in forced migration.

## MAC and IRUSA Provide Cash Assistance Cards to Dawson Springs



MAC and Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA) recently visited the still recovering Dawson Springs which was devastated by a tornado in December 2021.

It was heartfelt to listen to the stories and the way lives were impacted. There are people still in the process of rebuilding, living in temporary residences or trailers. However, it was so uplifting to see the

resilience of our fellow Kentuckians.

The goal of our visit was to continue outreach to the tornado victims of western Kentucky. Individual cash gift cards were given to staff members of elementary, middle and high school students in Dawson Springs who were affected by this natural disaster.

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