



2012 ANNUAL REPORT



National Network
for Arab American Communities

NNAAC: 2012 BY THE NUMBERS

Less than \$100,000

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

\$100,000 - \$400,000

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

\$400,000 - \$800,000

\$\$\$\$\$

\$800,000 +

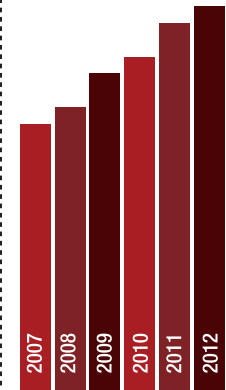
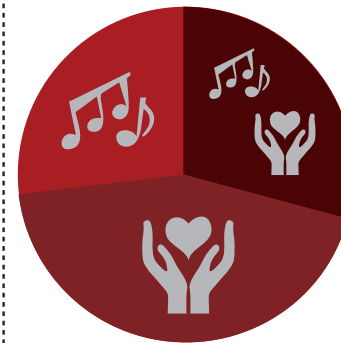
\$

\$ = one organization

NNAAC Member Organizations have different budgets, ranging from less than \$100,000 to more than \$1 million



Of the 23 NNAAC partner organizations, six focus on cultural programming and nine on social services programming while eight focus on both.



The number of member organizations increased from 16 to 23 between 2007 & 2012



5,280 NEW arab americans **REGISTERED TO VOTE**

60 # of bilingual poll workers recruited

13,000 doors knocked **10** voter ed EVENTS

1,400 event attendees **10,000** pieces of literature mailed

105,000 phone calls made **300** NEW volunteers recruited

130 VOLUNTEERS + 3 STAFF NATIONWIDE



#MyArabAmVote
reached more than 1 million users



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Nadia Tonova

NNAAC Director

I am thrilled to present the 2012 NNAAC Annual Report. As you'll see, NNAAC had an amazing year filled with many accomplishments: engaging a record number of Arab Americans through our nonpartisan voter engagement work; leading the Eighth Annual National Arab American Service Day; hosting NNAAC's first biannual Leadership Training Institute; and much more. This year, NNAAC also welcomed its 23rd member organization, the Levantine Cultural Center of Los Angeles.

None of the vast accomplishments you'll see in this report would have been possible without our supporters and the many fantastic people who share their time, expertise and energy with us. Without our member organizations there would be no Network. Our Advisory Board members dedicate their time, knowledge and vision. Our supporters create the partnerships and invest the means necessary to carry our work forward. And, of course, our staff, though small in number, work so hard to ensure NNAAC's success.

I know that after reading this report you'll share our pride in NNAAC and our excitement about the work to come in 2013 and beyond. As always, we have ground-breaking projects on the horizon. I hope you'll join us as we continue to move forward.

Sincerely,

Nadia Tonova

NNAAC SUPPORTERS

Ford Foundation www.fordfoundation.org

Four Freedoms Fund www.publicinterestprojects.org/funds-projects/partner-and-collaborative-funds/four-freedoms-fund/

Michigan Nonprofit Association www.mnaonline.org

Open Society Foundations www.soros.org

Proteus Fund www.proteusfund.org

Rights Working Group www.rightsworkinggroup.org

Rutgers Presbyterian Church www.rutgerschurch.com

State Voices www.statevoices.org

Youth Engagement Fund www.opensocietyfoundations.org/about/programs/us-programs/grantees/youth-engagement-fund-and-table-1



Capacity Building

NNAAC focuses on the development of member organizations and provides technical assistance to other groups through four primary programs.

1. NNAAC's first Leadership Institute, Nov. 15-17, 2012, in Philadelphia, was attended by 27 Arab American leaders. It started with a half-day conversation for executive directors that covered hiring and financial statements. Other workshops focused on planning an annual fund campaign and securing corporate sponsorships. All sessions received high evaluations from participants, who said they appreciated the opportunity to network with colleagues from around the country. Other highlights were a concert organized by Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture, and a visit to Philadelphia Arab American Community Development Corporation to learn about their work.
2. NNAAC distributes grants to help members improve organizational development. In 2012, NNAAC awarded \$39,040 in grants that included: \$5,000 for case management software; \$3,000 for a first-ever financial audit; \$1,000 for website improvement; \$3,000 toward a volunteer coordinator; and \$6,000 toward a development director.
3. NNAAC maintains a scholarship fund for training. In 2012, \$7,000 was awarded for grant writing; domestic violence services; effective use of donor management software; executive director training; and board leadership.
4. NNAAC provides in-depth consultation, technical assistance, webinars, and distribution of resource information to address capacity building. Topics of support in 2012 included: board-staff relations, hiring an executive director, by-laws revision, individual donor solicitation, and corporate sponsorships.



“What I liked best was the chance to network and learn from other nonprofits that share our challenges and offer similar programming.”

– Mona Sahouri,
Arab American Heritage Council, Flint, Mich.



Community Service

National Arab American Service Day

National Arab American Service Day (NAASD) brings together thousands of volunteers from across the country to give back to their communities. Under the motto, *“Serving Communities, Connecting People,”* NAASD drew Arab Americans and non-Arabs in 11 states, including nine major cities, for a day of volunteerism. On May 19, 2012, volunteers around the country turned out for the Eighth Annual Service Day. They worked on 18 projects including parks clean-up, health screenings, food packaging and more.

Acts of Kindness 9/11 Service Day

In an annual event that has created a model for national expansion, hundreds of Detroit area volunteers gathered Sept. 9, 2012, for A-OK Service Day. The event is organized by Acts of Kindness (A-OK), a coalition of some 20 local nonprofit and faith organizations dedicated to inspiring community spirit and interfaith education. Started in 2010, A-OK’s mission is to transform 9/11 from a day of mourning into a day of hope by giving back to our communities. This year’s event, which focused on food security, yielded impressive results. More than 4,000 boxes of food were prepared; some 11,000 meals were packaged; nearly 3,000 information kits were created for local schools to teach children about nutrition; and hundreds of bagged lunches were assembled for the homeless.



“Many thanks to NNAAC for granting us this *opportunity*. It is very *empowering* to our organization and community, as well, knowing *we are part of a great organization* that is continuously responding to our needs.”

– Ghada Muhanna, Alif Institute, Atlanta, Ga.





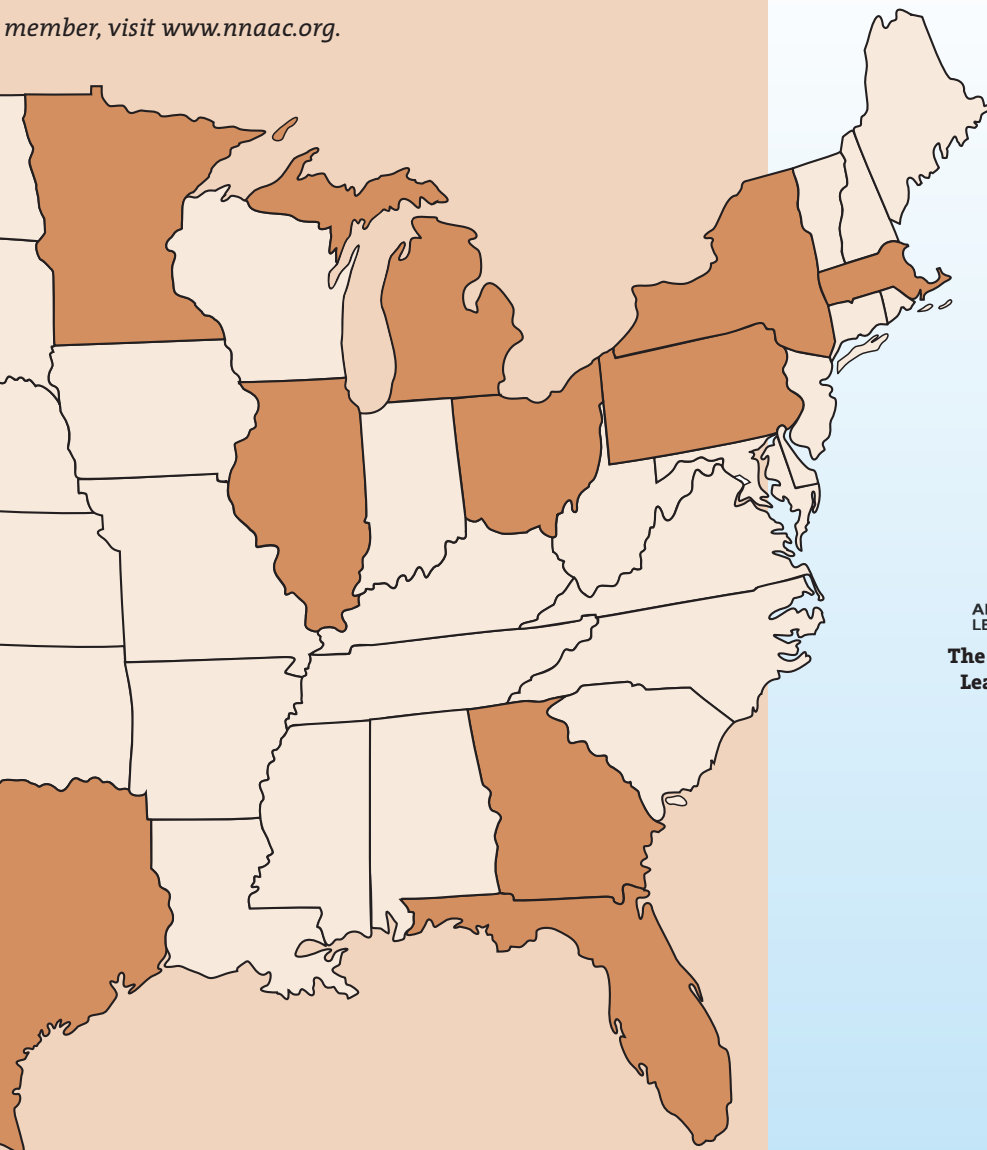
MEMBER OR

For a description of each



Network Arab Communities ORGANIZATIONS

member, visit www.nnaac.org.



Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture
Philadelphia, Pa.



**Philadelphia Arab American
Community Development
Corporation**
Philadelphia, Pa.



Arab-American Family Support Center
المركز العربي الاسري للخدمات الاجتماعية

The Arab American Family Support Center
Brooklyn, NY



Alwan for the Arts
مركز ألوان للفنون

Alwan for the Arts
New York, NY



**Arab American Community Center
for Economic and Social Services**
Cleveland, Ohio



**AMERICAN MIDEAST
LEADERSHIP NETWORK**
**The American MidEast
Leadership Network**
Astoria, NY



**ACCESS of Western
New York**
Lackawanna, NY



**Arab American
Association
of New York**
Brooklyn, NY



Alif Institute
Atlanta, Ga.



**The Arab-American
Community Center**
Orlando, Fla.



“We would like to thank NNAAC for opening our eyes to the many opportunities available that help strengthen our organization to positively make a difference in the lives of our community members.”

– Nahla Kayali, Access California Services. Anaheim, Calif.



Advocacy and Civic Engagement



NNAAC continues to build the national political power of the Arab American community via local groups and grassroots mobilization.

Through a core team of organizational members, NNAAC created a policy platform to guide its advocacy work throughout the year. That platform focused on immigration reform; access to education for all; protection of civil liberties; and increased funding for critical social service programs.

In 2012, NNAAC elevated the voice of the Arab American community in the national conversation on racial and religious profiling by law enforcement, advocated for the passage of ERPA (End Racial Profiling Act) and for eliminating discriminatory programs within the immigration system. NNAAC staff members also testified at three congressional briefings on Capitol Hill and presented workshops and trainings at national conferences across the country.

In April, NNAAC held its Fourth Annual Arab American Advocacy Week, in which 25 Arab American leaders strategized and met with government officials and elected representatives to advocate for issues highlighted in NNAAC’s policy platform and held extensive strategy sessions with allies.

We are proud to report that NNAAC also has increased the capacity and number of organizations actively participating in advocacy campaigns through one-on-one technical assistance, webinars, and training and funding opportunities.



Elections

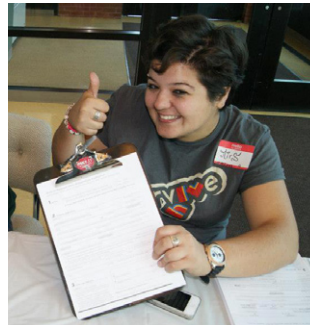


During the 2012 election cycle, the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC) led an unprecedented nonpartisan voter engagement campaign. Never before has NNAAC engaged its partners in such a strategic way, reaching hundreds of thousands of Arab Americans across the country.

Ten NNAAC member organizations were particularly active in this work, including groups in Michigan, New York, California, Illinois, Florida and Pennsylvania. NNAAC registered more than 5,280 new voters; reached more than 105,000 people through Get Out The Vote (GOTV) phone calls nationally; and knocked on 13,000 household doors.

In collaboration with member organizations and national partners such as the Arab American Institute, NNAAC also held four candidate forums, Halloween-themed canvassing events, plus multiple trainings for NNAAC members. We also played a key role to ensure extensive voter protection on Election Day and gave special assistance to Hurricane Sandy victims to make sure they had access to the polls.

The momentum of 2012 will continue to fuel and strengthen the electoral power of the Arab American community nationally through grassroots organizing.



“Through NNAAC’s National Arab American Voter Activation Initiative, AAANY has increased voter participation among Arabs and Muslims in New York City. With each election cycle, we are building our communities’ base through voter registration, education, and mobilization.”

– Faiza N. Ali, Arab American Association of New York, Brooklyn, NY.



National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC)

ADVISORY BOARD 2013

CHAIR OF NNAAC ADVISORY BOARD:

Mona Sahouri, *Executive Director*
Arab American Heritage Council
Flint, Mich.

VICE-CHAIR OF NNAAC ADVISORY BOARD:

Marwan Kreidie, *Executive Director*
Philadelphia, Pa.

Wafa Abdin, *Board President*
The Arab American Cultural
and Community Center
Houston, Texas

Hatem Abudayyeh, *Executive Director*
Arab American Action Network
Chicago, Ill.

Renee Ahee, *Executive Director*
National Arab American
Medical Association
Birmingham, Mich.

Lena Alhusseini, *Executive Director*
Arab American Family Support Center
Brooklyn, NY

Sarab Al-Jijakli, *Co-Founder*
Network of Arab American Professionals
New York, NY

Gheed Itani, *Board Member*
Center for Arabic Culture
Westwood, Mass.

Deepa Iyer, *Executive Director*
South Asia Americans Leading Together
Takoma Park, Md.

Rami Nuseir, *President*
American MidEast Leadership Network
Astoria, NY

Karen Rignall
University of Kentucky,
Department of Anthropology
Lexington, Ky.

Hilary Robertson, *Community Relations*
Arab American Institute Foundation
Washington D.C.

Itedal Shalabi, *Co-Director*
Arab-American Family Services
Bridgeview, Ill.

Nadia Tonova, *Ex-Officio*
NNAAC Director
Dearborn, Mich.

DEPARTMENT STAFF

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313-297-4531

Arwa Algharazi
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313-843-2844

National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC)

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

CALIFORNIA

Access California Services
2180 W. Crescent Ave., Suite C
Anaheim, CA 92801
714-917-0440
www.accesscal.org

Arab Cultural and Community Center
2 Plaza Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116
415-664-2200
www.arabculturalcenter.org

Arab Film Festival
300 Brannan St., Suite 508
San Francisco, CA 94107
415-564-1100
www.arabfilmfestival.org

Levantine Cultural Center
5998 W. Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035
310-657-5511
www.levantinecenter.org

Somali Community Services
586 N. First Street, Suite 212
San Jose, CA 95112
408-361-8173
www.somamcossj.org

FLORIDA

The Arab-American Community Center
4540 W. Colonial Dr., Suite A
Orlando, FL 32808
www.aaccflorida.org

GEORGIA

Alif Institute
P.O. Box 29067
Atlanta, GA 30359
770-936-8770
www.alifinstitute.org

ILLINOIS

Arab American Action Network
3148 W. 63rd Street
Chicago, IL 60629
(773) 436-6060
www.aaan.org

Arab American Family Services
9044 South Octavia
Bridgeview, IL 60455
(708) 599-2237
www.arabamericanfamilyservices.org

MASSACHUSETTS

Center for Arabic Culture
191 Highland Avenue, 6B
Somerville, MA 02143
877-222-9740
www.cacboston.org

MICHIGAN

ACCESS
2651 Saulino Court
Dearborn, MI 48121
313-843-2844
www.accesscommunity.org
www.nnaac.org

Arab American Heritage Council
416 North Saginaw Street, Suite 220
Flint, MI 48502
810-235-2722
www.aahcflint.com

American Syrian Arab Cultural Association
PO Box 1425
Troy, MI 48099
248-988-1166
www.asaca-usa.org

MINNESOTA

Somali Action Alliance Education Fund
2525 East Franklin Ave., Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55406
612-455-2185
www.somaliactionalliance.org

NEW YORK

ACCESS of Western New York
697 Ridge Rd., Suite 205
Lackawanna, NY 14218
716-332-5901
www.accesswny.org

Alwan for the Arts
16 Beaver St., 4th Floor
New York, NY 10004
646-732-3261
www.alwanforthearts.org

The American MidEast Leadership Network
25-82 Steinway St., Suite 2R
Astoria, NY 11103
347-924-9674
www.AMLN.org

Arab American Association of New York
7111-5th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
718-745-3523
www.arabamericanny.org

The Arab American Family Support Center
150 Court Street, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201-6244
718-643-8000
www.aafscny.org

OHIO

Arab American Community Center for Economic and Social Services
1155 Lorain Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44111
216-252-2900
www.aaccess-ohio.org

PENNSYLVANIA

Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture
526 South 46th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19143
267-303-0070
www.albustanseeds.org

Philadelphia Arab American Community Development Corporation
1501 Germantown Road
Philadelphia, PA 19122
215-765-0607
www.arabamericancdc.org

TEXAS

The Arab American Cultural and Community Center
10555 Stancliff Road
Houston, TX 77099
832-351-3366
www.arabamericancenter.org



Our Mission

The National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC), a project of ACCESS, is a national consortium of independent Arab American community-based organizations. The Network's primary mission is the development of Arab American community-based nonprofit organizations that understand and meet the needs and represent the concerns of Arab Americans at the local level and collectively address these issues on the national level.

NNAAC, which was established in 2004, currently has 23 members in 11 states. To support its mission, NNAAC has three main programs: Capacity Building, Advocacy & Civic Engagement, and Community Service.




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