

# MAPS-MCRC REPORT

As the channel for all outbound good activities for MAPS, MAPS-MCRC (Muslim Community Resource Center) provides a common platform for Muslim community service engagement and partners with like-minded organizations (Muslim & non-Muslim), city & local services, assistance providers to serve community needs.

## OUTBOUND GOOD

MAPS-MCRC accelerated many existing initiatives and started several new ones to create meaningful positive impact on our society. By the grace of Allah, all these programs were very successful – bettering the lives of hundreds of individuals in our area.

## HEALTH CLINICS

The MAPS-MCRC clinic is in collaboration with the Rainier Valley Community Clinic (RVCC), a clinic based in South Seattle dedicated to the care of families in need. Our goal is to provide culturally competent healthcare for individuals and families who lack access to basic health services. We will provide continuous aid to low-income and underserved groups regardless of their ability to pay. This free clinic is conducted monthly at MAPS. To-Date over 275+ patients have been served at this clinic. 9 Healthcare providers from various

specialties – Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Cardiology, Pediatrics, Natural Medicine and Acupuncture volunteer to serve at the medical clinic each month. About 20 Medical Assistants and 15-20 volunteers coordinate intake and patient registration.

## LEGAL CLINIC

The MAPS-MCRC Legal Clinic is in collaboration with the King County Bar Association Neighborhood



## Bellevue Backpack Meals program

Every weekend, many students in Bellevue School District go hungry. For these children, the only meals they get are at school and on weekends, they do not have enough to eat. The Backpack meals program provides free food packs for these students each Friday so they have food to eat over the weekend. In February, MAPS-MCRC in coordination with ICOR and Al Sadaqa, bought food items and packed 260 bags containing non-perishable food at MAPS. Students from the Friday Quran Halaqah helped to pack these bags.



## Thanksgiving Meal

MAPS-MCRC hosted a traditional Thanksgiving meal at MAPS for residents of Eastside Tent city encampments and the Sophia Way women's shelter. More than 50 people attended this event. In order to make it easy for our guests, we had the MAPS buses go to pick up and bring them to MAPS. After the meal, the same buses dropped the guests back at their respective locations. Youth volunteers packed gift bags with hygiene items including socks, gloves, and other items. These gift bags were presented to our guests at the end of the meal. We had a very moving incident occur prior to the event. As volunteers were setting up the room for the dinner, a lady with her young son stopped by with a bag full of toiletries to donate to the needy. They had heard about the Thanksgiving dinner that we were hosting from the press coverage that followed the vandalism of the MAPS sign the previous day and wanted to show their support to the Muslim community. It was a very touching gesture that showed the generosity of the community that we are part of.



## Clothing Drive for Syria

MAPS-MCRC in coordination with the Salaam Cultural Museum (SCM) has arranged multiple clothing drives for Syrian refugees. Through partnerships with Goodwill stores in the Seattle area, donated items are exchanged for cash that is used to lease apartments and provide food for Syrian refugees living in camps in border areas in Greece and Macedonia. The latest clothing drive conducted on Feb 11th 2017, collected 5,390 pounds of clothing that translates to more than \$5K that will be able to pay for food for one month for 671 Syrian refugees in camps in Jordan and Macedonia



Muslim  
Community  
Resource Center



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## MAPS-MCRC REPORT (CONT.)



Legal Clinics (NLC) and the Middle Eastern Legal Association of WA (MELAW). On February 19th, 2017, the MAPS-MCRC Free Legal Clinic successfully opened. The ceremony was well attended and included invited speakers Colleen Melody from the WA State Attorney General's office and Jessica Hernandez from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), who both spoke about the legal work their offices engage in, including the recently challenged and defeated travel ban.

Over 40 clients received services from a dozen volunteer attorneys, representing a range of legal specialties including immigration law, family law, business/contracts law, housing and employment law. The event drew tremendous positive feedback and highlighted a critical need in the community. Future MAPS-MCRC legal clinic sessions are scheduled to occur on a bimonthly basis.

### MAPS-MCRC HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & CLOTHING WAREHOUSE

MCRC- MCRC furniture storage was opened in Dec 2015 to provide furniture and house hold items to the needy. MAPS-MCRC manages 2 warehouses – one for donated household items and another one for clothing donations. These warehouses are used to store household and clothing items donated by the community. MAPS-MCRC volunteers organize pickups of donated items that are inventoried, organized and stored in these warehouses to be made available to needy families. Just like all MAPS-MCRC services, these services are free and open to families of all faiths and backgrounds. Our storage facilities are used by many other faith based organizations. There is a lot of traffic in these warehouses and donated items are turned around in less than a week. Both storages had helped many refugee families in addition to some homeless

families, and victims of domestic abuse. As of February 2017, we have fully or partially furnished over 168 homes.



## MAPS-MCRC REPORT (CONT.)

### OUR CORE SERVICES

- Adopt a Family
- Food & Hot meal programs
- Health Clinic
- Legal Clinic
- Funeral Care & Hospital visits
- Refugee Assimilation
- Matrimonial Services
- Senior Services

### PARTNER-LEVERAGED SERVICES

- Housing Services
- Counseling & Mediation

to some homeless families, and victims of domestic abuse. As of February 2017, we have fully or partially furnished over 168 homes.

#### HOT MEAL AND FOOD PROGRAMS

Over 200+ Hot meals served each month at 6 shelters each month. Pictures not published due to privacy and confidentiality issues

With the help of Medina Academy students and many members of our community, MAPS-MCRC was able to collect 850-900 pounds of food items, which were then delivered to the Issaquah Food Bank. This was the biggest donation received by the food bank this year! In addition, the Medina Academy students collected 300 food cans which were distributed to Hopelink through MAPS-MCRC.

#### GOLDEN TIMES EVENT FOR SENIOR WOMEN

MAPS-MCRC conducts regular events to bring senior women of all faiths for a morning of social connection that includes fun activities and a group lunch. We received positive feedback from our guests who enjoy playing games, practice yoga, and work on service projects such as packing hygiene kits for the homeless. The MAPS Vans allow us to pick up guests who do not have transportation to bring them to these events.

#### FOOD AND GAS CARDS FOR THE NEEDY

Over \$1000 is distributed each month in the form of Food Cards and Gas cards to individuals and families in need. A majority of recipients are either homeless, single women facing domestic violence issues or those living in cars. Our program is the only program in King County that provides these services. MAPS-MCRC is listed as one of the service providers listed on the King County 211 Help line as a service provider. Just like all MAPS-MCRC services, these services are provided to anyone in need

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