

# Annual Report

# 2019

MURFREESBORO MUSLIM YOUTH



*a year's overview*

# LEAPING FORWARD

# 2019



Assalam Alaikum (Peace be upon you),

Too many of us are not living our dreams because we are tethered to the ground by our fears.. In 2015, Deah, Yusor, and Razan, three young and motivated Muslim individuals were scrounged of their lives through an act of hate in Chapel Hill, NC. When this tragedy befell the Muslim community, we had a choice to see this moment as a hopeless tragedy and let this act of malice and ignorance defeat us, or to let it motivate us and propel us to carry on the beautiful message of these three amazing people and show the world the power of our faith in action. We chose the later; we found hope amidst the ashes.

Through their bravery and in their honor, the Murfreesboro Muslim Youth was conceived by a group of Murfreesboro Muslims who believed in a brighter future, and saw an opportunity to revitalize the three winners' legacy through compassion toward humanity carried out by Muslim youth.

In 2015, we supported our local Islamic Center, gathered our volunteers, helped the under-served, supported local schools, and cultivated strong bonds among our youth. This introductory year set the pace for growth in the years to come. In 2016 we continued to expand our efforts to support our local community and build bridges with other groups and organizations. We began helping refugees moving into Middle Tennessee and we expanded our partnerships with local businesses and non-profits. We held the first Love Your Neighbor potluck, which became one of our largest interfaith events. This potluck was an event formed in response to hate to help create bonds between members of our greater community and instill love, peace and understanding.

Our growth and support continued to expand drastically, and as we close 2019, we are in complete awe! Our growth and impact was far greater than we had ever imagined. We provided thousands of meals, fostered meaningful relationships among hundreds of people, built bridges of opportunity within the community and supported dozens of local non-profits—we can not be more proud of our team!

In our modern-day society, it's easy to get lost in overbearing notions of self-indulgence and superficial values. Stop and ask yourself – Do you know your neighbor? Often times we forget that these relationships hold real value. The journey holds more value than the destination, when it comes to fostering connections. The outcome is important, but if the journey wasn't sincere and intentional our hearts will remain starved and unchanged. Every person you meet, every person you help, every person you create a bond with is a new opportunity for you to expand your horizons as an individual, to learn, to grow. So many people in our city have understood the value of this ideal and the value of standing together. We are for ever thankful for that!

As we usher into 2020, we welcome new and exciting challenges and milestones, and we look forward to great opportunities to serve our larger community and not so little city we call home.

The Murfreesboro Muslim Youth would be nowhere without the blessings of God, the volunteerism and selflessness of our youth, and the precious and consistent support of our community. We thank all of those who support us in any way or form. You motivate us and drive us to continue to serve. We are because of you.

**WITH LOVE**

**MURFREESBORO MUSLIM YOUTH TEAM**

# ABOUT US

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MMY mission is to help connect, develop, grow, learn from, and educate our youth from all age groups through working together and serving the community.

MMY objectives are to provide our youth with opportunities to serve the community we live in, foster relationships with one another, and enhance the good nature in each one of them, all while developing a sense of pride in our Muslim identity.

## MMY LEADERSHIP

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Abdou Kattih



Anas  
HajHussein



Ashraf Yaseen



Haneen Ahmad



Saran Alzabet



Razan  
HajHussein



Yazan Musleh

**WE TEACH OUR YOUTH TO BE THE CHANGE THEY WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD. HOW TO REFLECT THEIR FAITH IN THE COMMUNITY THEY LIVE IN. HOW TO JUDGE NO ONE BUT THEMSELVES.**

# OUR WORK



## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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- MMY supports the development of youth character, skills, and knowledge in the realm of faith, social justice, advocacy, leadership, good citizenship, and organization.
- MMY encourages, supports, and finances our youth ideas and work to improve the society they live in. Through our youth activities, we hope to provide fun, create friendships, build trust, establish bonds, and enhance the sense of pride in one's faith among our youth.

## COMMUNITY WORK

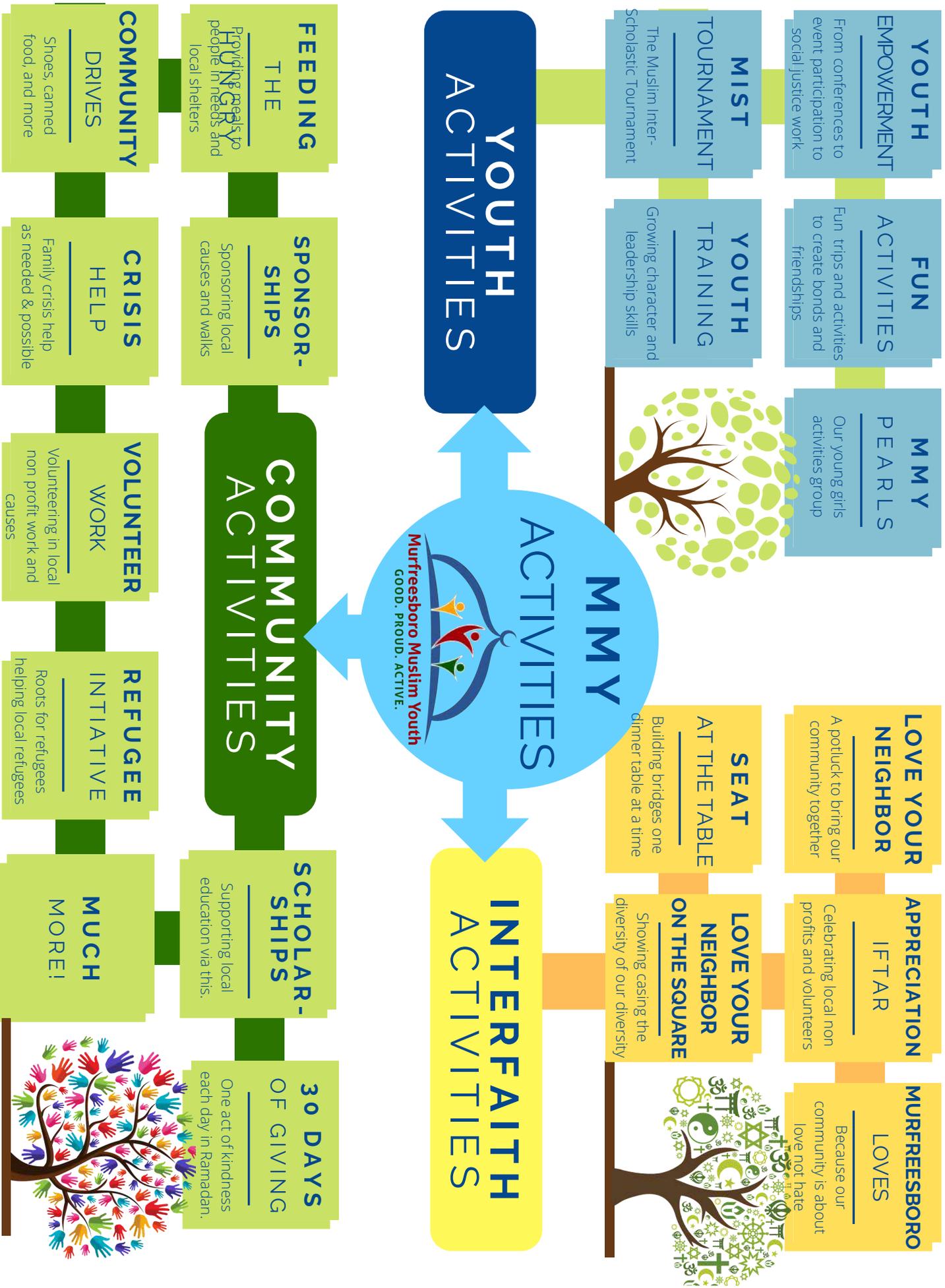
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- MMY community activities include volunteerism, sponsorship, simple acts of kindness, major drives benefiting local causes, events to raise awareness and support to local issues, and much more.
- MMY works with refugee families and families in crisis as needed and possible.
- Through our community work, we help our youth reflect their faith and humanity, build relationships, and develop pride in their faith. Roots for Refugees is a local community endeavor that aims towards welcoming new refugee families to Murfreesboro.

## INTERFAITH WORK

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- MMY interfaith activities aim to empower the youth to work with others no matter what their background is. It encourages inclusion and love for all and makes us assume the best out of everyone.
- Love Your Neighbor Picnic brings people together through food, conversations, and interactive activities.
- MMY Appreciation Iftar brings nonprofits and volunteers together to thank them for what they do and connect them.
- The Seat at the Table (A Faith & Culture Center program) brings smaller diverse groups of people around a dinner table for educational open discussions and food.



# 2019 IN NUMBERS

4500+

MEALS DISTRIBUTED DIRECTLY OR VIA OUR VOUCHER PROGRAM

5000+

VOLUNTEERING HOURS

250+

INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR DATABASE

200+

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

10,000  
+

ITEMS DONATED FROM CANNED FOOD TO BACK TO SCHOOL ITEMS



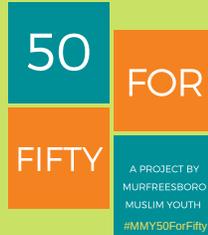
MUCH MORE



# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

## 50FOR50

Following the terrorist attack at the Islamic center in Christchurch, New Zealand, our team launched 50For50. It aimed to do an act of kindness in the memory of each of the 50 victims.



## APPRECIATION IFTAR

Another amazing turn out and event. Many new friends joined us. Organization of the year went to Nourish Food bank and Person of the Year went to Nathan Reed.



## VOUCHER PROGRAM



Our Voucher program help local shelters deal with meal shortage by providing a meal voucher to use when needed for their work. This year, MMY provided over 1000 vouchers to local shelters.



## LINA KANAKRIEH SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship honors the memory of Lina Kanakrieh who was killed in a car accident in 2019. Lina was raised in Murfreesboro and was an active and precious part of our community.

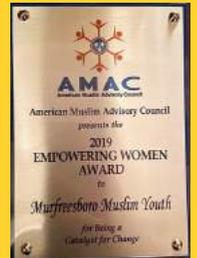
## SACKED LUNCHES

In summer 2019 there was a shortage of lunches to under privileged children in Smyrna. Our team stepped up and prepared over 300 sacked lunches to those children.



## AMAC AWARD

We were honored and privileged by receiving the "Empowering Women Award" for being a Catalyst for Change for 2019 from the American Muslim Advisory Council (AMAC).



## TEACHER DREAM CLOSET

We partnered with the City Schools to provide supplies to a room in the district office that teachers are free to use when they have a need for students or classroom.



## NAACP AWARD

The MMY was honored to receive the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) Organization of the year award for 2019.



In October, we held our first Love Your Neighbor on the square celebrating the diversity of our community by hosting over 24 diverse booth each representing a different country/ethnicity that is part of our community. We estimated that over 1500 attended.

## NEW LEADERSHIP

In 2019, we restructured our work, elected new leaders, and started a leadership development program to help grow our youth skills and organization's strength.



# "ACTIONABLE FAITH FORMS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR WORK"

# FIVE YEARS MILESTONES

2015

**GOT ESTABLISHED!**

FIRST OF MANY THINGS!  
RECEIVED FIRST DONATION.

2016

REFUGEE'S WORK STARTED

**LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR WAS BORN**  
1ST APPRECIATION IFTAR

2017

**MURFREESBORO LOVES**

UNITED WITH ROOTS FOR REFUGEE'S  
MURFREESBORO FIRE & RESCUE AWARD

2018

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY INVITE**

FIRST GRANT      501(C) CERTIFIED  
MMY MOBILE IS HERE

2019

**FOOD VOUCHER LAUNCHED**

50FOR50 RESPONCE

AMAC EMPOWERING WOMEN AWARD

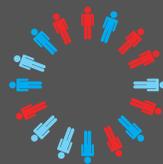
NAACP COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



OVER 16,000 MEALS  
DELIVERED



OVER 600 EVENTS  
HELD



OVER 2000  
SUPPORTERS



OVER 20,000  
VOLUNTEER HOURS



SEVEN + AWARDS

## WHAT IS NEXT?



Explore having our own  
facility/office



Keep our financial  
overhead under 10%



Enhance MMY youth work



Grow our volunteer base



Develop a "how to" for  
most MMY activities



Develop relationships  
with new organizations

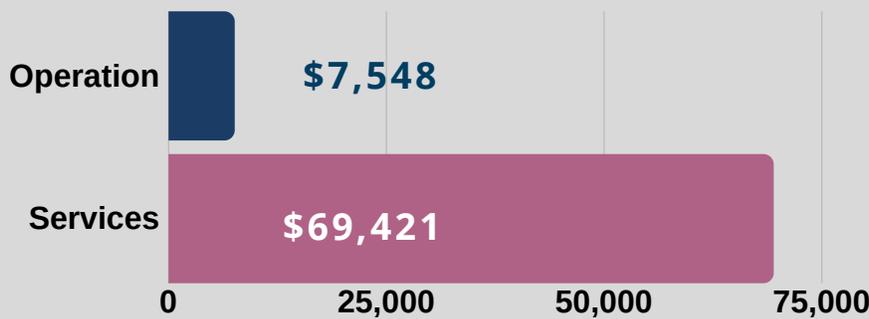
# 2019 MMY FINANCIAL

We maintain ONE bank account, use Quick books for all transactions and all of our finances are reviewed by an accountant on a regular basis.



## INCOME

Our income comes from donations (direct, online, and Dollar4Change), grants, and event tickets.



## EXPENSES

Our expenses goes to either operations (finances, legal, insurance, auto, marketing, and such) or services which is everything we do.



## SERVICES EXPENSES

Our income comes from donations (direct, online, and Dollar4Change), grants, and events.

**\$0**

Is how much we spent on payroll!

**561**

Number of people who donated to us

**90%**

of all spending went to services

# TESTIMONIALS

”

The creation of MMY was an important one to the Muslim youth. It gave us an opportunity to partake in activities we never thought we would ever do.

**Dareen.A**

”

Joining MMY was the best decision I ever made. It has given me a boost of encouragement to become involved in my community.

**Dana.S**

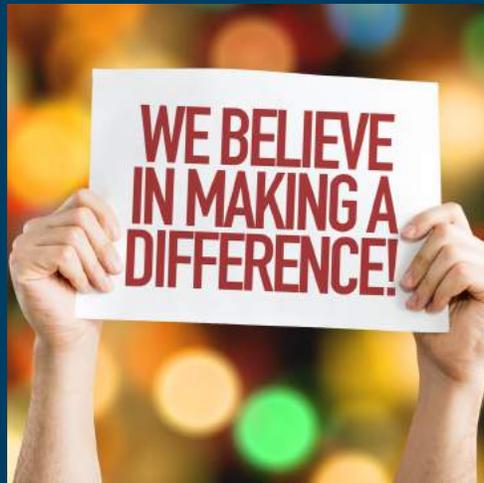
”

One thing I have learned from the MMY is to always put others first and be willing to help.

**Loay. A**

”

The MMY is one of the most community -minded groups of youth we've ever seen in Murfreesboro!! Thanks for all your hard work to better our community! **Steve. C**



”

This is one of the most compassionate and hardworking groups in Murfreesboro! These young people inspire me and let me know that our future is BRIGHT. **Tirra H**

”

Being part of the MMY has broadened the spectrum of tasks I can fulfill, and above all feel comfortable taking on. **Anas. H**

”

MMY is all about kindness, respect, and giving back to our community! I am grateful for ALL they do to make Murfreesboro an even better place to call home! **Bebbie. M**

”

I can not imagine where my life will be if it was not for the MMY. It has changed my life and made me who I am. **Sarah. A**

# WAYS TO HELP

**1**



**GET OUR TEXTS / EMAILS**

Subscribe to our text/email group to stay up to date and use volunteering opportunities to help others in our community. JOIN BY **TEXTING "MMY" to 84576.**

**2**




Designate us as your Amazon smiles charity and we will get 0.5% of your purchase amount.

- ✓ Go to smile.amazon.com
- ✓ Search for and select Murfreesboro Muslim Youth

**3**



**DOLLARS 4 CHANGE**



Join our team of supporters by giving a dollar or more at the frequency you chose to keep us going. One dollar can buy a meal for a homeless person, a lunch box for a child, and much more. When many of us come together giving a small amount, a lot can happen. Scan the QR code using your phone or go here to join!  
[Murfreesboromuslimyouth.org/donate](http://Murfreesboromuslimyouth.org/donate)

**4**

<p>LIKE SHARE COMMENT</p>  <p>Facebook.com/MurfreesboroMuslimYouth/</p>	<p>TWEET FOLLOW RETWEET</p>  <p>@MurfreesboroMY</p>	<p>SEE COMPLETE PICTURE</p>  <p>@murfreesboromuslimyouth</p>
<p>SEE THE SNAPS</p>  <p>@boromuslimyouth</p>	<p>WATCH SHARE SUBSCRIBE</p>  <p>Find us on Youtube</p>	<p>JOIN CONNECT LEARN</p>  <p>By Request Only</p>

**5**



**COMMUNITY REWARDS**



Scan the QR code or Go to [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com) and sign in. Then under co and that is it.



SEAT AT THE TABLE

# BUILDING BRIDGES & BRINGING US CLOSER **INTERFAITH WORK**



DIALOGUE WITH SEWANEE  
UNIVERSITY



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR  
POTLUCK



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR  
POTLUCK



SEAT AT THE TABLE  
MTSU



FREE TRIP TO EGYPT



VISIT TO ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



VISION 2020



MAMMOTH CAVE

BUILDING  
FRIENDSHIPS,  
HAVING FUN, AND  
GROWING LEADERS

# YOUTH WORK



LEADERSHIP  
TRAINING



THIS IS US



RAFTING FUN



RECEIVING NAACP 2019  
FREEDOM FUND AWARD



RECEIVING AMAC 2019  
EMPOWERING WOMEN AWARD



# APPRECIATION IFTAR

The appreciation Iftar is an event where families and businesses host not for profit organizations and volunteers to a dinner table as a show of appreciation. It is held during Ramadan.





SHOWCASING THE DIVERSITY  
OF OUR COMMUNITY ON  
DOWNTOWN SQUARE  
**LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR**  
ON THE SQUARE





# THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US FOR AN AMAZING YEAR!

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MurfreesboroMuslimYouth.org



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