



# Ithna-Asheri Muslim Association of the Northwest

515 State Street, Kirkland, WA 98033

[iman@iman-wa.org](mailto:iman@iman-wa.org)

<http://www.iman-wa.org>

## IMAN Annual Report of Activities 2022-2023

---

### Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	1
1.0 Executive Committee Report for 2022/2023 .....	2
1.1 Executive Committee Priorities .....	2
2.0 Sub-Committee Reports .....	4
2.1 Sunday School Committee .....	4
2.2 Programs Committee.....	6
2.3 Social Services Committee.....	8
2.4 Facilities Committee.....	11
2.5 Hospitality Committee .....	12
3.0 Other Services and Activities .....	14
3.1 Funeral Services .....	14
3.2 Aqd Nikah Services .....	14
3.3 Newsletter/Communication/Web Site.....	14
3.4 Greater Seattle Social Support Network.....	14
3.5 Outreach Efforts.....	16
3.6 Dr. and Mrs. Amir-Hossein Naini School Scholarship Fund .....	16
4.0 Executive Committee Recommendations for 2023/2024 .....	18
4.1 Increased Community Engagement .....	18
4.2 Caretaker Position.....	19
4.3 IMAN Center Remodel .....	19
4.4 Annual Membership Dues.....	19
4.5 Succession Planning .....	19
Appendix A – Initial Proposal for Remodeling.....	20
Appendix B – Latest 3-D Rendering of the Proposed Remodel .....	23

## 1.0 Executive Committee Report for 2022/2023

The Executive Committee (“EC”) members are honored and express deepest gratitude to have had the privilege to serve the term ending September 30th, 2023.

We thank the IMAN community for their help, support and generous financial contributions towards operational expenses and social services programs.

Alhamdulillah, IMAN community continues its journey to establish a spiritually vibrant caring sharing community in the beautiful Pacific Northwest in its 27th year.

This report outlines progress and activities since October 1st, 2022, made possible by the continued sincere dedication, support, and participation of the community at large.

The following were the IMAN Executive Committee members for 2022/2023:

Mohammad Jawad Khaki	President and Treasurer
Rahmatullah Faizi (Hamid)	Vice President
Ali Haider	Secretary
Nuri Mansoori	Committee Member
Kareem Al Haddad	Committee Member

The following observations augment sub-committee reports under Section 2.

### 1.1 Executive Committee Priorities

The following areas had a priority focus from the Executive Committee.

#### Sunday School

Sunday School for 2022/2023 has been continuing successfully in person with good student enrollment with the help of volunteer teachers based.

IMAN Sunday School continues with the [Tarbiyah](#) curriculum developed by [The Madrasah Center of Excellence](#) of [The World Federation of Khoja Shia Ithna-Ashari Muslim Communities](#).

Parental involvement in Sunday School has room for improvement. Higher Parental involvement will help nurture even more successful individuals and organization.

#### Programs

All programming at IMAN for the year 2022/2023, including Ramadhan and Muharram were conducted in person and also streamed live online with good attendance.

A variety of speakers were invited to Kirkland, or pre-recorded presentations was used to benefit the IMAN Community.

Br. Mohamed Jawad Khaki continues to lead congregational prayers and officiate programs as he has done since inception.

IMAN is in search of a suitable individual who can help continue developing a spiritually vibrant caring sharing community in the beautiful Pacific Northwest as we enter our 27th year.

## Social Services

Partnership with St. John's Episcopal Church for monthly community dinners in its 7<sup>th</sup> year continued with monthly sit-down meals. Guests have the option to also take their food to go.

Through generous contributions of community members, pre-cooked meals have also been provided to Tent City 3 in Seattle, New Bethlehem in Kirkland, and Kirkland United Methodist Church.

Due to inadequate case worker capacity for case work, it was decided financial assistance to individuals to IMAN be provided through partner organizations: MAPS MCRC and Attain Housing.

## Facilities

IMAN Center facilities need regular maintenance and repairs. Areas that needed attention this year are described in more detail later in this report and include exterior painting, HVAC service and repairs, landscape maintenance, fire system tests and maintenance as well as on-going janitorial services.

## IMAN Center Remodel

Approval was obtained from the Board of Directors to secure initial funding to explore extending the current facilities to satisfy current unmet needs that include:

- Multi-purpose activity area and safe outside play area.
- 24/7 prayer space – musalla
- Apartment for caretaker
- Express Islamic nature of the facility
- Ghusal khana?

IMAN EC retained Mr. Paul Wu of Wu Architecture; a Kirkland based firm for the IMAN Center remodel. Architect selection was done by the EC in consultation with the Board of Directors after considering/interviewing two other candidates recommended by community members.

A survey of the IMAN site was completed as requested by the Architect.

Appendix A provides the initial site plan drawings proposed by the architect, Mr. Paul Wu.

All community members were invited to provide feedback via e-mail to [remodel@iman-wa.org](mailto:remodel@iman-wa.org).

Mr. Paul Wu has visited several Islamic Centers nationally and internationally and has proposed a revised site plan shown in Appendix B following community feedback and his visits to other Islamic Centers.

## 2.0 Sub-Committee Reports

Over the past year we have focused on the sub-committees described below.

### 2.1 Sunday School Committee

#### Members

The school year for 2022-2023 began on September 25th, 2022 with the following individuals serving in the sub-committee:

- Ghadeer Baghai (Principal)
- Kaniz Khaki (Vice Principal)
- Naushina Esmail (Administrator)
- Mariam Kamin (Co-Administrator)
- Mumtaz Khin Patail (Treasurer)

#### Parents / Teacher Liaisons

- Rajulla Haider, Wasfee Vazir, Mahwish Abbas

#### Sunday School Student Body

<b>Total</b>	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Using Tarbiyah Platform</b>
Students Registered	80	72
Students Withdrawn	3	
Number of families (est.)	62	

<b>Total</b>	<b>Islamic Studies</b>	<b>Qur'an</b>	<b>Salaat</b>
Teachers	10	10	4
Teacher's Assistants	7		4

#### Sunday School Budget

	<b>Students Registered</b>	<b>Students needing Financial Assistance</b>	<b>Registered but never showed up</b>	<b>Registered but did not Pay</b>	<b>Students Paid in Full</b>	<b>Number of parents paid for Volunteer hours</b>
Total	80	6	3	5	66	3

#### Accomplishments

- Assemblies were made more engaging by allowing for student participation – 5-minute presentations to the student body about lessons learned from Prophets and Imams.
- Qur'an conference was held during school hours to increase student participation.
- Maintained school connection with NASIMCO and MCE. Four members of the school committee received certifications on Teaching and Facilitation.

- Increased engagement in IMAN activities - School students and parents organized and participated in plays and performed nasheeds during IMAN events.
- The school held its first Boys' and Girls' Bulough class after the Pandemic.
- The school hosted a successful annual Bake Sale to raise funds for school activities.

## Challenges

- Class sizes – The increased number of registered students has an effect on the number of students within a class. This in turn increases the work effort required by teachers and decreases the amount of personal attention a student can expect from his / her teacher.
  - ❖ Solution for 2023-2024: Close registration early and limit the number of students per class.
- Irregular student attendance / punctuality - Increased student membership has the potential to create a correlating increase in class disruption due to absence and/or tardiness. This was evident by the ratio of registered students to regular attendees. Although the number of students registered for the 2022-2023 school year was 82-85 students, the actual weekly attendance was closer to somewhere between 55-65 depending on the time of year.
  - ❖ Solution for 2023-2024: Emphasize the importance of regular attendance to parents, keep better records of attendance and follow school policy on the number of excused/unexcused absences.
- Financial resources – An increased number of students require greater financial resources to continue the running of the school (e.g. snack costs, gifts, and prizes, etc.). Normally this will be covered by fee collection, however not all parents are up to date with their payments.
  - ❖ Solution for 2023-2024: Increase annual tuition per student and seek IMAN assistance in helping with students needing financial assistance.
- Different levels of knowledge within a class - With the exception of Qur'an, class allocation is primarily based on a student's age. There is a wide diversification of student Islamic knowledge, particularly with the older classes, where students who have not previously experienced an Islamic school system may be lacking in certain areas of basic knowledge. This has resulted in those students needing to be caught up in basic concepts during lesson time at the expense of students who are already aware of these topics. Behavioral issues in Qur'an classes also indicate that having students of diverse ages in the same classes may be an issue.
  - ❖ Solution for 2023-2024: Provide students with access to the Tarbiyah Platform to be able to cover Islamic Studies content outside of the classroom in order to catch up. Class allocation in Qur'an classes should be reevaluated and be based on student age.
- Students arriving at different times of the year - Accepting new students throughout the school year has resulted in many of the issues (e.g. catching up) mentioned above.
  - ❖ Solution for 2023-2024: Close registration early and limit the number of students per class.

## Opportunities

- Qur'an Curriculum: Based on parent feedback, the Qur'an curriculum needs to change or be modified for 2023-2024.
- Salaat Curriculum: Based on assessment records, the salaat curriculum for the Girls' and Boys' beginner class needs standardization.
- Parent Volunteer System: Due to the limited number of parent volunteers, the school needs to increase parental participation.

## Recommendations

- Assistance with students needing financial assistance in paying for school tuition.
- Assistance with Wi-Fi issues in the schoolhouse.
- Assistance in advertising school activities and volunteers for school sub-committee positions.

## 2.2 Programs Committee

### Members

Chair: Jawad Khaki (Acting)

Members: Jawad Khaki, Kareem Al-Haddad, Rahmatullah Faizi (Hamid), Fatemeh Rasooli (part of the year) and Shima Akhavanfarid

### Accomplishments

Here is the summary of activities and programs during the last fiscal year:

- Daily prayers, weekly Qur'an Circle and [Dua-e-Kumail](#) and [Friday prayers](#).
- Live stream of the scheduled programs continues at the link [IMAN Live](#).
- The weekly Dua Kumail recitations are followed by a reflection appropriate for the occasion: wiladat and wafat. Wiladats and wafats are observed on the Thursday closest to the actual date.
- Several Family fun nights were held around key religious occasions:
  - ❖ [Family Night – Wiladat of Sayyida Bibi Fatima SA](#)
  - ❖ [Family Night – Wiladat of Imam Ali AS](#)
- Sr. Soheila Aryan was guest speaker on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to celebrate birthday of Sayyida Fatima al-Zahra (p). She spoke on:
  - ❖ [Status of women: A Qur'anic Perspective](#)
  - ❖ [Reward of Prophetic Mission](#)
- [A'maal for the 15th of night of Sha'ban](#) was held on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- Dr. Sachedina was our speaker as we celebrated the birth of Imam Mahdi A.S.. He spoke on:
  - ❖ [Development of Spirituality in Religious Praxis: A Journey from "is" to "ought."](#)
  - ❖ [Essential challenge to understand the modern advancements in science and applied technology.](#)
- [Daily Ramadhân 1444 AH](#) programs were held in person and streamed online.
- [Eid ul Adha](#) and [Eid ul Fitr](#) programs were well attended at full or over capacity.
- Special [a'amaal for Day of Arafat](#) were held after Dhuhr
- [Annual IMAN Center BBQ event held on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.](#)
- Visa processing for our guest speaker Dr. Alireza Bhojani did not get processed in time for Muharram 1445 AH. Our Muharram 1445 AH program featured Shaykh Mohammad Javad Shomali from one of his earlier recorded lectures. [His topic was Islam and the Meaning Crisis.](#)
- Dr. Mahdi Elahi was our guest speaker for Arbaeen 1445 AH respectively. He spoke on:
  - ❖ [Challenges of Prophet Muhammad & Imam al-Husayn: parallels, doctrinal & philosophical implication](#)
  - ❖ [Al-Hussein: Power and Purpose](#)
  - ❖ [Al Hussein: The Paragon of Divine Leadership](#)
- Br. Riyaz Vazir presented on [Reclaiming control over screentime](#) after September 21, 2023.
- Shaykh Trenton Carl was our guest speaker as for Milad un Nabi 1445 AH. His three-day program addressed the two topics below with the third day being used as a workshop.
  - ❖ [The Prophet as Part of an Ancient Tradition](#)
  - ❖ [Conceptions of Religion and understanding Goals of Islam](#)
  - ❖ [Synthesis through Small-Group Discussion](#)

### Challenges

- Our majlis reciters compete with new forms of engagement/entertainment which continue to have billions poured into them. The present day majlis attendees (young or old) find it more enticing to interactively stick to their connected smart device than listen to a 60-minute monologue that is, often, not relevant to the issues of the present. Weekly new releases of Hollywood and Bollywood also continue to captivate the imagination of people. Needless to mention professional sports and the glitz/glamour

surrounding these professions that conquer many minds. To counter such and other similar phenomena, and for our religious gatherings to continue to be of significance in people's lives, our faith communities need to be current on topics of social need and/or interest. We need to also evolve the mode of engagement by offering exciting new ways to engage on spiritually/socially relevant topics of our time.

- A spiritually vibrant community grows into a strong organization. We need more participation and engagement from all members of the congregation. We need to avail ourselves of the opportunities throughout the year to self-develop and help our youth develop in spirituality, religious knowledge, Qur'an proficiency as well as develop public speaking/presentation skills.
- Engagement of parent/youth to prioritize creation of special programs for children and youth has been an ongoing challenge.

### Opportunities

- We are a blessed resource rich community of great potential that can grow to realize our potential through active participation.
- In the inclusive climate promoted by City of Kirkland we have an opportunity to serve and or impact our broader community by suitably tailoring our programs.
- With programs being held online, it provides an opportunity to invite speakers from all over the world.
- Further expand the program committee with new community members for more participation and collaboration.

### Recommendations

- Continue live broadcast and in-person programs.
- Recruit creative, self-initiated, resourceful individuals to serve on the committee.
- Grow speaker/reciter pool to develop spiritual vibrancy and energize communal development. Explore diverse topics to engage a wider audience.
- Increase participation in celebratory and commemorative events, including more participation from Sunday School.

## 2.3 Social Services Committee

### Members

- Abbas Kazmi: Chair
- Kareem Al Haddad
- Ghadeer Baghai
- Rahmatullah Faizi (Hamid)
- Sidra Naqvi
- Ali Naqvi

### Accomplishments

- Contributed \$20,000 to Comfort Aid International as partial funding for Infant Milk Aid in Syria post-2023 earthquakes. The allocated funds were instrumental in sourcing high-protein infant milk packets from Iraq, chosen for their logistical efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Targeting families adversely affected by the earthquakes, the distribution effort aimed to alleviate the hardships faced by those who had experienced both property and income loss. Many of these families were grappling with severe food shortages, exacerbating the risk of malnourishment among infants. The distribution spanned multiple locations, strategically reaching areas with the highest need. CAI representatives played a pivotal role in overseeing various aspects of the distribution process, personally engaging on the outskirts of Damascus in April 2023. [Pictures and video](#) capture the distribution process.
- Distributed \$10,000 to Attain Housing to support their initiatives assisting homeless families by providing affordable housing and empowering them with practical case management and hope.
- Winter Care Packages (\$1,168.19) were provided for residents at the Bethlehem shelter. Items in the care package included Scarves, Gloves, Beanies, Razors, Backpacks, toys, blankets, kids beanies, gloves, toothbrushes, toothpaste, crayons, diapers, toilet paper.
- IMAN Center's partnerships with St. John's Episcopal Church for monthly community dinners, started in June 2017, is in its seventh year now.
  - ❖ The dinners continued at St. John's with meals such as fish and veggie sandwiches from chain restaurants, pre-cooked Lasagna from grocery stores, and sandwiches from a local halal bakery. IMAN Center covered the cost of sandwiches when the take-out was served from the IMAN Center
  - ❖ From April 2023, the dinners were held at St John's and the food served switched to bbq, halal hotdogs and hamburgers from June to Oct 2023. This bbq style allowed us to switch from takeout meals to sit down meals but with sitting outside. IMAN covered the cost of all halal food items.
  - ❖ In November and December of 2023, with taking all necessary precautions, the meals were moved inside with guests having the option to sit inside or take their food to-go. The return to meals inside has been successful with plans to continue in this fashion moving forward.
- Identified local deserving families (sayyid and non-sayyid) and distributed the collected Fitra funds via Costco gift cards.
- Since Muharram of 1442 AH (August 2020), Sr. Sidra Naqvi has been coordinating members of the IMAN Center community to provide cooked meals to homeless shelters. Last year, as part of the Iman Center, the food donation program made significant strides. An incredible total of 1,665 meals to various groups in need:
  - ❖ 1,025 meals were delivered to Tent City 3. It was truly remarkable to see the impact these meals had, not just in providing nourishment but also in fostering a sense of community among the residents.
  - ❖ 315 meals were provided for residents at New Bethlehem. The positive effect these meals had on families and individuals in the area was heartening to see.
  - ❖ 325 meals were provided to individuals living in their vehicles as part of Safe Parking Program. These



meals brought comfort and a glimmer of hope in challenging times.

The success of these initiatives was largely due to the incredible dedication of our volunteers and the unwavering support from the community. The volunteers, with their readiness to fill in whenever needed, were the backbone of our program. Similarly, the community's generous support in terms of resources and encouragement played a vital role.

Looking forward, an ambitious goal to distribute 2,500 meals has been set for the coming year. It's a significant target, but considering past accomplishments, it is within reach with everyone's continued support.

Every contribution, whether big or small, is valuable, and it's the combined efforts that really make the difference.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been part of this journey.

- Due to inadequate case worker capacity for case work, applicants for financial assistance for rent, utilities are referred to partner organizations: MAPS MCRC and Attain Housing.
- With the financial support provided by IMAN in 2022, [Seattle Services for the Blind](#) was able to launch their [services](#) that include:
  - ❖ Braille Transcription
  - ❖ Braille interlining
  - ❖ Creating tactile graphics
  - ❖ Creating accessible documents
  - ❖ Large print services

17 Qur'an copies in the form of 30 parts (juz) each in Arabic and English Braille were distributed to needy individuals through National Federation for the Blind.

Their work expanded in 2023, nationally and internationally, more details of can be found at their website: <https://www.blindservice.org/>.

On behalf of the IMAN Community, we express our deepest gratitude to Br. Muayad Aziz for giving us an opportunity to partner and for his devotion, persistence, perseverance, and leadership as we pray for his continued success in the times ahead.

## Challenges

- Most of the challenges remain the same as in previous years.
- Demand for housing and other needs will continue.
- We need to strengthen our existing partnerships, for example with MCRC, and find more ways to combine resources provided by IMAN with services offered by other organizations to help those seeking assistance to get on the path of self-sufficiency.
- The committee remains short-staffed in need of more dedicated volunteers that are willing to take on initiatives and carry them through for the long term. More importantly the committee has to be selective using volunteer resources available to focus on areas it can succeed in.

## Opportunities

- We have tremendous talent and experienced people in our community. We need to avail the talent and experience of the IMAN and the wider Muslim community to serve our broader communities better and more comprehensively.
- Partner with other organizations in a dedicated and strategic manner to fill-in gaps that IMAN cannot adequately resource. For example, we have good access to financial resources but lack dedicated and driven volunteers for casework.

### **Recommendations for next year**

- Reach out to other social services and community organizations to understand needs within the broader community and figure out ways that IMAN Center provide help.
- Continue and strengthen the partnership with St. John's Episcopal Church to host monthly community dinners. Explore ways to expand beyond once-a-month dinner on how via the partnership other social services can be provided. One immediate area is to explore participation by local business to participate in and support the monthly dinners.
- Nurture existing connections and build new connections with other local Social Services organizations, such as shelters, food banks, tent city, churches.
- Provide more support to the IMAN volunteers serving meals to the Tent City in Seattle.
- Work with the IMAN Executive Committee to explore avenues to utilize the IMAN physical facility to provide hands-on social services in the community.

## 2.4 Facilities Committee

### Members

**Chair:** Kareem Al-Haddad

**Members:** Jawad Khaki, Ali Haider, Nuri Mansoori

### Accomplishments

- Qualco Painting LLC painted the entire IMAN exterior.
- Lighting fixtures under the walkway canopy damaged by the roof leak were repaired with the help of Br. Ehsan Fazlali.
- DND SERVICES INC. repaired South Hall AC unit replacing a defective new circuit board/ignitor kit.
- Annual maintenance of the roof was completed by the roofer who did the repair work last year.
- Applied Organics Inc. was hired to install medium beauty bark using a blower truck in July 2023.
- Purcor Pest Solutions have been retained to investigate Rodent activity in the mechanical room as well as ant infestation in the office adjacent to the prayer hall. Gaps under the door leading to the parking lot from the mechanical room was closed. Purcor Pest Solutions will continue servicing the facility on a quarterly basis for ant and insect activity.
- All fire system tests (smoke & CO detectors, alarm, Sprinkler Back Flow Prevention required by the City of Kirkland were completed by a license contractor were completed per schedule.

### Challenges

- A building the size of IMAN requires a significant amount of attention for its general upkeep and maintenance. IMAN is blessed and is fortunate to have people with flexible working schedules who are able to help. Longer term, it will be necessary to have a dedicated Facilities Manager/ Caretaker.

### Opportunities

- Continue strengthening the Facilities Subcommittee

### Recommendations for next year

- Increasing community involvement & awareness in keeping the facilities clean and safe.
- Develop a facilities maintenance manual.
- Progress on IMAN Center remodel
- AV system upgrades
- Install security cameras at the entrances and the parking area.
- Improve signage throughout the building (interior).

## 2.5 Hospitality Committee

### Members

**Chair:** Kaniz Khaki, Hayatullah Haidar

**Committee members:** Kiyam Mansuri, Nuri Mansuri, Firdos Al-Haddad, Zahra Ghatrani

**Additional helpers:** Karim Al-Haddad, Sabra Rizvi, Shakera Habib, Robina Qureshi, Rahmatullah Faizi (Hamid)

### Accomplishments

- Hospitality Team served the community by ensuring a safe, healthy, and welcoming environment at IMAN Center of Kirkland for all in-person scheduled events
- Hospitality Team ensured the center is ready from beginning of the program till the end by making sure setup/cleanup tasks are performed.
- Hospitality Team ensured that all the necessary supplies for running a smooth program are sufficient and replenish any items running low. I.E.: Food serving supplies, Kitchen/Restroom cleaning, sanitization and upkeep supplies.
- Hospitality Team ensured that Kitchen and Restrooms are hygienically clean prior to beginning of all in-person programs and are cleaned after each event.
- Hospitality Team ensures that items such as chairs or mohrs/tasbih moved during the program are placed in their appropriate locations at the end of each program
- Hospitality Team ensures that vacuuming and toilet cleaning and garbage removal occurs after each event
- Coordinated sign-ups and catering of food for all in-person planned events.
- Coordinated in-person on-demand volunteers to help ensure that the in-person events can run as smooth as possible. This provides opportunities for those that are unable to sign-up ahead of time and yet be able to contribute towards serving the community.
- **Eid-ul-Fitr:** Served community during entire Holy month of Ramadhan including full Iftar on Fri, Sat and special A'amaal nights by accommodating between 150-200 community members. In addition, accomplished serving Eid Brunch close to 350-375 community members.
- **Eid-ul-Adha:** Served Eid-ul-Adha Brunch.
- **Muharram:** Coordinated Tabarruk sign-ups, helped distributions and serving the community.
- **Arbaeen:** Hospitality served IMAN sponsored Tabarruk in addition to all setup/clean up tasks.
- **Milad un-Nabi** – Three day event was successful.
  - ❖ Decorating the IMAN Center for the celebration event
  - ❖ Coordinated catered food. Two days were catered.
- **Dua-e-Kumayl:** Provide light snacks by community specially by members like Sr. Kiyam/Br. Nuri.
- More people are signing up for Thursday night memorials for the family members that are deceased.
- **Private Events:** Private events may include memorial service by community members and may include members that are part of community at large. During such events, Hospitality Team coordinates and ensures that some core team members are available and hands-on for managing any private events so that the sanctity and security of the center is intact. Core team members managing the event ensures that the Vacuuming, Kitchen and Bathroom (including toilets) cleaning and sanitization occurs after the private event.
- **Family Night:** Family Night event have been at a pause since last Ramadhan.
- **Use of social media:** Use of social media apps like WhatsApp is helping us coordinate with community better than years past

### **Challenges**

- Our core volunteer pool is the older generation. We need to encourage and engage new and younger people to join our team. People don't want to commit ahead, once they are at the center, they are ready to help.

### **Opportunities**

- Encourage and engage younger members of the community to participate in Hospitality Committee activities.

### **Recommendation for the next year**

- Nurture communities of service and build a congregation of character.

## **3.0 Other Services and Activities**

### **3.1 Funeral Services**

Members of IMAN have continued to provide funeral services when contacted. IMAN recommends the services of the House of Mercy in Kent.

As we see continued cases where bereaved families insist on burying at cemeteries in Bellevue, Redmond, Issaquah and Lynnwood, there is a need for a dedicated Muslim section at local cemeteries.

Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS) continues to be very cooperative with our community whenever there is a need to use their Ghusl facilities and even arranged for additional volunteers when needed. We would like to express our gratitude for their generosity and continued cooperation.

Given the increased demand in recent years, more people are needed to help with funeral services. Those interested to help can sign-up by joining the [funeral@iman-wa.org](mailto:funeral@iman-wa.org) email list, where notification is sent when volunteers are needed.

### **3.2 Aqd Nikah Services**

IMAN conducts Aqd Nikah ceremonies as a service to Muslims in the area. A streamlined process that uses draft marriage contract designed by the World Federation is in place. The service provided include issuance of a Certificate for Islamic Nikah as well as the official Certificate of Marriage for the State of WA.

Members of the Muslim community also approach IMAN to witness and document the pronouncement of Islamic Talaq (Divorce).

One area of expansion for IMAN is to consider Islamic matrimonial services to facilitate match making and marriage counseling.

### **3.3 Newsletter/Communication/Web Site**

Communication with IMAN community has been through announcements during our programs online or at the IMAN Center, our web site, our Twitter account, our Facebook page, WhatsApp groups and through email lists.

IMAN's website and use of digital and social media needs enhancement. This is an area with enormous potential to better communicate and stay in touch with IMAN as well as impact the broader Seattle community and can benefit from passionate and dedicated volunteers.

### **3.4 Greater Seattle Social Support Network**

Greater Seattle area continues to receive its share of refugees and immigrants who have had to flee oppression and/or violence. New arrivals in this land of immigrants face numerous life challenges to re-establish themselves.

The IMAN Social Services committee over the years has done commendable work in providing financial help (towards rent, medical bills, groceries, auto-repairs, etc.) to those in need. The geography served by IMAN Social Service volunteers spans from Des Moines to Everett. The limited assistance provided by IMAN through its small volunteer bases is much appreciated by those served and has helped many avert crisis.

IMAN Executive Committee recognized that the small volunteer base could not sustain the growing base of

people who need help or will need help. Further, people who find themselves in difficult life situations are often in need of more assistance to get back on their feet than the small (e.g., < \$500 rental assistance) that is provided. It is for this reason focus has shifted to redirect those applying to IMAN for assistance to first contact Islamic and other Faith based and/or community centers which are in closer proximity to the aid applicant. By doing so, we hope with time, to grow the social service volunteer base that can come to assist people in difficult financial or health situations and also tap into a broader donor pool.

The shift of focus in how the social services committee will operate requires us to engage more community organization and when necessary, train and/or assist these communities to build competencies in their social service arms.

Talent within the IMAN community is needed to network and when necessary, share best practices developed at IMAN with other organizations in the Greater Seattle area.

لَيْسَ الْبِرُّ أَنْ تُوَلُّوا وُجُوهَكُمْ قِبَلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلَكِنَّ الْبِرَّ مَنْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ وَآتَى الْمَالَ عَلَىٰ حُبِّهِ ذَوِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسَاكِينَ وَابْنَ السَّبِيلِ وَالسَّائِلِينَ وَفِي الرِّقَابِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَى الزَّكَاةَ وَالْمُوفُونَ بِعَهْدِهِمْ إِذَا عَاهَدُوا وَالصَّابِرِينَ فِي الْبَأْسَاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ وَحِينَ الْبَأْسِ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا ۗ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُتَّقُونَ

*Righteousness is not that you turn your faces toward the east or the west, but [true] righteousness is [in] one who believes in Allah , the Last Day, the angels, the Book, and the prophets and gives wealth, in spite of love for it, to relatives, orphans, the needy, the traveler, those who ask [for help], and for freeing slaves; [and who] establishes prayer and gives zakah; [those who] fulfill their promise when they promise; and [those who] are patient in poverty and hardship and during battle. Those are the ones who have been true, and it is those who are the righteous. [Al-Baqarah 2:177]*

### 3.5 Outreach Efforts

Reliable sources of information about Islam and opportunities for others to interact with practicing Muslims continue to be of great interest to the broader community to develop a better understanding of Islam and Muslims.

IMAN maintains an open-door policy to all its programs and activities.

Br. Jawad Khaki visits local area churches and educational institutions on as need basis.

When possible, participate in the monthly [F.I.R.E.](#) planning meetings to explore ways to promote interfaith understanding and cooperation on the Eastside.

IMAN participated in the [2023 Kirkland 4th of July Parade](#). Photos from the parade can be found at: [Photos from 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 Parade](#).

#### Challenges

- Need more people to help with Community Outreach.

#### Opportunities

- Educating our neighbors and colleagues on Islam and Muslim
- Improve resources available on the <https://www.iman-wa.org/aboutislam>

#### Recommendations

- There is need for well thought out, well supplied and easily accessible resources for visitors and those interested in learning about Islam or Muslims, and for new converts.
- Stimulating discussion among IMAN members interested in these areas will help clarify outreach interests, level of commitment, and resources needed.
- Recruitment of IMAN members to be involved in outreach efforts must be in the context of existing commitments of those willing to help. Individuals interested in reaching out tend to be the same members who are already heavily involved in multiple IMAN activities.
- We need more qualified and committed people from the IMAN community to offer classes related to specific Islamic beliefs and practices on a regular basis.
- There is a continuing need for improved coordination between Muslim Communities as part of Greater Seattle Council of Muslim Communities.

### 3.6 Dr. and Mrs. Amir-Hossein Naini School Scholarship Fund Members

**Chair:** Mariam Naini

**Committee members:** Sameer Tejani

- This year, the committee continued to market the existence of the scholarship both through email campaigns as well as postings at local and private university institutions in the US.
- The committee received two applications.
- With two IMAN members currently supporting the scholarship fund, the committee unanimously awarded a \$5K graduate scholarship to one individual who is a Nutrition/Dietary Masters candidate



(graduating in 2026) at the University of New England. She is of African descent and focused on addressing the unique dietary opportunities of this population.

- The Committee continues to seek a third Committee member to join. Though candidates have been interviewed, none have been identified to date. Referrals for a new committee member who has attended graduate school in the US and excelled in their field of choice are welcomed.
- To date, 6 of the 7 awardees of this scholarship have been women, covering fields as diverse as medical, Anglo-Middle eastern linguistics, immigrant policy making studies and nutritional studies, representing diverse cultural and geographical heritages.
- The Scholarship fund continues to grow annually with the goal that the income from the fund will cover the cost of the annual scholarship award made.

## 4.0 Executive Committee Recommendations for 2023/2024

The following are the Executive Committee recommendations for the coming year:

### 4.1 Increased Community Engagement

IMAN members have an opportunity to build a strong spiritually vibrant caring sharing community in the beautiful Pacific Northwest – a community that draws its inspiration from our beloved Prophet Muhammad and his blessed Progeny (peace be upon them all).

Our ability to succeed in establishing such a vibrant community depends on the active involvement of more people than the current level of participation.

As was the case at the dawn of Islam in Medina, or when Ibrahim A.S. and his family migrated to Mecca, it all starts with building spiritual strength through the establishment of regular prayer and a communal strength through pursuance of common goals in the development of our families and neighborhoods.

وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَارْكَعُوا مَعَ الرَّاكِعِينَ (2:43)

*And establish prayer and give zakah and bow with those who bow. [Al-Baqarah 2:43]*

We need to recognize that we are living in a dynamic USA that itself is undergoing transformation due to a variety of factors.

We are fortunate in to be living that in a community that values diversity and inclusion and would like us to play a more prominent role in the shaping of our shared future in this beautiful part of the world.

ادْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحِكْمَةِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ وَجَادِهِمْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ  
بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ (16:125)

*Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction and argue with them in a way that is best. Indeed, your Lord is most knowing of who has strayed from His way, and He is most knowing of who is [rightly] guided. [An-Nahl 16:125]*

We are blessed with an educated and informed base that is resourceful and well positioned to make significant contribution not only in the development of our families but also the broader Muslim and non-Muslim communities and neighborhoods.

Let us come together and realize our potential – knowing full well that we will be held to account!

ثُمَّ لَتُسْأَلُنَّ يَوْمَئِذٍ عَنِ النَّعِيمِ (102:8)

*Then you will surely be asked that Day about pleasure. [At-Takāthur 102:8]*

Our activities, for adults and youth, need increased participation and volunteer capacity person.

Monthly family nights are a good start. There are many opportunities to complement these with other post event follow-up activities and socialization to strengthen ourselves as individuals, families and as a community.

## **4.2 Caretaker Position**

IMAN needs to budget for and hire a Caretaker for basic upkeep of the IMAN Center thus relieving pressure off people in key volunteer roles.

## **4.3 IMAN Center Remodel**

Here are next steps recommended for IMAN Center Remodel:

- ❖ IMAN Community review and buy-off on the proposed site plans -(see Appendix A and B)
- ❖ Authorize Architect to start the permitting process with the City of Kirkland.
- ❖ Complete the Architectural design for the remodel for submit permit.
- ❖ Obtain construction costs bids and retain General Contractor.
- ❖ Start fund raising efforts.

## **4.4 Annual Membership Dues**

IMAN Membership dues were set to \$300.00 per annum at formation in 1997.

To help meet increased operational expenses, IMAN EC recommends, and the Board of Directors has approved, the annual membership be raised to \$480.00 per annum starting Fiscal 2023/2024.

## **4.5 Succession Planning**

For continued stability, sustainability and growth of IMAN, Directors of IMAN, with the help of membership, need to focus their attention on succession of individuals in key roles at IMAN some of whom (e.g., Br. Jawad Khaki, Sr. Kaniz Fatima Khaki) have been serving for the > 25 years.

Of these roles the most critical is that of Br. Jawad Khaki who wears several hats: President, Imam of the congregation, Treasurer, Program Committee Lead, Community Outreach Lead – the external face of IMAN, Member of the Facilities Sub-Committee, Sunday School teacher.

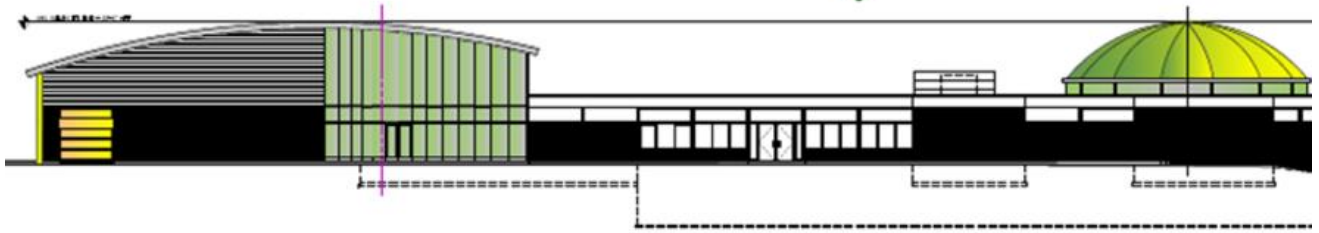
For each of those roles, we need to identify potential successors and have these successors be mentored/groomed to assume these roles over time.

The succession exercise is something that will require time to complete and the sooner and needs to start soon especially as these individuals approach their retirement age.

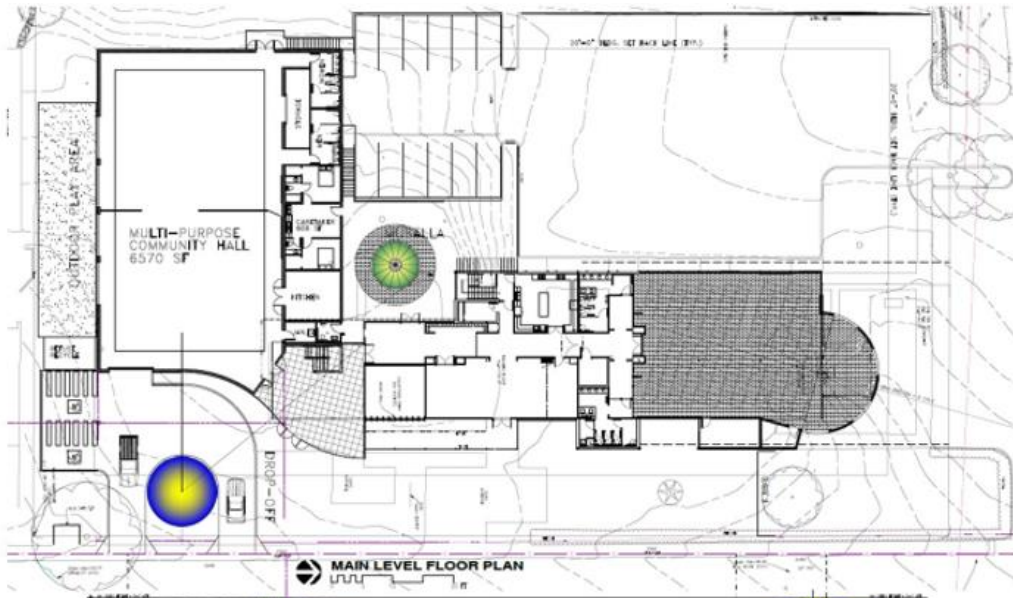
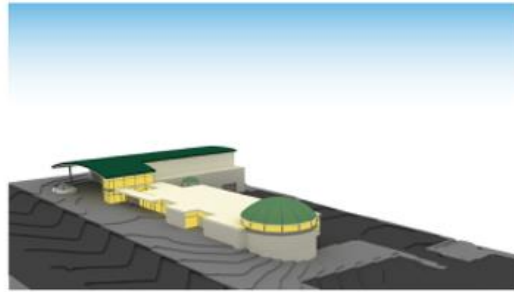
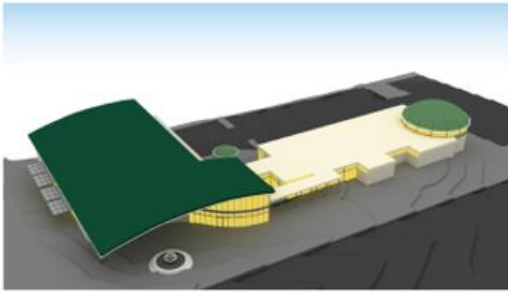
## Appendix A - Initial Proposal for Remodeling



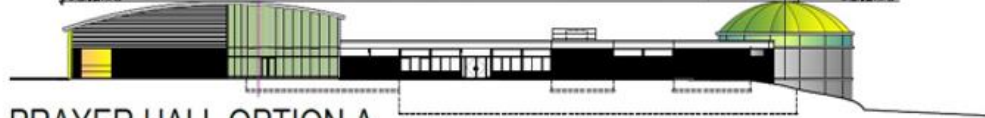
# Remodel



**OPTION A**



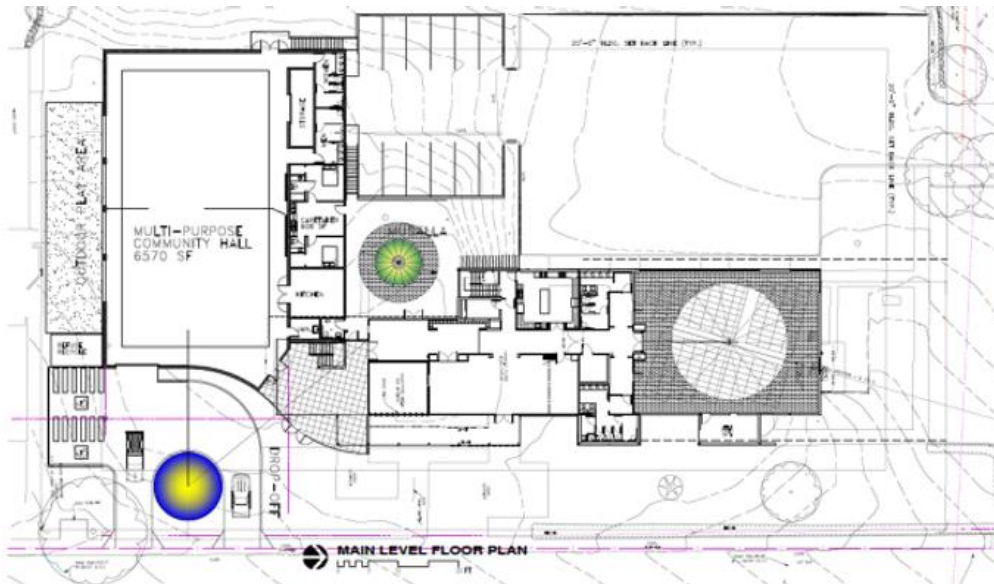
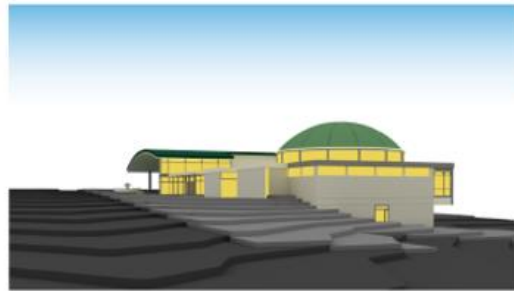
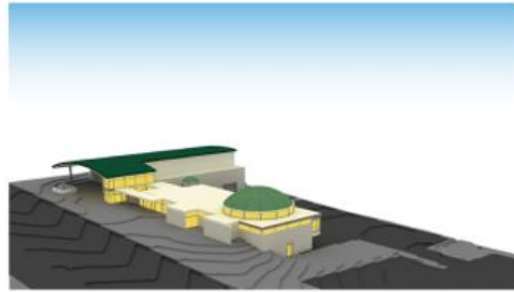
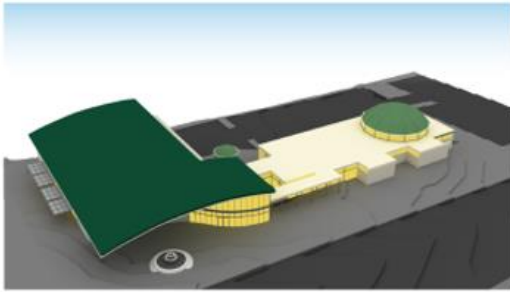
9/02/22



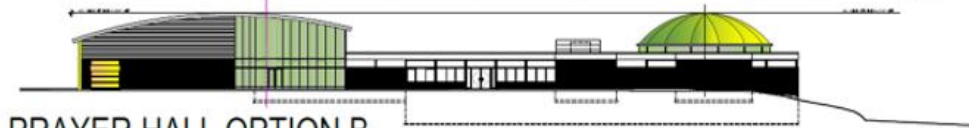
**PRAYER HALL OPTION A**

**IMAN CENTER OF KIRKLAND**  
515 STATE STREET, KIRKLAND, WA 98033

**OPTION B**



9/03/20



**IMAN CENTER OF KIRKLAND**  
515 STATE STREET, KIRKLAND, WA 98033

**Appendix B – Latest 3-D Rendering of the Proposed Remodel**

