



A National Standard-Bearer for Islamic Chaplaincy

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In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful the Most Compassionate

Annual Report 2022

All Praises and Gratitude are due to Allah. During the 2022 reporting period the entire board of MEC, Inc. signed conflict of interest and confidentiality agreements and brought on board a new volunteer staff associate. Revisions were made to the MEC by-laws. The Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC) decided to continue the tenure of their present representative, Imam Dr. Muhammad Salahuddin, for another two years. MEC continued to endorse chaplains in various fields. MEC followed up on the annual reporting of their endorsed chaplains to ensure that they continue to meet the terms of their endorsement and maintain their professional development. This included retrieving annual background checks and requiring them to submit Annual Accountability for Ethical Conduct Statements in line with the standard held by the Association of Professional Chaplains. MEC continued its pursuit to become an endorser with the Department of Defense (DOD). The MEC President and MEC Advisor, Ch AbdulMalik Negedu, published an article in Muslim Matters entitled, "Muslim Chaplains in an Evolving Profession."

MEC signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with ISNA in 2021. According to the agreement MEC is tasked with coordinating the ISNA Chaplaincy Program and endorsement process. Specific responsibilities include processing new endorsement applications and annual renewals, and assisting in organizing annual chaplaincy training and workshops. A new service contract was signed at the close of 2022 between MEC and ISNA which extended MEC's role of processing new endorsement applications, facilitating annual reviews of endorsed chaplains, in addition to collaborating on a national letter campaign to promote the endorsement of Muslim chaplains nationwide.

MEC entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with The Islamic Seminary of America (TISA). The agreement called for a partnership in leadership development. TISA initiated a plan to incorporate MEC's Five Core

Competency Standards into their seminary's pedagogy. It will become a part of their M.Div curriculum. The two organizations have collaborated on identifying candidates for the TISA's chaplaincy scholarship program; MEC scholar.

Two board members of MEC were invited and attended the Hurma Conference in Chicago. They provided a presentation on the mission, vision, and history of MEC which was warmly received and met with pledges of support. MEC convened the Roundtable of Seminaries in early September. The Roundtable is a group of leaders representing seminaries throughout the United States whose purpose is to set national standards for the competency of Islamic chaplains. The group is represented by The American Islamic College (AIC), Bayan Islamic Graduate School, Boston Islamic Seminary (BIS), Hartford International University (HIU), and The Islamic Seminary of America (TISA).