

Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign's 2026 Annual Ramadan Campaign



Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign's Annual DC Area Iftar | Photos by Steve Jeter

Shared Tables, Shared Hope

Stories from Iftars around the country this Ramadan

*People coming together across different faiths and walks of life
to get to know their neighbors through a shared meal...*



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER
CAMPAIGN

Standing with American Muslims.
Advancing American Ideals.



Ramadan is an opportunity to bridge towards a shared future.

The Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign's Annual Ramadan Campaign is an effort to identify, uplift, and connect people to Iftars open to interfaith guests across the United States of America to support local relationship-building among Muslim communities and those of other faiths and cultural backgrounds. **This Ramadan, we listed 100 Iftars open to guests from different faith backgrounds in 23 states. The stories shared here are from some of the participants who hosted or co-hosted Iftars in their communities.**

A shared meal may not be what you think of when you consider what it takes to change the world, but each bite, each conversation, each communal prayer, is a step on the path toward true change. **And every step—however small it seems—has the ability to change hearts and minds to build a lasting infrastructure of solidarity and resilience.**

In the United States of America, people of different religions, cultures, or backgrounds have not always been allowed or encouraged to sit together across a shared table. The Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign's Annual Ramadan Campaign is an opportunity for Muslims to set the table & the agenda, and to take leadership in building community & solidarity across difference. It tells a larger story of people coming together across different faiths and walks of life to get to know their neighbors through a shared meal in order to build a more inclusive and pluralistic society.

In light of the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and founding of the United States of America, this 2026 Ramadan Campaign was an especially important opportunity. We encourage communities to explore the history of American Muslims as a part of shaping our broader American history, and reflect on our shared values and ideals that we have yet to see fully realized.



Interfaith Spring Holiday Celebration

Hosted by Mosaic: Interfaith Youth Action, WaylandCAN, and the Peace Island Institute

March 8 in Wayland, Massachusetts

“We brought together over 120 participants from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Baha’i, and Buddhist communities to celebrate the spring holidays in a shared space. It was a really powerful evening of connection, storytelling, and community-building.

One moment that stood out was during the shared reflections, when a participant shared how meaningful it was to break bread alongside people of different faiths, especially in a time when division can feel so present. They said it reminded them “what’s possible when we choose to show up for one another with openness and curiosity.”

We also incorporated elements of art and dialogue, giving participants space to reflect on identity, belonging, and the role of faith in their lives, which led to some really thoughtful and honest conversations across traditions.”

-Matt Anderson, Executive Director of Mosaic: Interfaith Youth Action



Interfaith Iftar

*At Dublin Community United Church of Christ
March 27 in Dublin, Ohio*

"Nearly 90 people attended this Iftar where delicious food was provided by the Turkish American Society of Ohio.



Speakers from Islamic and Christian perspectives were a highlight of the evening. Fellowship, Food and Understanding were definitely themes of the evening."

-Barb Anderson, Safe Alliance of Interfaith Leaders (SAIL)



Interfaith Iftar

*Bousaid Family Annual Interfaith Iftar
March 8 in Waukesha, Wisconsin*

"We had six families, three Muslim, two Catholic and our interfaith Catholic/ Muslim family. We do this every year and our non Muslim friends enjoy learning about Islam and Ramadan. We all enjoy Moroccan inspired food as my husband is from Morocco. We had lots of fellowship, laughter and fun. My husband's birthday happened to be that day so we surprised him with cake and sang to him in English and Darija! Very

successful event and we look forward to doing it again next year! My dream is to do an event with my parish and the Islamic society in Milwaukee." *-Linden and Abdelilah Bousaid*



9th Annual Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Dinner

A partnership between Pacifica Foundation Seattle, University of Puget Sound, Islamic Center of Tacoma, and Associated Ministries

March 8 in Tacoma, Washington

*"What we loved about this day was that it was held on March 8, International Women's Day. And, ALL the presenters were women!!"
-Sandy Windley, Interfaith Engagement Program Manager of Associated Ministries*



High School interfaith Iftar

Interfaith Youth Alliance in partnership with Pacifica Youth

February 27 in Orange County, California

"Interfaith Youth Alliance is so grateful for the relationship we are building with Pacifica. We had the opportunity to attend the high school interfaith Iftar and our students loved the experience.

Olivia, LDS said: 'The students who led the Pacifica Iftar were very welcoming and hospitable! They showed us an inspirational video about some of the purposes behind Ramadan and how it brings communities closer. Before we ate together, we listened to a prayer that included reflections on world peace.'

Leah, Jewish said: 'The Pacifica Interfaith Iftar was a transformational meal for me. To learn about the observance of Ramadan for a curious, academic standpoint is one thing... but to embrace the tradition of breakfast amongst people more alike than different is beautiful thing. I am so grateful for the warmth of Pacifica and the grace with which they extended their invitation!'"

-Jessica Spence Moss, Executive Director of Interfaith Youth Alliance



All Are Welcome Interfaith Iftar

Intercultural Association of Michigan, Boston Square Church, Kaufman Interfaith Institute, and Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign

A program of the Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign Implementation Team of the Reformed Church in America and Christian Reformed Church in North America

March 4 in Grand Rapids, Michigan

“This family-friendly dinner allowed folks from many cultures and worldview traditions to meet their multi-faith neighbors, engage in thoughtful conversation, and enjoy a delicious meal together. It was an evening that left us feeling ‘full’ in every sense of the word.”

-Kyle Kooyers, Director of Operations at Kaufman Interfaith Institute

Photos by Roman Williams, Founder of Interfaith Photovoice



Interfaith Iftars with the Islamic Center of Orlando

Multiple dates in Orlando, Florida

The Islamic Center of Orlando hosted 8 interfaith Iftars throughout the Orlando area this Ramadan. These annual Iftars are family-friendly events that bring neighbors together from all walks of life. One of the Iftars was hosted in Orlando City Hall, with a recorded “Ramadan Mubarak” message from Mayor Buddy Dyer. Florida House Representative Jennifer “Rita” Harris also provided a message of solidarity for one of the Iftars.

-Submitted by Fatima Ait Rami, Outreach Director at Islamic Center of Orlando

Brave Togetherness: Jews & Muslims Shabbat and Iftar Dinner

NewGround: A Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change

March 6 in Venice, CA

What does it look like when people choose to come together—across difference, across communities, across tables?

This Ramadan, NewGround helped create those moments all across Los Angeles.

From the Annual Iftar to a special gathering for alumni and volunteers, and many shared tables in between, the month was filled with opportunities to connect, reflect, and be in community. Each gathering had its own energy, but what carried through was a sense of warmth, openness, and genuine curiosity about one another. Old friends reconnected, new relationships took root, and conversations unfolded in ways that felt both honest and grounding.

At its core, this is what NewGround does best—bringing people together with intention. As a Muslim–Jewish partnership for change, these Ramadan gatherings weren't just about breaking fast; they were about building something deeper.

And while Ramadan has come to a close, the spirit of those evenings continues—in the conversations that carry on, the relationships that deepen, and the ongoing commitment to showing up for one another.

-Submitted by Marium Mohiuddin, NewGround: A Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change





Ramadan Interfaith Celebration

March 12 in Fullerton, CA

"I was able to take part in an interfaith Iftar in Fullerton California on March 12th, 2026. The overwhelming feelings of unity and appreciation for diversity were palpable. The food was enriching, the conversations were meaningful and the spirit of God that flourished there was abundant and delicious.

I had never been to an Iftar before. It was truly inspiring to see people of different faiths working and praying for the same brighter world. It brought a much-needed hope to my heart in these times that can feel so divided." -Amiah Adamiak



Ramadan '26 Multi-Faith Iftar

March 8 in Pleasanton, CA

On Sunday, March 8, 2026, our community gathered for our Ramadan 2026 Multi-Faith Iftar. Guests from many faiths and denominations joined together to share a meal, conversation, and fellowship, reflecting the spirit of our theme, "United in Faith, Rooted in Understanding."

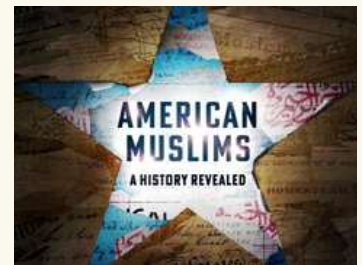
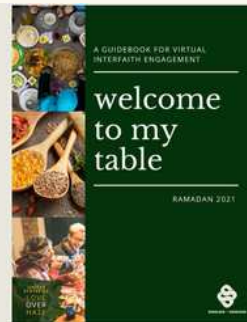
The evening began with reflections from Dublin Council member Kashef Qaadri, who spoke about the importance of learning from one another and strengthening the bonds that help create a more connected and compassionate community.

-Submitted by Afrah Rahman, Marketing and Operations Coordinator at MCC East Bay

Learn more about our Annual Ramadan Campaign & how you can participate:

Join a growing movement of people of faith and goodwill coming together to share meals and build relationships during Ramadan.

- Interfaith Iftar Guides
- *American Muslims: A History Revealed* Screening Challenge
- See our 2026 Interfaith Iftar listing for inspiration
- Ramadan Road Trip Mini Documentary
- And more...



Share *Your* Ramadan Story

Did you host, co-host, or participate in an interfaith Iftar during Ramadan this year? **We want to hear from you!** What were some highlights? What is a moment or story that stood out to you? Are there any photos you would like to share? We'd love to uplift even more stories of people coming together across different faiths and walks of life to get to know their neighbors through a shared meal. **Submit your story to:** info@s2scampaign.org

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