

Metro Industrial Areas Foundation (Metro IAF) [↗](#) is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the nation's first and largest network of multi-faith, broad-based citizen organizations. IAF has **seven decades of experience winning tough battles** on housing, health care, education, living wages, immigration rights, and other issues across the nation.

Metro IAF has had a strong base in the Islamic community dating back to the 1997 founding of United Power, Metro IAF's Chicago/Cook County affiliate. Today, Metro IAF affiliates in Northern Virginia, Boston, New Haven/Bridgeport, Metro NYC, Washington DC, Maryland, Cleveland, Milwaukee, and suburban Chicago have mosques and related Islamic organizations as active, dues paying members. The issues and concerns of the Islamic community have been central to the organizing and actions of these Metro IAF affiliates.

Our organizing together has resulted in many concrete victories:

In Northern Virginia, VOICE ...



- Held Senator Jim Webb and ICE accountable for **processing backlogged (9+ years) immigration applications** (citizenship, green card, work permit, asylum) for Northern Virginia Muslims (for [NY Times article click here ↗](#));
- Organized with the Muslim American Society (MAS) Community Center to **obtain a bank loan to finance a new facility** after all major financial institutions refused to do business with them;
- **Won school bus stop for mostly Muslim youth in Bailey's Crossroads** area who now can catch the bus near where they live.

Other Metro IAF Affiliates ...



- **Secured female only swimming hours** at pool in the Maryland suburbs by Muslim and non-Muslim congregations organizing together;
- **Organized 4,000 Chicagoland Muslims, Christians, and Jews** in Fall 2001 at Navy Peer for a solidarity action following the September 11th Terrorist Attacks as well as similar solidarity actions in VA, MD, IL, MA, NC following the Ft. Hood, San Bernardino, Boston, and other terrorist attacks;
- **Ended unwarranted Federal restrictions** on legitimate Muslim charities and relief organizations in Chicagoland following the September 11th crackdown;
- **Won local zoning and other approvals for new mosques** in suburban Chicago, NYC, and other areas;
- **Organized two international gatherings** (Chicago & Berlin) of Metro IAF Islamic leaders from Germany, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States to connect Muslim leaders engaged in organizing across the Metro IAF/ IAF network to build relationships, share experiences, and strategize about how to increase Muslim participation in IAF organizing.