



AMAC

Albany Muslim Advocacy Coalition

NEWSLETTER

December 2025 / Q4

2025:
A Year of
Building,
Presence
& Purpose



The Albany Muslim Advocacy Coalition (AMAC) was founded to strengthen the civic voice of Muslims in the Capital Region.

Together, we're working to raise awareness, influence policy, and ensure our community is represented.

2 0 2 5 R e v i e w



JANUARY

community & accountability

January began with a defining moment for AMAC: Our Inaugural Gala, alongside testimony before the Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission, set the tone for a year rooted in both community and accountability.

FEBRUARY

deepening relationships

In February, we brought partners together through a Coalition-Building Dinner with JVP Albany, deepening relationships that would carry us through the year.

MARCH

action & reflection

March was marked by action and reflection, with a Vigil for Palestine and a Day of Service with RISSE, grounding our advocacy in care for both global and local communities.

APRIL

training

In April, we launched our first Know Your Rights training, equipping community members with critical tools during a time of heightened uncertainty.



MAY

participation

May focused on civic engagement, as we hosted Albany mayoral candidate interviews and organized around the Albany and Bethlehem Library Board elections, reinforcing the importance of participation at every level.





JUNE

momentum & affirmation

June brought momentum and affirmation, with our AMAC-endorsed candidate Dorcey Applyrs and Zohran Mamdani sweeping their primaries, alongside our participation in the Albany Institute of History and Art's Juneteenth Festival, celebrating shared struggles and solidarity.

JULY

commitment

In July, AMAC met directly with legislators to address the rise in anti-Muslim hate, continuing our commitment to advocacy that is both direct and constructive.

AUGUST

engagement

August marked a new chapter of engagement with our first coalition meeting with Mayor-Elect Dorcey Applyrs, laying groundwork for ongoing dialogue.

SEPTEMBER

centering

In September, we convened a Community Stakeholder Meeting, centering our community members in the path ahead.

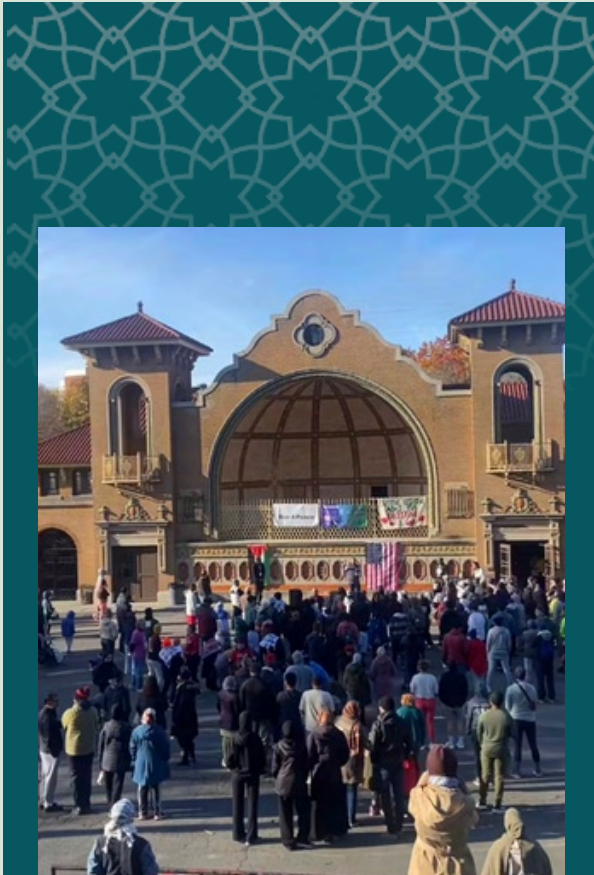
OCTOBER

truth-telling, learning & accountability

October was a milestone month, featuring our community's first-ever Anti-Muslim Hate & Bias Town Hall with legislators and Division of Human Rights representatives, and our second Know Your Rights training, creating space for truth-telling, learning, and accountability.



2 0 2 5 R e v i e w



NOVEMBER

solidarity

In November, our community came together in motion and purpose at the first ever Gaza Run 4 Peace, turning solidarity into tangible support.

DECEMBER

culture, creativity, & connection

We closed the year in December with our incredibly successful Multicultural Makers & Flavors Fair at the Albany Institute of History and Art, celebrating culture, creativity, and connection - reminding us that joy, too, is a form of resistance.

But that's not all! 2025 also held the following achievements:

- 14 letters, statements, and policy memos issued
- 3 media features amplifying Muslim voices in the Capital Region
- 1 historic political endorsement
- 13 community events tabled
- 101 social media posts reaching 224,000+ people
- 4 newsletters keeping our community informed and connected

Each number represents hours of organizing, relationship-building, and advocacy - much of it happening behind the scenes, all of it rooted in service to our community.



As we move forward, our faith will continue to ground us, guide us, and help us remain committed to building a more just and connected Albany.

Fi-sabi-lillah.

(for the sake of Allah)



Plans for 2026

Civic Engagement

In 2026, Civic Engagement will remain at the heart of AMAC's work, reflecting our belief that lasting change comes from showing up, nurturing relationships, and speaking up for our community with care and purposeful intent.

Over the past year, we met with Capital Region members of the State Assembly and Senate during the legislative session to share both our support for key initiatives—such as recognition of Eid as a School Holiday and the Not on Our Dime legislation—as well as our concerns around proposals like the Masked Harassment bill. These conversations created space for more nuanced understanding and allowed our elected officials to better grasp the lived realities of our community. InshaAllah, we will schedule meetings during the upcoming session with a refreshed set of legislative priorities.

We will continue to create welcoming spaces for dialogue by hosting two additional Town Halls, inshaAllah one in the Spring and another in the Fall. When our community shows up in strong numbers, these gatherings become powerful opportunities for connection—allowing elected officials to listen, learn, and engage with Muslim constituents.



At the local level, we are also focused on strengthening relationships with town councils, school boards, and other municipal bodies where decisions often have an immediate impact on daily life. We encourage our members to flag local issues or situations that may benefit from greater attention. While AMAC may not be able to personally intervene in every case, we are committed to helping connect community members with the tools, resources, and guidance needed to advocate effectively and confidently.

If you'd like to get more involved, we invite you to join the Civic Engagement chat in the AMAC WhatsApp Community.

Together, through sustained engagement and shared responsibility, we can continue to strengthen our collective voice and work toward a more just and inclusive future.

**JOIN
NOW**

[AMAC WhatsApp Group](#)



Building Bridges



Building Bridges will continue to be a core pillar of our work, as AMAC remains committed to doing the slow, necessary work of building trust, strengthening relationships, and ensuring our community is not only protected, but heard.

In the year ahead, we will deepen strategic partnerships with coalition allies who share our commitment to justice and accountability. These relationships allow us to respond more effectively to moments of crisis and to advocate with greater strength and coordination.

We will also continue to build and formalize relationships with institutions and agencies - particularly those charged with protecting civil rights, such as the Department of Human Rights.

Engagement with these bodies is essential to ensuring that policies are informed by lived experience and that Muslim New Yorkers have clear, trusted pathways to support and recourse.

Finally, we are recommitting to the work of bridge-building within the broader community around us. That means showing up beyond moments of urgency, investing in dialogue, and creating opportunities for shared understanding across faiths, cultures, and neighborhoods.

We believe that lasting safety and belonging come not from isolation, but from connection.

*Want to help? Join the **Outreach External** sub chat in the AMAC Whatsapp community!*

 **JOIN NOW**

[AMAC WhatsApp Group](#)



Empowering Within



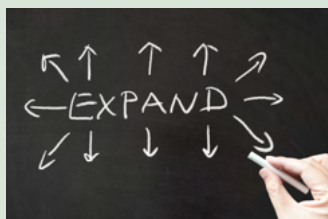
This year, our focus has been on strengthening our community from the inside out, because lasting civic power starts with informed, empowered communities.



Our content creation team has been working tirelessly to raise civic awareness and elevate the Muslim voice, producing materials that help demystify civic engagement and reflect the lived experiences of our community on IG and FB. This work is about more than visibility - it's about ensuring our narratives, concerns, and contributions are part of the public conversation.



At the same time, we have been coordinating with the Albany and Schenectady communities to identify culturally appropriate and trusted ways to share Know Your Rights information with local immigrant populations. Behind the scenes, we are also developing website resources to centralize information and guidance for our community. While much of this work is just starting to become visible, it is laying the groundwork for something bigger inshaaAllah.



Looking ahead to 2026, our goal is to expand these efforts by offering stronger networks, more resources, and broader access so individuals and families feel supported, informed, and empowered to engage confidently in the Capital District. These goals include:

- Providing more in-person or virtual civic engagement sessions.
- Creating more content for our social media platforms.
- Reaching out to specific stakeholders to help with specific initiatives.

Want to help? Join working groups in the AMAC Whatsapp community!



[AMAC WhatsApp Group](#)



Upcoming Events



ICE Out of Albany Rally

- Saturday, January 3rd, 2026
- 1pm
- Townsend Park
- Let's unite to support a common cause!



Film Screening: The Great Muslim American Road Trip

- Sunday, January 11th, 2026
- 2pm
- Albany Institute of History & Art
- Join us for an exclusive screening with the Executive Producer!



2nd Annual AMAC Gala

- Sunday, January 25th, 2026
- 5pm
- Muslim Community Center (MCC)
- [Purchase Tickets](#) - Early bird pricing Ends 1/10!



Ramadan

- ~Wednesday, February 18th, 2026
- N/A
- Everywhere
- Have a blessed month!



Eid ul Fitr

- Friday, March 20th, 2026
- N/A
- Everywhere
- Enjoy the day with your loved ones!





Thank You

As always, we are deeply grateful for your continued support.

Thank you for standing with us, for believing in the power of community, and for helping build a future where every Muslim voice is heard, respected, and protected.

You are what makes this movement possible.

*With appreciation and gratitude,
Albany Muslim Advocacy Coalition*



AMAC

Albany Muslim Advocacy Coalition