

Dear Community Members Aslamoalequm:

It is an **honor** to be nominated again as the General Secretary of our beautiful Masjid. Alhamdulillah

An **IT Professional** and an **engineer** with 25 years of Information Technology experience working in the Aerospace, Defense, financial, manufacturing and retail industry. Over the years, served in various roles as a volunteer at IFN.

- 1) A grassroots volunteer of our beautiful Masjid.
- 2) Started as a volunteer serving Iftar during Ramadan.
- 3) IFN Adopt a Highway Program volunteer for 3 years.
- 4) IFN Sunday School volunteer for 3 years.
- 5) Served as a volunteer for 9 years for IFN Eid Salah setup and arrangements at the Sports Complex.
- 6) A GainPeace Volunteer for 3 years participating in Dawah Training/Programs and countering Islamophobia.
- 7) IFN Membership Team volunteer for 2 years.
- 8) IFN Membership Team Leader for 4 years.
- 9) As the membership lead worked diligently with the team to **double** the membership levels from the 200s to the 500s level.
- 10) Consistently maintained the IFN Membership levels in the 450-500 range year on year, generating a stable source of revenue for IFN.
- 11) Served as a member of the IFN Election Commission for a year and officiated the candidate Q&A Sessions.
- 12) Participated and contributed to IFN Strategic Planning Expansion Project Sessions.
- 13) Supported fund raising activities and events for the Masjid for several years.
- 14) Successfully initiated the 2019 IFN Community Potluck Program.

### **My vision as a General Secretary**

- 1) **Inclusion:** Engage all members of our community that comprise the true demographics of our community. Build a force of dedicated volunteers that truly represents our community.
- 2) **Training:** Design and conduct volunteer training programs to improve the efficiency of our volunteers.
- 3) **Facility Operations:** Continue smooth operations of the existing programs while enhancing operational procedures where required.
- 4) **IT Systems: Improve, enhance** and secure our Information Technology Systems and infrastructure.
- 5) **Security:** Work with the team to enhance and improve our security measures and systems.
- 6) **IFN Expansion Project:** Continue to partner and support the BOT and the Capital Project Team for the IFN expansion project.
- 7) **Youth Programs:** Work with the youth in building our next generation of leaders and force of volunteers.
- 8) **Islamophobia:** Continue to contribute towards initiatives of Dawah, outreach and countering Islamophobia.
- 9) **Additions:** Offer new programs and services that will benefit the community at large.

### **Few highlights of my first term as General Secretary**

#### **Information Technology Domain**

- Covid-19 Pandemic IT Roadmap & IT Operational Plans.
- An IT Roadmap to convert all in-person IFN Programs to Online Programs.
- An IT Operational Plan to convert all educational services to an Online Educational Program (SS, HSYC).
- Research & analysis of IT Tools to initiate online programs.
- Stage 1 – Audio messaging, email communication & WhatsApp.
- Created new IFN's Twitter, Facebook, Instagram Accounts & social media presence.
- Establishing the new YouTube Channel.
- Started Zoom online programming – Virtual Program Kickoff Session 03/17/20.

- Connected with the pandemic isolated youth & initiated Youth Zoom Sessions (YM, SSU).
- Establishing the Online Zoom Sessions to support the Quran Academy & Hifz Program.
- Creation of Google Classrooms to support the IFN Sunday School/HSYC Online Programs.
- IFN website update & IFN Imam Frequent Blog Updates.
- Salah Registration, Smart Jamaat rollout & Masjid Reopening.
- **Free IT Training** for the community & youth.
- **IT Business Portal Launch** to connect the community & local businesses.
- Overall IT Technology Support to education.
- Continuous upgrading of our website and IT Infrastructure.

### Covid-19 Pandemic

- **Most difficult** period operationally with Covid-19 when the Masjid was shutdown.
- Aggressive tactical operational planning to revive the Operations of the Masjid.
- Defining & establishing IFN Facilities Covid-19 Protocols in line with CDC , IDPH & WHO.
- Played Key role is establishing the IFN Covid-19 Task Force.
- Establishing IFN Covid-19 Protocols, operational procedures & cleaning protocols.
- No-contact IFN Drive thru drop off service for the community during 2020 Ramadan.
- Contact Tracing protocol establishment with IDPH IT Team.
- Supporting Covid-19 Testing & vaccination initiatives at IFN.

### Facilities & Operations

- Covid-19 Facilities & Operational Plan formulation.
- Initiated the pending **IFN Men's Musallah Renovation Project** in the peak of the pandemic. Successfully completed the two double doors were added on each side of the main Musallah.
- Securing the Masjid during the George Floyd riots.
- Masjid Reopening Campaign & Salah Registration Protocols.
- Registration & social distancing salah prayers setup.
- Initiated and successfully completed the Chandelier Renovation Project.
- 2021 - Reviving in-person programs, our hybrid journey still in-progress.....

### Membership

- 2020 – Electronic membership campaign during the uncertain & difficult period of the Masjid Closure.
- 2021 – Membership above the 500s level after the 2020 pandemic year.

I would humbly request you to provide me an opportunity to serve as the General Secretary to continue the positive momentum with the support of the dedicated volunteers & community. My experience at IFN and beyond will help me in serving our Masjid. I wish and pray to Allah (SWT) that with your support and duah, we can take the IFN **Success Story** to the next level and partner through this journey to one day make IFN the **Best Islamic Center** not just in the Chicagoland Area, but in North America. In Shaa Allah.

Most respectfully,

Aamir M. Ahmed

Candidate for General Secretary

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