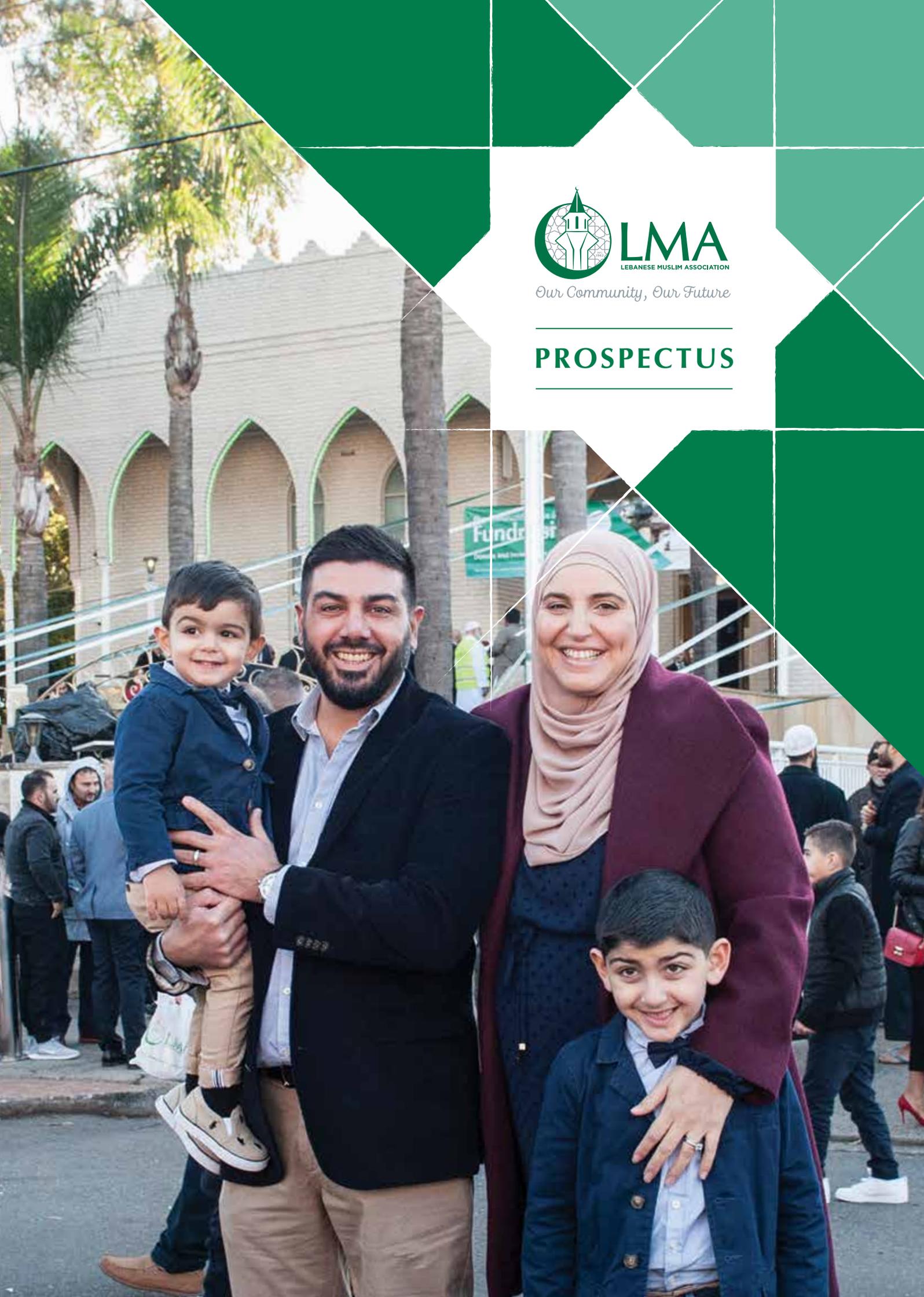




LMA
LEBANESE MUSLIM ASSOCIATION

Our Community, Our Future

PROSPECTUS





Our Community, Our Future

PROSPECTUS



to gladden the heart of human being
row of the sorrowful, and to remove the suff

1960s
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...

1970s
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...

1980s
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...
The movement to a state of universal brotherhood and peace...



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الجمعية والسياسة
May 14 October, 10am
LMA Function Hall

LMA NSW Health



OPTIMUS
FITNESS



Overview

The Lebanese Muslim Association (LMA) has been in operation since 1962 and has grown to be a nationally recognised representative service provider with over 1,000 members, over 400 initiatives and events and a staff of over 40 employees.

The LMA's reach has grown to include a vast spectrum of communities and networks from across NSW, including the daily running and operation of three mosques and partnerships with a number of stakeholders and sponsors.

As an organisation, it is most prominently associated with being the caretaker of Lakemba Mosque, one of the largest purpose-built Mosques in Australia, which hosts a congregation of thousands of people every week, and over 100,000 people across major events and milestones.

The LMA continues to grow, reaching new sectors and fields, expanding its scope across new online platforms and developing new spaces to accommodate a rapidly changing community discourse. With a strong sense of history and context, the LMA continues to work towards building an Australian Muslim community that is able to confidently tackle the many challenges and obstacles it faces.



Left: LMA Annual Community Wellness Expo; Above: Lakemba Mosque.

History

1960s

The LMA was established in 1962 by a group of Lebanese immigrants to provide social, religious, educational and recreational services for the Muslim community.

A community prayer hall was established, along with a Sunday school to teach Islam.

The organisation purchased land to build the first purpose-built mosque in Sydney. ▲



The organisation was a driving force to help establish prayer rooms in airports, hospitals and government institutions around Australia.

1970s



▲ In 1972 the construction of the Imam Ali bin Abi Taleb Mosque was completed in Lakemba, NSW, and would go on to become a defining establishment of the Australian Muslim Community.

The organisation established the Adahi charity program and the Arabic community language program.

The LMA helped establish a wide variety of local and community organisations, supporting them in their early stages of growth and development.

1980s



The LMA built the first Islamic funeral parlour in Australia and instituted out-of-coffin burials, as well as lobbying for Muslim-designated plots in cemeteries.

The annual Hajj program was established, with the LMA taking the first group of Australian Muslims on the sacred pilgrimage.



Commencement of construction and development of the multi-purpose centre that currently houses the LMA Head Office.

1990s



The LMA expanded during this time, opening a mosque in Cabramatta and a mosque in the rural town of Young, 4.5 hours outside of Sydney. Tours at Lakemba mosque were also established during this time, remaining popular to this day.

Brought the first contingent of Quran reciters from Al-Azhar University in the month of Ramadan.

Established Friday prayers in local high schools for Muslim youth.

2000s

The LMA worked towards establishing Friday Prayers in local high schools for Muslim students and widely expanded their youth programs to include sports and recreational activities.

A representative for the mufti of Lebanon was established in the LMA office.

The completion of the multi-purpose youth centre.





2010s

The world's first National Mosque Open Day was pioneered during this time, going on to set global standards on engagement and dawah.

The LMA successfully transitioned Lakemba Mosque to be the first solar-powered mosque in Australia.

The LMA established a powerful political lobby arm that delivered 4000 new burial sites for Muslims, as well as the first self-managed cemetery in Narellan.

The organisation was accredited for the first out-of-home foster care service for the Muslim community as well as an approved provider license to deliver the 112 bed AMAN Aged Care Facility.

The LMA established Thrive, the first ever Youth Transition Support Program for young new migrants, creating a far reaching network of innovative and supportive initiatives for young newly arrived migrants and refugees.

The LMA built the globally ground breaking Engage, Challenge, Grow Program that worked on multi-faceted approaches to building social cohesion in Australia and the Muslim Community. ▲

The political arm of the organisation would go on to hold the historical National Unity Week which brought together all major federal party leaders for the first time in 5 years since the National Apology to the Stolen Generation.



Mission

The core focus of the LMA and the major objective and guiding principle for its strategies, is to build and support an Australian Muslim Community that has a positive and sustainable contribution both locally and globally.

In that sense, the organisation's focus is on both the internal machinations and structures of the Muslim community and the positionality and context within which it exists.





LMA event for community;
Left: Annual Eid celebrations at the LMA.



Father and son at the annual Eid prayers held at Lakemba Mosque.

Organisational Practices Framework



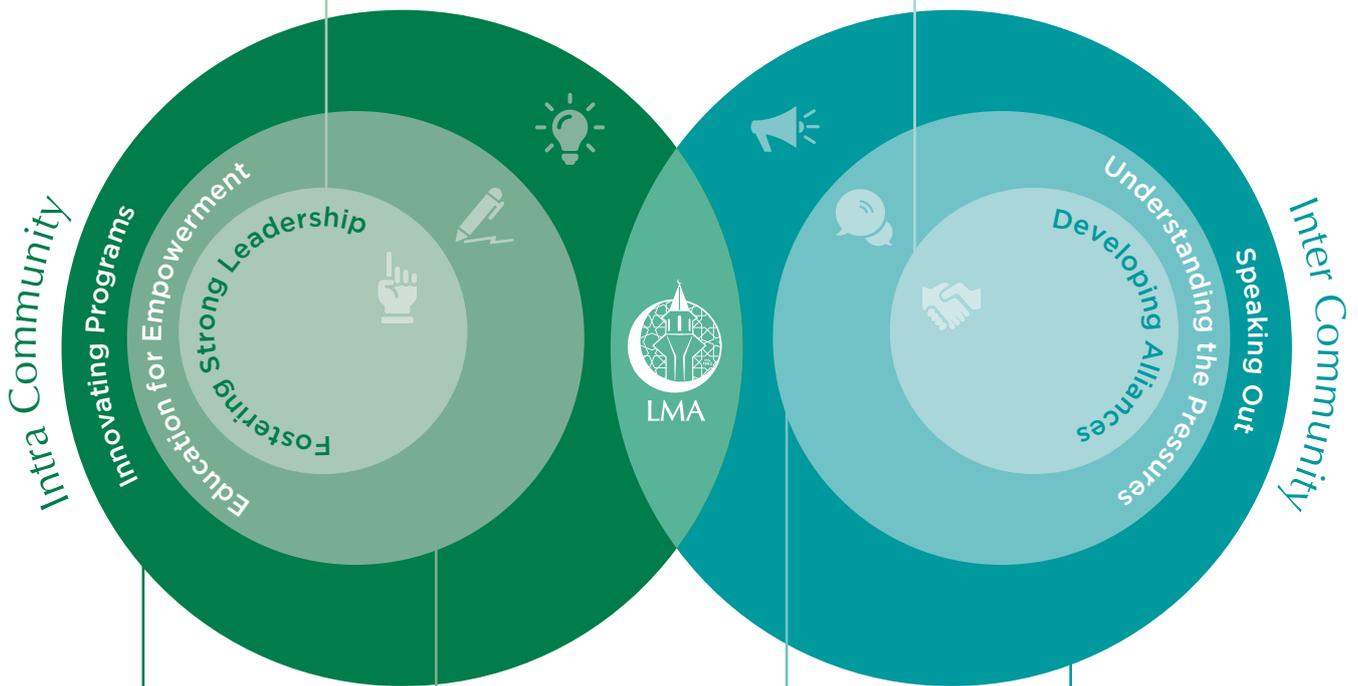
INTRA:
Muslim
Community



INTER:
Mainstream
Community

Listening to the community on key issues, as it naturally evolves and changes, and working towards community independence.

Developing networks of shared values and visions amongst communities from across Australia, and to share an understanding of Islam amongst the wider Australian Community.



Building initiatives that support Australian Muslims through social, political and religious challenges.

Developing structures that educate and empower Muslims from all walks of life, including marginalised and disadvantaged groups, focusing on supporting the growth of a politically and socially conscious community.

Supporting a community to understand the pressures it is under and to develop community wide capacity to effectively respond to toxic and exclusionary narratives.

Activism on key issues that affect the Muslim community and strategically engaging to shift the discourse surrounding Muslims in Australia.

Abseiling activity at the LMA
GoActive annual girls camp.



What we do

Community Services

During the foundational years of the LMA, the organisation developed essential community services that have now become the bedrock of community development amongst Australian Muslims.

From the funeral parlour, marriage services, weekly food bank, Islamic College and counselling to Islamic charity, the Optimus Health and Fitness Centre and youth programs, these services are inherently tied to the DNA and history of the organisation, becoming core to its identity.

The ongoing services are based on the direct needs of the Australian Muslim Community, including the key establishment of services specifically necessary for Muslims, such as the burial and marriage services.

Most importantly, the LMA act as the caretakers of Lakemba Mosque, ensuring it is maintained and constantly active. This only forms part of the religious services of the LMA, which include providing Hajj and Umrah services to the growing community.

These services have grown over time, adapting to the positionality of the organisation and of the key needs of the Australian Muslim Community and continue to grow to ensure essential needs for Muslims continue to be met.

Key Initiatives Include:

- Funeral Services
- Marriage Services
- Hajj and Umrah packages
- Islamic College
- Optimus Gym
- Maintenance of Lakemba Mosque



Annual Eid prayers held at Lakemba Mosque; Left page inset left to right: Inside LMA Library, Optimus Gym.



LMA FUNERAL PARLOUR

LMA MASJID GROUP

LMA ISLAMIC COLLEGE

OPTIMUS
HEALTH + FITNESS



Stand Tall Speak Out, an interschool poetry program culminating in a poetry slam.

Key Initiatives Include:

- Aspire Role Models
- CARE
- Family Community
- GoActive
- National Mosque Open Day
- Think Again
- Together We Are Strong
- Sydney Muslim Conference

Engage, Challenge, Grow

The Engage, Challenge, Grow (ECG) program is a unique and sprawling social cohesion umbrella initiative that was developed in 2012 in response to some of the community challenges the LMA recognised.

Building on gaps in community services and programs, ECG focuses on fostering resilience, connecting people, capacity building, addressing social exclusion and providing wider support to Australian Muslims from all walks of life.

The malleable parameters of ECG have meant it has successfully adapted to different challenges and developed

sustainable strategies for the development of community capacity to overcome obstacles.

The ECG program has grown from the initial deployment of 12 projects in 2013 to over 100 dynamic, empowering and effective initiatives. Each has grown and evolved over time, shifting with community discourse, attendee feedback and the rapidly changing face of community programs.



Thrive

Thrive is a Youth Transition Support project, it was designed to provide support for newly arrived migrants and refugee youth, between the ages of 12-25, in their transition into the Australian community.

Funded by the Department of Social Services, Thrive aims to provide culturally and religiously appropriate services to recently migrated communities.

It offers a host of programs and services that expand on the initial settlement process, focusing upon skills and engagement. Practicality and innovation characterise the Thrive initiatives, developed to ensure they will accentuate and contribute to young people's lives and aspirations.

Driven by the will to innovate and inspire, the Thrive team has led new projects in

areas of education, employment, social inclusion and vocational training. It has built upon existing initiatives, promoted good practice and addressed social gaps to encourage the participation of refugee youth in the Australian community.

By empowering young recent migrants and refugees, Thrive aims to change the social environment which young migrants and refugees are now part of. Thrive has created unique, exciting programs that bring out the best in young people, in safe spaces that support them to be independent, confident, secure and feel at home.

Key Initiatives Include:

- Off The Hook
- Imprint
- QALM
- Universal Cooks
- Rahnoma Mentorship Program
- Under Construction
- Xpressive
- Sobhiye
- Quest





LMA President, Samier Dandan, speaking at an LMA joint initiative, National Unity Week.



Advocacy

The LMA's Advocacy arm has grown exponentially for nearly a decade, expanding into lobbying to all levels of government and across a broad spectrum of issues, from burial spaces to racial and religious discrimination.

Using both media and lobbying strategies, the LMA has built a substantial network of change makers across Australia and positioned itself to best build a powerful and effective, issues based advocacy arm.

The LMA's media strategy can broadly be defined as outcomes focused and built around a case by case approach to individual engagements with media outlets. This has resulted in a reduced number of media engagements, but has brought immense success to the overall strategy.

The LMA has been able to control key narratives, injecting itself via more expansive means such as interviews, editorials, op-eds and participation in discussion panels. It has been able to reflect community wide dissatisfaction with media

reporting and build a controlled, confident media presence for Australian Muslims.

The LMA's lobbying compliments this strategy by focusing on controlled messaging, key stakeholders and practical outcomes. The organisation's lobbying arm has grown to become the most influential amongst Australian Muslims and within NSW, affecting multiple elections and engaging local and federal politicians, going so far as to bring together the three leaders of major parties in Australia to an LMA event.

The key element is to ensure Australian Muslims are well represented on issues affecting them and to ensure the sustainability, growth and reach of the Muslim community is maintained as a priority across the region.



Who we are

Board

The LMA Board is voted in on a three year cycle and the organisation has had over 30 presidents since establishment.

The organisation has a membership of over 1,000, each of whom vote at Annual General Meetings on key issues, as well as voting on the board.

Board members include:

Samier Dandan
President

Dr Mosbah Taha
Vice President

Khaled Alameddine
Secretary

Issam Eid
Treasurer

Maen Akl
Director

Ahmad Awad
Director

Emad Dib
Director

Ahmed Fettayleh
Director

Raed Halabi
Director

Mostafa Kheir
Director

Ahmad Malas
Director

Mohamed Said
Director

Salim Sukari
Director

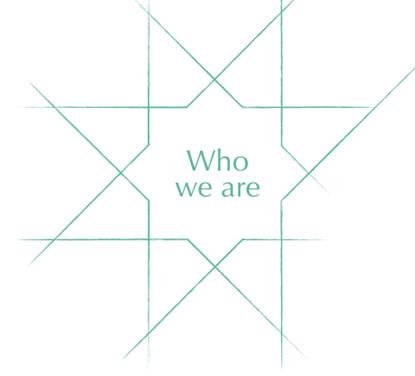
Abdulrahman Zreika
Director



LMA President, Samier Dandan, speaking at LMA's annual Eid prayers.



NATIONAL
MOSQUE
OPEN DAY



LMA Staff

The LMA's staff has grown to include over 40 individuals covering a wide variety of programs.

Staff members run the everyday activities and initiatives of the organisation and come from a wide variety of backgrounds, ethnicities and religions.

In its expansion, the LMA has sought to ensure that staff meet the needs of the Australian Muslim Community and whose skillset, perspective and capacity are given the space to grow and effectively service the community.



Main and inset: LMA staff at various LMA programs.

Who we are

The LMA Universe



Organisations worked with:

- Abu Hanifa Institute
- Afghan Community Support Association of NSW
- Albayan Institute
- Allcraft printing
- ALMA (Austra Lanka Muslims Association)
- Auburn Giants
- Auburn Sports Club
- Australian Muslim Womens Association (AMWA)
- Autism Spectrum Australia
- Bankstown Arts Centre
- Bankstown City Council
- Bankstown Community Health Centre
- Bankstown Poetry Slam
- Barnados Australia
- Belmore Multicultural Youth Services (BYMS)
- Benevolence
- Better Health Company
- Breakthru People Solutions
- Breast Screen NSW
- Bulldogs (cuzz)
- BYDS
- Cancer Institute
- Can Get Healthy
- Canterbury Council
- Centre for Islamic Dawwa and Education
- Centrelink
- City2Surf
- Community Migrant Resource Centre (CMRC)
- Daar Aisha
- Daar Ibn Abbas
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- Family and Community Services (FACS)
- Fettayleh smallgoods
- FIF (The Foundation of Islamic Studies and Information)
- Fizzics
- Football United NSW
- Footscray Arts Centre
- Go4Fun
- Griffith University
- GWS Giant
- Hepatitis NSW
- Human Appeal International Australia
- Irfan College
- Islamic Counsel of NSW (ICNSW)
- Justice and Arts Network
- Koorana
- Labor Party
- Legal Aid
- Metro Assist
- Mission Australia
- Mission of Hope
- MTC Australia
- Muslim Legal Network
- Muslim Women Association (MWA)
- NSW Health
- NSW Islamic Social and Cultural Associations (NSWISCA)
- NSW Parliament
- NSW Police Force
- One Door Mental Health
- PCYC Bankstown
- Playgroup NSW
- Primary Health Network (PHN)
- Prophecy Comics
- Pure Magic International Training
- Riverwood Community Centre
- Rosehill Gardens
- Save The Children
- SDN Children Services
- SeekersHub Sydney
- SES
- Shelly Legal
- Smiths Family
- South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
- St George Community Housing
- St John First Aid
- Static warehouse
- Sydney Cycling Sisters
- Sydney Local Health District
- Sydney Muslim Cyclists
- TAFE NSW
- The Islamic Egyptian Society of NSW
- Triple P (The Positive Parenting Program)
- United Muslims of Australia (UMA)
- Wheeler Centre
- White Ribbon
- Youth Off The Streets

Schools worked with:

- Al-Faisal Islamic College
- Al Noori Islamic College
- Amity College
- Auburn Girls High School
- Australian International Academy
- Australian Islamic College
- Banksia Road Public School
- Bankstown Girls High School
- Bankstown Senior College
- Belmore Boys High School
- Beverly Hills High School
- Blaxcell Street Public School
- Bossley Park High School
- Burwood Girls High School
- Cabramatta High School
- Canley Vale High School
- Chester Hill High School
- Condell Park High School
- Fairfield High School
- Granville Boys High School
- Greenvalley Islamic College
- Holroyd High School
- Kogarah High School
- Liverpool Girls High School
- Lurnea High School
- Macarthur Girls High School
- Malek Fahd Islamic School
- Masada College
- Miller Tech High School
- Punchbowl Boys High School
- Punchbowl Public School
- Roseville Public School
- Sir Joseph Banks High School
- St Johns Park High School
- St Leo's Catholic
- Strathfield South High School
- Unity Grammar High School
- Wiley Park Girls High School
- Wiley Park Public School

Thrive Youth Transition Support





Our future goals

Future LMA Initiatives

The LMA's ongoing strategy and future planning is geared towards an Australian Muslim community that continues to grow.

We see ourselves as a resilient, inclusive and innovative cross section of the multicultural Australian society and we want to continue to have a positive and sustainable contribution both locally and globally.

The future directions of the LMA include the development of an aged care facility, a foster care program and an Islamic school.

Australian Multicultural Foster Care Program

The Australian Multicultural Foster Care Program focuses on providing appropriate out-of-home care services for children and young people who come from a Muslim family or are otherwise identified as Muslim.

The Australian Multicultural Foster Care program is an important initiative for the local Muslim community. It is currently in the planning and development phase and will be accessible to the community in the near future.





AMAN Aged Care

The AMAN Aged Care program aims to develop a welcoming and peaceful care facility for elderly Muslim Australians from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

The AMAN facility will provide a culturally and religiously appropriate home, allowing for a worry-free and healthy social lifestyle for elderly Muslim Australians while creating a favourable and practical option to meet the

high care needs of residents. The facility will cater to all requirements needed by Muslims, such as appropriate prayer facilities, halal meals, appropriate accommodation and inclusion of important cultural etiquettes when caring for the elderly from CALD backgrounds.

The AMAN facility will provide 110 beds and will be situated near Lakemba Mosque, encouraging a family based communal environment for all of its residents.

Islamic School

The school will focus on providing the community with access to knowledge founded in traditional Islamic teachings and practices to help add depth, context and comprehension to those seeking to increase their understanding of the faith within a contemporary educational framework.

As well as state based curriculum, students will learn basic Islamic beliefs, jurisprudence and ethics. The school will help cater to the growing number of students in South west Sydney and enable parents to have more

options when choosing schooling for their children. The school will equip students with a diverse array of skills, tools and knowledge to help facilitate positive growth through mentorship, empowerment and self-confidence initiatives.

The aim of the school will be to help build socially aware students who are grounded in traditional Islamic teachings and have the knowledge and knowhow to navigate the contemporary landscape and continue to positively contribute to the wider Australian community.



مسجد
الحجر

65-67

مسجد
الحجر
ISLAM



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