• Islam is a religion that respects diversity in beliefs
• Muslims are multifaceted individuals who believe in Islam
• Muslims are not a homogeneous group of people
• Muslim Americans want to be part of the American quest for equality, justice and liberty for all
• Identification of Shared Values
“For each [Prophetic Community] We have appointed a Law and a Way. Had God Willed, He could have made you one community. But in order to test you with what He has given you [he has made you as you are]. So compete with one another in good works. And Unto God you will all return. He will reveal to you [the truth] of that about which you differed” (Holy Qur’an, 5:48)

O people, we created you from the same male and female, and rendered you distinct peoples and tribes, that you may recognize one another. The best among you in the sight of GOD is the most righteous. GOD is Omniscient, Cognizant (Qur’an, 49:13)
An American Muslim
What clicked …

• Accountability
• Direct connection
• Social Justice
• Comprehensiveness of message
• Prophet Muhammed
A capitulation of the message

It is not righteousness that who turn their faces to the East and the West;

but righteous is they who believe in God and the Last Day and the angels and the Scripture and the Prophets;

and giveth their wealth, for love of Him, to kinsfolk and to orphans and the needy and the wayfarer and to those who ask, and to set slaves free;

and observe proper worship and give charity.

And those who keep their treaty when they make one, and are patient in tribulation and adversity and time of stress. Such are they who are sincere. Such are the God fearing. Quran 2:177
Cycles of life and worship

**Daily cycle** of prayers, staying in contact with God

**Yearly cycle** of Ramadan. Getting reconnected with one's beliefs and community

**Lifetime cycle** of going to Hajj connecting with God, with early followers, with humanity and with one's inner self
Praise be to God, Lord of the Universe, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful. Master of the Day for Judgment. You alone do we worship and You alone do we call on for help. Guide us along the Straight Path, The path of those whom You have favored, Not the path of those who earned Your anger, nor of those who went astray.
All our oral, physical and monetary ways of worship are only for God. Peace, mercy and blessing of God be on you, O Prophet. May peace be upon us and on the devout servants of Allah. I testify that there is no god but God and I testify that Muhammad is His servant and messenger.

O God, send Your mercy on Muhammad and his posterity as you sent Your mercy on Abraham and his posterity. You are the Most Praised, the Most Glorious.

O God, send Your Blessings on Muhammad and his posterity as you sent Your blessings on Abraham and his posterity. You are the Most Praised, the Most Glorious.

Our Lord, grant us the good in this world and that of the Hereafter and save us from the torture of Hell.

Peace and Mercy of God be on you. Peace and Mercy of God be on you.
Yearly Cycle: RAMADAN
Life Time: Hajj
Muslims in the world
Pittsburgh is Our Home
American Muslims

Muslim Ethnicity USA

- African American
- Arab American
- South Asian
- All Other
Muslims are Afraid and our fellow Americans are Afraid of us

$205,000,000

10 states have anti-Islam laws (1/5th of the nation)

2 states have revised textbook as a result of anti-Islamic campaigns

Muslim-free businesses

Armed presence of anti-Islam demonstrations
# Mosque Incidents
Who Should be Afraid?
In cases where the religious affiliation of terrorism casualties could be determined, Muslims suffered between 82 and 97 percent of terrorism-related fatalities over the past five years.
Together Overcoming Fear

MISSION
To increase understanding and alleviate misconceptions that revolve around the Islamic Faith today.

VISION
In today’s world, many misunderstandings are circulating about our faith, and we see it as our duty to spread the truth about our beliefs and practices with the intent to make the city of Pittsburgh a safer place. Only through education and understanding will ignorance, bigotry, and hatred cease to exist. It is our dream to reach all of Pittsburgh so that every human being can be a spokesperson for the truth about Islam in order to bring more peace to the Pittsburgh Community.

SERVICES
- Lectures/presentations at grade schools, high schools, universities, businesses, and organizations.
- Islamic 101 Course held every Saturday from 4:30-6pm at ICP.
- Organize interfaith events with other Religious Organizations.
- Tabling events for any organization.
- Tours and lectures at the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh.
- Provide resources/reading material with accurate information.
- Make statements or be interviewed for News stations, radio stations, and newspapers (both official or student run).
- Open to new ideas.

ICP OUTREACH TEAM

Islamic Center of Pittsburgh
4100 Bigelow Blvd, Pittsburgh PA 15213
Phone: 412-682-5555
Email: outreach@icp-pgh.org
Website: www.icp-pgh.org
Let us demonstrate empathy and use the language of peace builders rather than the language of hatred and ignorance to work towards the common good of society.
References

John Esposito

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Danger & Dialogue: American Catholic Public Opinion and Portrayals of Islam  bridge.georgetown.edu/

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http://crg.berkeley.edu/content/islamophobia

Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies (CERIS)
www.cerisnet.org