



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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WHEREAS, the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh was founded in 1982, by a group of international students at the University of Pittsburgh, who stayed in Pittsburgh, and as first generation immigrants wanted to add to the beautiful mosaic of diversity and the spirit of inclusiveness that they found in this city by creating a community center that has since its founding worked steadily to provide services and support to the Muslim community of Pittsburgh and to educate the larger Pittsburgh community on the Muslim faith; and,

WHEREAS, the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh is itself a diverse community made up of members from many ethnicities and nationalities, and from many different sectors of society; and,

WHEREAS, for the past 14 years the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh has celebrated An-Naas Day in the month of Ramadan to bring all people of Pittsburgh closer together in understanding and respecting each other; pioneering the promotion of the celebration of An-Naas Day and spreading it throughout the United States and Canada; and,

WHEREAS, An-Naas Day is an opportunity for people of all faiths to discover similarities among all faiths, keeping with the spirit of the word An-Naas, which is mentioned frequently in the Koran as a word that simply means human being and does not limit itself to people who practice a particular faith; and,

WHEREAS, the focus of this year's An-Naas Day is on Neighbors and the importance of "Building a Strong Neighborhood", and how it is the duty of each person to help each other and not only be neighbors but be neighborly to each other; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Hassan Bakri, Dr. Kareem Aboelmagd, Angel Arafat, and Nazeeh Alothmany have played instrumental roles in organizing this year's An-Naas Day and are working diligently to build community within the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh and within Pittsburgh as a whole.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize The Islamic Center of Pittsburgh on its 14th annual An-Naas day and commends The Islamic Center, Dr. Hassan Bakri, Dr. Kareem Aboelmagd, Angel Arafat, and Nazeeh Alothmany for their efforts to encourage humanity and strong neighborhood ties; and in addition the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does congratulate the Pittsburgh Muslim community on its celebration of Eid-Alfatir, the three day holiday that is a breaking of the fast and marks the end of the month Ramadan.