

## MASJID AL-RASUL OF HOUSTON, TX MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2014



Bismihi Ta'ala – Allahumma Salli 'Alaa Muhammad wa Aali Muhammad

## UPDATE ON THE HISTORIC NEW MASJID IN THE 5<sup>TH</sup> WARD OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

### As-salaamu Alaykum:

A little over a year has past since the groundbreaking of the first Masjid in the 5th Ward of Houston, TX, an historic African-American Community, which is one of the most impoverished areas of Houston.

Although some significant progress has been made in the Masjid construction project since the groundbreaking ceremony, we have faced some serious challenges in raising the funds needed to complete the construction project. (<u>Click Here</u> to view a video clip from the Groundbreaking Event featuring Maulana Ahmad Haneef").

### **UPDATES**

### **Developing Leadership**

Since our last general membership meeting, the Masjid Board of Trustees and Board of Directors have been meeting regularly to develop the organizational infrastructure needed to function as a full-fledged Masjid once the Masjid construction project is completed.

### **Community Outreach**

In addition, we have been active in our "**Community Share-A-Meal**" program that provides regular cooked meals for the 5th Ward Community, for the primary purpose of building and maintaining rapport with the local Community, in order to develop and solidify an active, positive, and dynamic presence.

### **Masjid Construction**

In regards to the new construction of Masjid Al-Rasul, as we receive more funds, we will continue the construction utilizing a phased approach. Of the total estimated construction cost of **\$530,000**, Al-hamdullilah, we were able to raise **\$225,000**, of which **\$182,000** has been spent for the concrete foundation, underground plumbing, wood framing and roof (*see pictures in the attached Masjid brochure*).



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In addition, \$32,000, was spent to purchase the property in cash. Our plan has always been to build the Masjid without the use of loans, so that we are debt free with only monthly operational and maintenance costs thereafter. That leaves us with a balance of approximately \$43,000, which is far short of the \$305,000 needed to complete the construction project.

### **Fundraising Campaign**

We are currently developing a comprehensive, nationwide fundraising campaign that we pray, with the help of Allah SWT and your continued support, will help us to raise the balance needed to complete the construction project.

Additionally, we have set-up a **Masjid PayPal Account** where donations can be made via your PayPal account or debit/credit card. Also, auto deductions/monthly recurring payments from your debit/credit card are available through PayPal. Just click the following donation button below, and follow the instructions to contribute to the new construction of Masjid Al-Rasul of 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, Houston, TX.

As a reminder, all of your donations are tax-deductible, since we are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with Federal Tax ID # 95-4077093.

# Donate WISA MARK Donation amount Make This Recurring (Monthly)

We truly appreciate your generous support, which will go a long way to help us complete the Masjid construction.

### **Monthly Majlis**

We have organized **Monthly Members & Supporters Majlis** so that families can come together, share meals, learn more about each other, and discuss the future of the Masjid.



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### **Request for Volunteers & Support**

In conclusion, if you would like to volunteer for and/or participate in any of our programs and events, please feel free to contact us using the contact information below.

May Allah SWT bless you, your family and friends, and all of the Believers.

As-Salaamu Alaykum,

Board of Directors Masjid Al-Rasul 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, Houston, TX

### Hajji Saleem Smith

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### Sister Patricia (Zaynab) Perez Abassi

Director of Women Affairs 832-659-7483 (Cell) zaynab1199@sbcglobal.net(Email)

If you would like to mail a check, please write the check to Masjid Al-Rasul and mail it to: