GAMVP

2022 in REVIEW

Georgia
MUSLIM
VOTER
Project



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Georgia MUSLIM VOTER Project

THE WOMEN WHO LEAD GAMVP



SHAFINA KHABANI

Executive Director

"I am fully dedicated to carrying forward the work of our predecessors and confidently making a profound impact on the world for the betterment of future generations. I firmly believe in our unwavering responsibility to enhance the quality of life and establish a remarkable legacy of continuous progress and unparalleled prosperity."



SURAIYA SHARKER

Organizing Director

"I organize because I want to make political participation and activism accessible for everyone. To truly show the power and impact of the Muslim Community, we have to make sure all of our community members are represented and heard. "



UROOJ ALI

Communications Coordinator

"I organize because I want to create change for my community. The Georgia Muslim community deserves free, fair, and equitable access to the ballot. My community deserves to know what is going on in the legislature and how it affects them."

GET TO KNOW YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZER

"My organizing super power is the ability to make people feel comfortable! I love being able to put people at ease especially when they are doing something uncomfortable like talking to community members at their doors."



XAN-RHEA BILAL,
SENIOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZER



"My organizing super-powers are relationship-building and education. I enjoy making meaningful connections with people across our communities, from community members to teachers to the elected officials that represent our interests - mainly showing people that there's someone out there that wants to hear their story and that cares about them."

SALIK SOHANI,
SENIOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

"My organizing super power is that I am of the community I serve. My parents settled in Georgia in the mid-90s, so I have been attending summer camps, after-school programs, weekend classes, volunteer drives, conventions, festivals, protests, and other programming cultivated by Muslim organizers across metro-Atlanta since I was a little girl. My knowledge of this community reflects part of the village that raised me."



HIBAH BERHANU,
SENIOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZER



"My organizing super-power is program management and youth engagement. Youth Ambassador in-person session in July 2022 was my favorite memory. It was so refreshing to see so many passionate muslim youth in one place and all eager to learn and participate."

ASIM JAVED,
SENIOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

Gamvp's Voter Registration Journey:

ROAD to 800

VOTERS REGISTERED FROM OUR **FOUNDING** TO 2022:

- 2017- 2020: 1,377
- 2021: 314

11
EID FESTIVALS

3
EXPANSION TRIPS
SAVANNAH, MACON, COLUMBUS





NATIONAL MUSLIM VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

150
HOTSPOTS

AUGUST 26, 2022
6 MASJIDS
8 HALAL HOTSPOTS

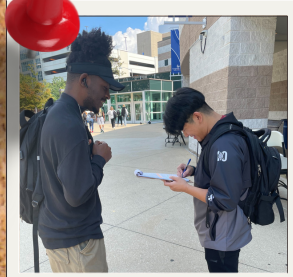


34
MASJIDS



NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
HOSTED A COALITION WIDE VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE AT BLACKBURN PARK



OCTOBER 10, 2022
VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE

871
VOTERS REGISTERED

drivers ON the ROAD TO 800



AYESHA ABID
LEAD FIELD ORGANIZER



FARWA BHATTI
LEAD FIELD ORGANIZER



ABEEHA BHATTI
FIELD ORGANIZER



ZAID ANSAR
FIELD ORGANIZER



HANAN ABDELRAHMAN
FIELD ORGANIZER



SOUFIAN CARSON
FIELD ORGANIZER



MAHELET AWASH
FIELD ORGANIZER



GHUFRAN AL SUDANI
FIELD ORGANIZER

Canvasser Storytime



MOHAMMAD SHARKER
FIELD ORGANIZER

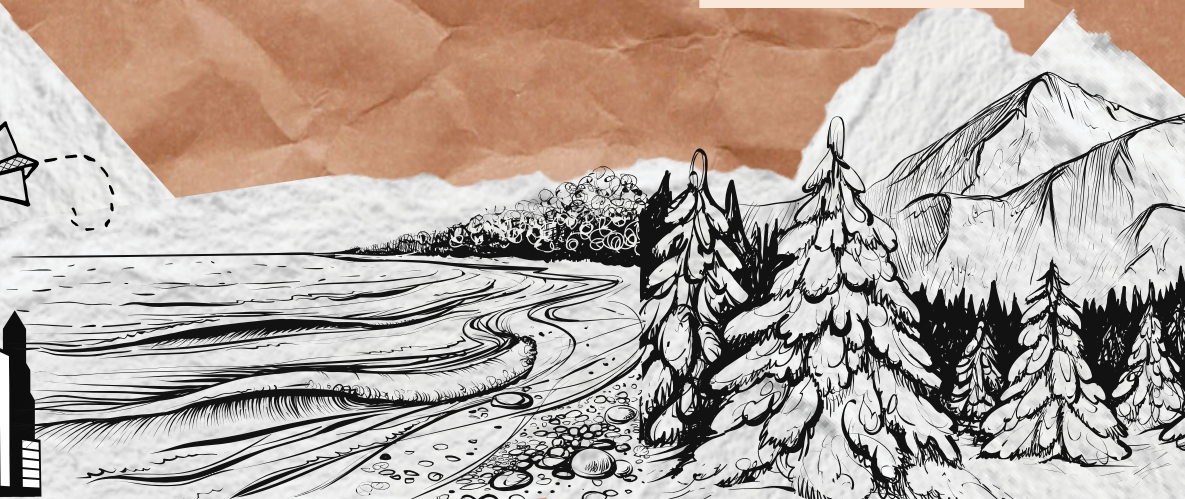
"I met a brother at the masjid on National Muslim Voter Registration Day who was skeptical about registering to voter. After I spoke to him about the ways his vote can help the community, he actually registered! "

"I met a lady wearing a hijab at the Arab festival last year and asked her if I could help her register to vote, and it turns out it was Ruwa, who was running for a state representative seat. "



MIRZA BAIG
FIELD ORGANIZER





from GAMVP to you



GENERAL MIDTERM:
548.6K IMPRESSIONS
72% VIDEO COMPLETION RATE

GENERAL RUNOFF:
540K IMPRESSIONS
71% VIDEO COMPLETION RATE



11,457 PHONE CALLS
1,136,712 TEXTS SENT







77,982 MAILERS

391 DOORS KNOCKED



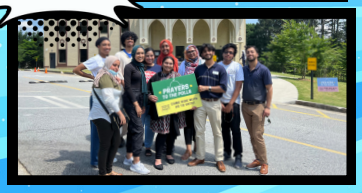
...BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE

Turning Out Georgia Muslims...

AGAIN...



MASJID AL MOMINEEN



GWINNETT ISLAMIC CIRCLE





EAST COBB ISLAMIC CENTER



ATLANTA MASJID OF AL-ISLAM





Prayer to the Polls is a way for our communities to showcase our power. We partner with different Masjids during Jummah Prayer and host a party to excite the community about voting and provide transportation for all masjid-goers to the polls!

AND AGAIN...



GSU PARTY TO THE POLLS



Parties at the Polls is a way to turn out our youth, we worked with partners and MSAs to organize parties at schools and community locations to excite young people about voting. We had dancers, DJs, a local Wrapper, Coffee Truck, and much more.

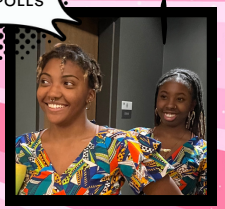


PEACH PLEASE



OGLETHORPE PARTY TO THE POLLS





AND AGAIN...



GWINNETT CANDIDATE FORUM





DEKALB CANDIDATE FORUM



COFFEE WITH YOUR COBB CANDIDATES





Candidate Meet & Greets provide Georgia Muslims the opportunity to meet the candidates on their ballot. It also allows the candidates to increase outreach to Georgia Muslims, as they are historically ignored during election seasons.

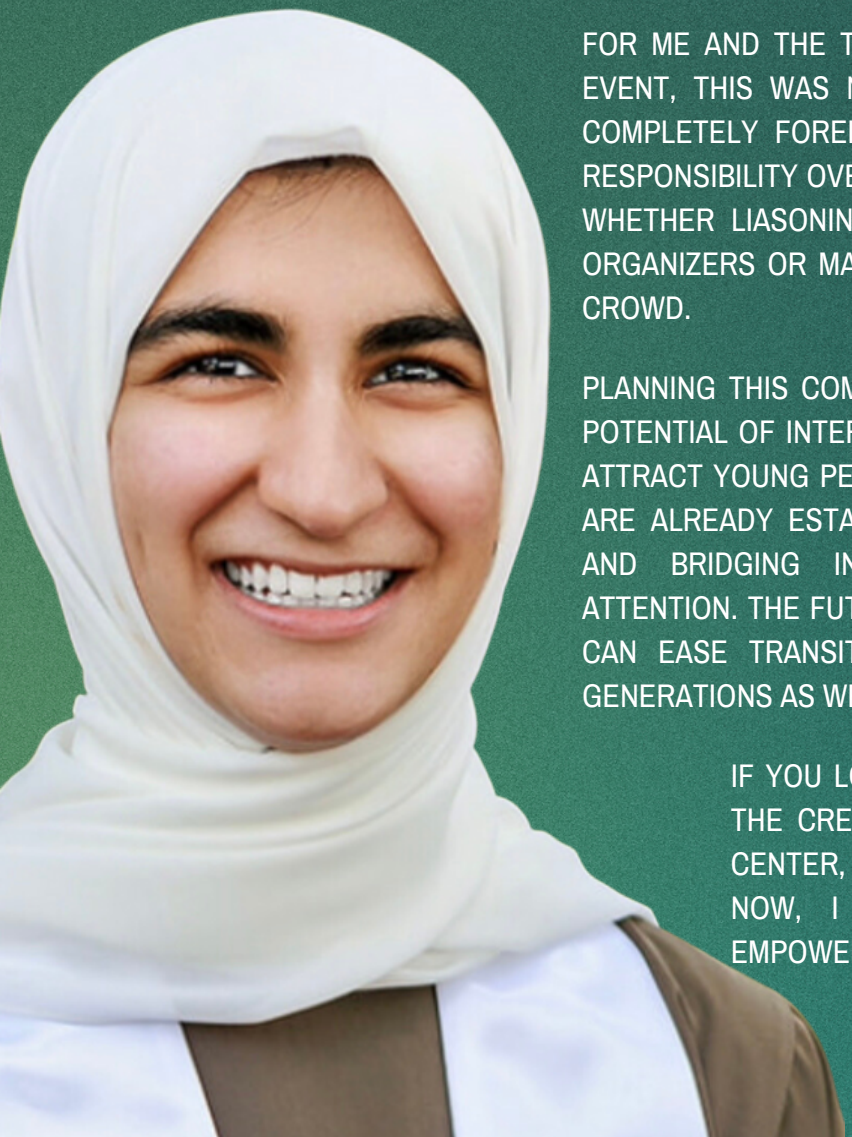
IT ALL STARTS WITH A GOOGLE DOC.

Narrative by Aminah Muhammad

DURING MY SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022, STILL A FEW MONTHS SHY OF BEING ABLE TO VOTE, I WAS FRUSTRATED WITH THE LACK OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT WITHIN MY COMMUNITY. THE FEELING WAS SPURRED AFTER A TRIO OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CANDIDATES VISITED OUR MOSQUE DURING FRIDAY PRAYERS, AND INSTEAD OF SWARMING AT THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE CONCERNS DIRECTLY TO ELECTEDS, MOST CONGREGANTS JUST SMILED AND WENT BACK TO THEIR DAYS. I WONDERED WHERE THAT APATHY STEMMED FROM. COULD IT BE FROM A LACK OF BEING TOLD THAT THEIR VOICES—INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY—COULD HAVE AN IMPACT AT ALL?

IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, MY INITIAL DOCUMENT OF IDEAS TURNED INTO AN EMAIL THREAD TO SHAFINA, SURAIYA, AND SALIK, WHICH SOON BLOSSOMED INTO A CONCRETE PLAN WITH A DATE ON THE CALENDAR. AS A HIGH SCHOOLER, I WOULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED THAT A POST-JUMMAH CONVERSATION THAT I HAD COULD TURN INTO THE FULL-HOUSE NONPARTISAN GWINNETT MUSLIM COMMUNITY FORUM, WHICH CONNECTED OVER 20 LOCAL CANDIDATES WITH THE GWINNETT ISLAMIC CIRCLE MOSQUE COMMUNITY IN SUWANEE, GEORGIA.

WORKING WITH GAMVP WAS THE FIRST TIME I CAN REMEMBER BEING TRULY THROWN INTO THE WORLD OF GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING. I REMEMBER BEING FRUSTRATED AFTER FINISHING UP YET ANOTHER TWO-HOUR PLANNING CALL WHEN IT STRUCK ME: FOR THE REST OF THE TEAM, THIS EVENT WAS JUST ANOTHER PROJECT, ANOTHER TASK ON THE TO-DO LIST FOR THEIR WORK.



FOR ME AND THE TWO OTHER YOUTH WHO HELPED ORCHESTRATE THE EVENT, THIS WAS NOT ONLY A VOLUNTARY COMMITMENT BUT ALSO A COMPLETELY FOREIGN SPACE TO BE IN. I FELT EMPOWERED TO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY OVER VERY REAL TASKS WITH WEIGHTY CONSEQUENCES-- WHETHER LIASONING BETWEEN THE MOSQUE LEADERSHIP AND GAMVP ORGANIZERS OR MAKING SURE THERE WAS ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED THE CROWD.

PLANNING THIS COMMUNITY TOWN HALL ALSO OPENED MY EYES TO THE POTENTIAL OF INTERGENERATIONAL POWER. ORGANIZATIONS LIKE GAMVP ATTRACT YOUNG PEOPLE COMFORTABLY, BUT IT'S ENGAGING THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN COMMUNITIES, ESPECIALLY THE ELDERS, AND BRIDGING INTERGENERATIONAL GAPS THAT REQUIRES OUR ATTENTION. THE FUTURE IS YOUNG, BUT WE'LL BE A LOT STRONGER IF WE CAN EASE TRANSITIONAL PAINS AND GAIN THE SUPPORT OF OLDER GENERATIONS AS WE EMBARK ON EXECUTING NEW VISIONS.

IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY AT THE POST-EVENT GROUP PHOTO OF THE CREW, YOU'LL SEE A HIJAB-CLAD GIRL STANDING IN THE CENTER, GRINNING A LITTLE TOO HARD. WHEN I LOOK AT HER NOW, I SEE WHAT YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT, AND SIMPLY DIVING INTO AN IDEA CAN DO.

MEMBERSHIP: HOW WE BUILD POWER!

70 Members

7 Socials



MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



"I decided to go door knocking because I am interested in doing more volunteer work in the Atlanta community. The GAMVP supports the important mission of getting Muslims to vote. I believe that Muslims should be informed on political issues, and take advantage of the opportunity to voice their opinions by voting. It was rewarding to take part in an organization committed to uplift Muslim voices and positively serve the community." - Adila Sherif, GAMVP Member

Youth Ambassadors

THE FUTURE OF OUR MOVEMENT

6 MONTHS

$1000 STIPEND



goals

WE AIM TO BUILD A LONG-TERM POLITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE BY INSPIRING FUTURE GENERATIONS OF GEORGIA MUSLIMS TO CONFIDENTLY ENGAGE IN THE CIVIC PROCESS AND PURSUE LEADERSHIP. THE YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM ENCOURAGES THE NEXT GENERATION OF MUSLIM POLITICIANS, ACTIVISTS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, ADVOCATES, AND DREAMERS.

Ambassador STORYTIME

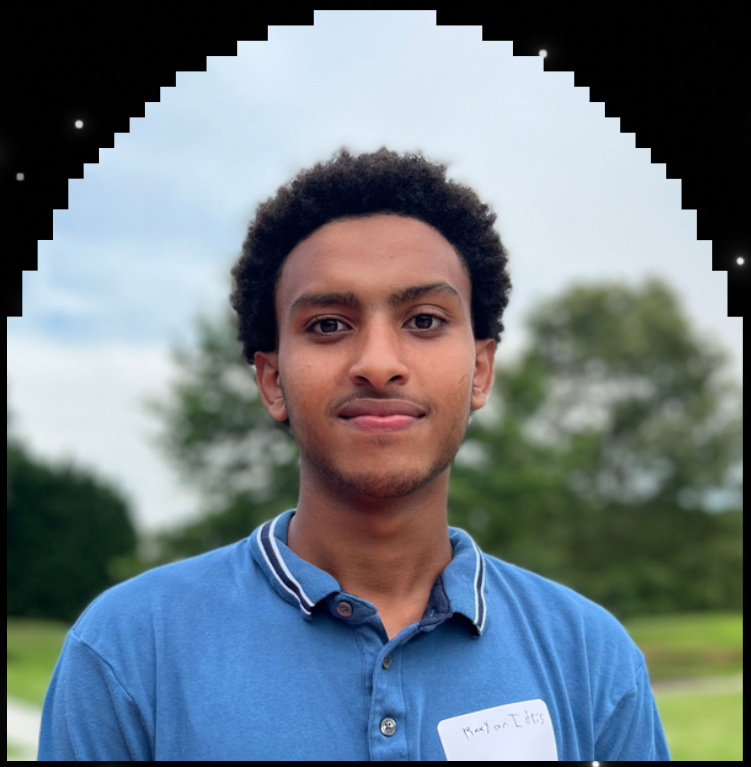


Aroob Javed

Participating in GAMVP Youth Ambassadors was an incredible opportunity for me to connect with Muslim youth from different parts of Georgia, including Macon and Dalton. It was a source of pride for me to realize that my actions were making a positive impact, especially when we helped register people to vote in our community. I remember when we organized a voter registration drive at Georgia Tech, during which we registered more than 20 individuals in just a few hours. This program was a helpful step in amplifying the voices of youth in my community.

Rayan Idris

Participating in the Youth Ambassador program helped me learn so much about the political process of voting. It gave me an outlet for my interest in civic engagement and really helped me get out of my comfort zone. The most exciting part of the program to me was that all the skills and knowledge we were taught, we proactively used to canvas and organize voters. We held a voter registration drive at Bismillah Cafe and spoke to members of the Buford Highway community- a community I am a part of- and even though we didn't register many voters, it felt empowering knowing that I was still part of a process that was on the pillars to our democracy.



Education

GET TO KNOW YOUR CITY

GAMVP specifically facilitated this workshop series for Clarkston's community members. Specific workshops focused on educating community members about the positions on their ballots for the 2022 Midterm Primary Elections and helping them understand the significance of zoning and the zoning decision(s) being made in Clarkston in 2022. We aimed to empower community members, specifically those from immigrant backgrounds/communities, to play an active civic role in their Clarkston community and have input in the decision-making processes that were directly impacting their communities.

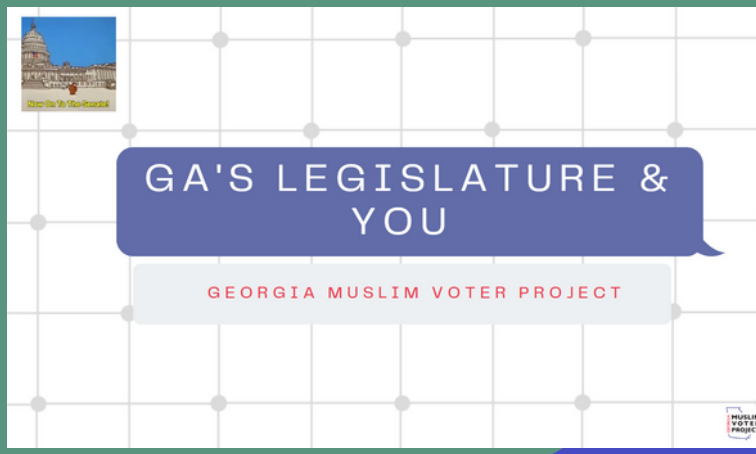
MIDTERMS 101

GAMVP's goal with the Midterms 101 was to engage community members across GA through Digital Materials on our social media and website.

GET TO KNOW YOUR PRIMARY/BALLOT

Both of these workshops educated community members about the many positions/offices that may be on their ballots for the vital 2022 Primary and General Midterm Elections and the significance/impacts of these offices on their community. We presented these workshops to Pakistani and Clarkston community members, and masjids (GIC community members).

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY 101



GAMVP WORKSHOPS

These workshops introduced attendees to the various levels of government within Georgia (city, county, and state levels). They provided opportunities for community members to practice creating and presenting public input. Our goal for this workshop was to empower community members to understand their government, and the many ways they can get involved, and increase their confidence to provide public input.

GAMVP held over 30 educational workshops in 2022!

POLICY

Policy organizing shows impact

Organizing tactics: HB1464: GAMVP used digital organizing to make calls to action against HB1464, we also participated in direct lobbying and testimony to voice our concerns about the bills. Lastly, GAMVP worked with coalition partners to organize a press conference to draw media attention to this bill.

- **HB1464 was harmful because it would have further burdened our election administration infrastructure by curbing election administrators' abilities to receive approx. $43 million in funding and adding a stringent chain of custody requirements that would lengthen ballot processing. Ultimately and fortunately, it was revised to a simple 2-page bill that provided all employees in Georgia legal time off to vote during Early Voting periods or on Election Day.**

hb1464

GAMVP staff provided public input in response to, in favor of, and in opposition to various legislation

Clarkston
Clarkston
Clarkston
Clarkston

Craft Testimony

- **The bill was revised to remove harmful language.**
- **Organizing tactics- Clarkston Language Expansion Campaign: We organized community members to 3 testify during Clarkston City Council Meetings. We helped support their testimony by offering data on community members who spoke Arabic, Burmese, and Swahili in the city.**
  - **Impact- Clarkston City Council Passed an ordinance to recommend Dekalb Board of Elections expands language access at the polls to Arabic, Burmese, and Swahili.**



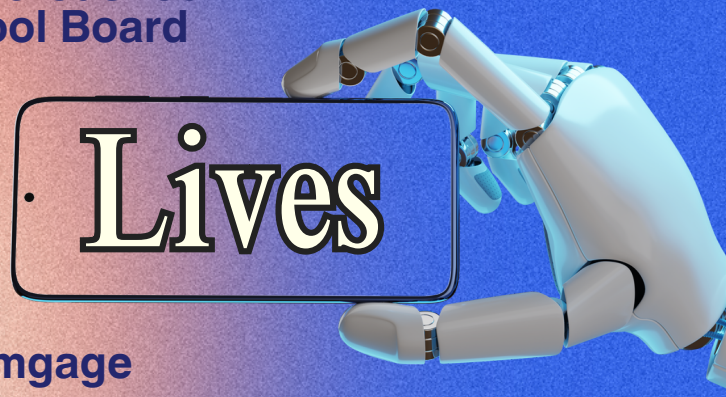


Digital Organizing



TLDR (Too Long Didn't Read): These videos helped make policy and legislative session accessible for community members. TLDRs also included Call to Actions for community members to voice their concerns regarding positive and harmful legislation that came through the GA Legislature.

- 7 Virtual training/candidate meet & greets
- IG Live with GA Educators for Equity & Justice
  - Discussion Re: Gwinnett School Board Runoff in June 2022
- 9 to 5 Solidarity for working voters
- Merrill v. Mulligan case breakdown & discussion
- GIPLE environmental justice
- ISB Muslim past, present, future
- CAIR Muslim Candidates
- Shafina's live with Rashida Talib & Emgage





GAMVP is on a mission to make civic resources accessible in as many languages as our community requests. In an effort to invite folks of all language preferences to participate in the civic process, we translated voter registration into eight languages – Bangla, Spanish, Arabic, Swahili, Somali, Urdu, Tigrinya, and Burmese!

No matter what language you speak, your voice MATTERS. If you're interested in helping GAMVP translate materials, reach out to us at info@gamvp.org.

Community CONVERSATIONS

At GAMVP, we want to hear from our communities in our focus group-style conversations series. During this space we want to learn: What issues are we passionate about? What information do we need to be more involved in the political process?





What resources do we need? These listening sessions help us become more informed advocates on behalf of the Georgia Muslim community. Community Conversations inform our campaigns, what policies we support, and how we educate our communities.



Kelley Peters

Here are 2 stories collected from our 5 Community Conversations!



Kelley Peters - “Climate change is really important to me. A lot of people think it's a global issue or a federal issue or something that only matters on a larger scale, but it's also really important here locally... It’s not just something on the global scale; it affects us every day and we don’t even think about it."



dawd fard



“My name is Dawd Fard. I have legal blindness, and I am grateful that they have a voting system that is audio-descriptive for people with blindness. Sometimes they don't work and sometimes they do. And sometimes the people that they have working at the voting facilities don't have the knowledge to operate these devices.

Another issue that I'm passionate about is housing for people with disabilities, especially people with wheelchairs or elderly people. Those are some issues that I want to bring to my legislators to address when they’re building these new properties, especially in Georgia and across the United States.”

RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Georgia Muslim Leaders Luncheon- created to celebrate Muslim leadership across Metro-Atlanta, with those who serve such an integral and meaningful spiritual role in our community. Our mission to build Muslim power through civic engagement would not be possible without the commitment of our Islamic Centers and their organizers-including Imams, executive directors and board members.



WE DISCUSSED

- Islam and Social Justice
- Resources and Needs of the Community
- The Role of Muslim Leaders in Building Political Power for our Community

MAP OF CITIES HAVE ORGANIZED IN

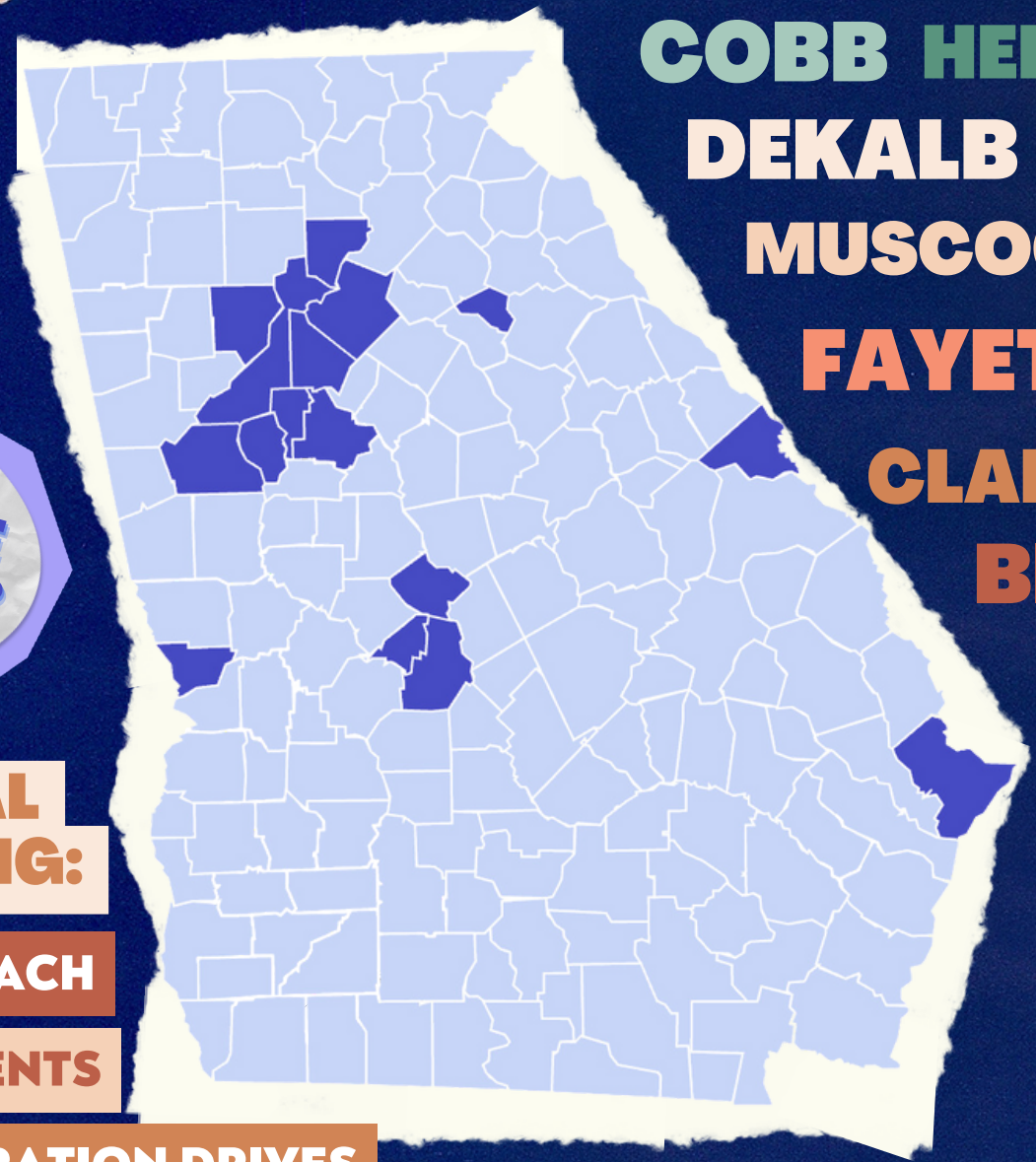
Fulton, Cobb, Gwinnett, Dekalb, Chatham, Muscogee, Bibb, Clarke Fayette, Henry, Cowetta, Forsyth, Housten, Peach, Clayton, Richmond

RELATIONAL ORGANIZING:

- Masjid outreach
- Meeting with community leaders
- In-person Events
- VR drive

WHERE IN THE STATE IS GEORGIA MUSLIM VOTER PROJECT?

CHATHAM
RICHMOND
CLAYTON
HOUSTON PEACH
GWINNETT COWETA
FULTON FORSYTH
COBB HENRY
DEKALB
MUSCOGEE
FAYETTE
CLARKE
BIBB



WHAT ARE WE DOING?

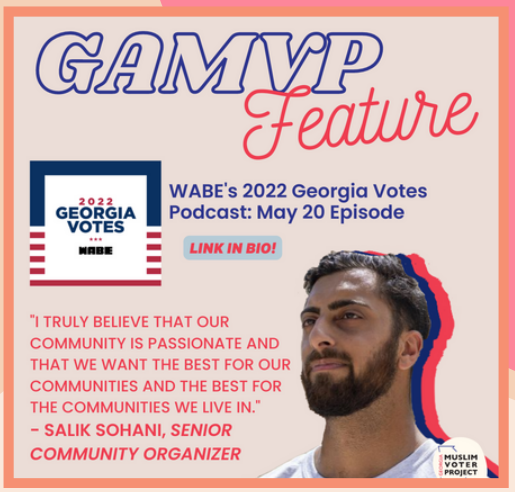
RELATIONAL ORGANIZING:

- MASJID OUTREACH
- IN-PERSON EVENTS
- VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES
- MEETING COMMUNITY LEADERS

Press Interview with WABE Politics : WABE talks to GA voters, including GAMVP at Gwinnett Islamic Circle during their candidate meet & greet with over 120 people in attendance. GAMVP emphasized to WABE that the passionate Muslim community has a wide range of voters, with some people learning about civic engagement now.

11 Alive - Georgia's Muslim community seeking more political engagement in midterm election & Atlanta News First - Grassroots organization activates Georgia Muslim community ahead of elections

GAMVP was interviewed by 11Alive and Atlanta News First, and we told them our mission to increase Muslim civic engagement.



Community Nonprofit Network Podcast: Our Senior Community Organizer deep dived into the creative process it takes to engage ATL citizens in the voting process.

Some eye-opening conversations GAMVP has had with political teams, newschannels, and GA politicians

COMMUNICATION