

ADCMA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the last three years, ADCMA has made remarkable accomplishments. Following are highlights of the ADCMA's achievements. Your support will help to insure the continuation and expansion of these important initiatives.

Civil Rights/Legal Advocacy

In the wake of the overarching USA PATRIOT Act signed in 2003, preventative detentions, the N.S.E.E.R.S. (National Security Entry-Exit Special Registration System), SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) and numerous rounds of interviews by law enforcement based on racial profiling, the ADCMA has provided timely and important information, outreach and support to its members. In addition, the ADCMA has provided the following support to the community in response to discriminatory practices against Arab-Americans and Muslims.

1. The ADCMA prompted the Attorney General's Office (Civil Rights Division) to investigate Fleet Bank's closure of 20 Boston-area bank accounts of Arab-American and Muslim customers. Due to this investigation and pressure from the ADCMA, the Attorney General and the Fleet Action Committee, Fleet Bank made changes to their account closure processes. Fleet did not close additional accounts that were still open, and has since added a procedure of checks and balances to ensure that accounts are not unfairly identified for closure going forward.
2. The ADCMA, together with the National Lawyers Guild (NLG), filed a lawsuit in Massachusetts Federal District Court to enjoin the MBTA bag search policy. Through the work of the Safe-T riders' coalition, the ADCMA was able to delay the search start dates and roll the search processes.
3. The ADCMA developed a Legal Intake and Advocacy Program to provide pro-bono ADCMA lawyers to handle civil rights and immigration cases, confront discrimination more systematically and document case histories and successes.
4. The ADCMA has processed twelve civil rights cases since the intake and advocacy program was established in July 2004.
5. The ADCMA expedited the return of a young Arab staff person of Grassroots International who left the country for a conference. Upon her return to the USA, she received support from the ADCMA while a six-month background check for reentry was imposed on her.
6. The ADCMA assisted a hotel employee in gaining a promotion that was denied for many years before ADCMA representation was provided.
7. The ADCMA staff testified before the Watertown Anti-Patriot Act Resolution hearing. The resolution was put on the town ballot in November 2004, resulting in the passage of a non-binding referendum which passed by a resounding 3 to 1 margin.

Outreach and Communications

1. The ADCMA opened an office accessible to members in Boston in 2003. The first Executive Director was hired in 2004 after a decade of inactivity. The Executive Director has since furthered the ADCMA's agenda and has allowed the ADCMA to assume a proactive position, taking the organization to the next level.
2. The ADCMA developed a website describing initiative, information about events, produced a brochure, member newsletter and announcement list.
3. The ADCMA provides through electronic and paper media regular, timely and specific information to its membership about government-sponsored operations which have profiled Arab and Muslim communities. Our "Action Alerts" further instruct members of their rights and how they can seek assistance through the ADCMA.
4. The ADCMA created a Palestine Working Group to educate a wider audience in Massachusetts on Palestine, motivate member involvement and create meaningful contact and support of the local Palestinian community.
5. The ADCMA partnered with the Islamic Society of Boston's Community Empowerment Project to provide training on civil rights and support community organizing projects.
6. The ADCMA joined the Greater Boston Israel Palestine Peace Network in an historic coming together of up of 20 groups, ranging from faith-based institution to community groups working in new ways to try to maximize impact.

Education & Cultural Program/Community Outreach

1. *Faces of Iraq January 2004*
 - The ADCMA brought the *Faces of Iraq Traveling Photo Exhibit* to the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center (CMAC) 2004, drawing 500 viewers. Developed a curriculum to use with the 250 students locally and shared with EPIC for use by future sponsors/hosts of the exhibit throughout the country.
2. *Palestinian Journalists March 2004*
 - When WBUR organized a "Professional Development Program" for Israeli and Palestinian Journalists in Boston from March 14-April 4, 2004, the station sought the ADCMA to host the Palestinian journalists and introduce them to the Arab- American Community.
3. *Hanan Ashrawi May 2004*
 - The ADCMA along with *Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, the American Diaspora Alliance for Israeli Palestinian Peace (ADAIPP), and Sabeel* co-sponsored a lecture by Hanan Ashrawi entitled "The Context and Imperatives of Peace", attracting an audience of 700.
4. *Peace Propaganda and The Promise Land July 2004*
 - This pivotal video exposes how the foreign policy interests of American political elites--working in combination with Israeli public relations strategies--exercise a powerful influence over news reporting about the Middle East conflict. As part of the Boston Social Forum, the ADCMA brought the filmmaker to the Brattle theatre and filled the house for a special screening. Co-Sponsored by UJP/IP and BSF film committee.
5. *Boston Social Forum*
 - The ADCMA participated actively in this forum in numerous seminars and presentations.
6. *Meet Us At the Bazaar - Arab- American Institute (AAI) Tribute to the DNC- July 2004*
 - The ADCMA was sought by the AAI to help lead the organizing efforts in planning the cultural tribute to the Democratic National Convention.

7. TAFUDDALU- Third Annual Community Picnic- **August 2004**
 - The ADCMA sponsored and organized this gathering, together with The Network of Arab American Professionals (NAAP), and Harvard Alumni Club.
8. Association of Muslim Professionals
 - The ADCMA co-sponsored and exhibit of seven local Muslim artists to showcase their artwork.
9. Civil Rights In Peril- Book Signing Event- **September 2004**
 - The ADCMA Organized lecture and book signing event with the local authors.
10. Lunch with Jewish American Medical Project **October 2004**
 - The ADCMA co-sponsored a lunch with Palestinian Medical Doctors on tour in the US.
11. Marcel Khalife **October 2004**
 - The ADCMA co-sponsored the Marcel Khalife concert at the Berklee Performance center. Over 600 in attendance.
11. Spearheading Imagine Life Campaign- **Current Project**
 - A national media campaign to humanize the Palestinian people launched in Washington DC. The campaign airs 30 second commercials on major networks such as MTV, CNN, and MSNBC. The organizers have sought out the ADCMA to lead Boston to be the second city in the nation to run this campaign.