

# AL MAWARED

THE FUND OF THE AMERICAN-ARAB ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE OF MASSACHUSETTS

**How am I protecting civil rights for Arab and Muslim Americans, promoting Arab culture, and encouraging social justice and equality?**

**THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE:**

***Al Mawared* (Resources): The ADCMA Fund**

## ***ADCMA's History***

September 2004 marks the third anniversary since the re-establishment of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADCMA) after a decade of inactivity. The chaos and backlash of September 11<sup>th</sup> prompted a renewal of commitment. The generosity of our donors at the end of 2003 enabled us to hire a part-time Executive Director to start 2004 equipped to move forward with a more proactive agenda. A five-year strategic plan has been completed to establish long-term goals for the organization. With the creation of our new vision statement, the ADCMA has challenged itself to be **the largest non-profit civil rights organization serving the Arab and Muslim Communities in Massachusetts.**

## ***ADCMA's Challenges***

In order to meet increasing challenges and respond effectively to current and possible future crises, the ADCMA must establish the infrastructure to become an enduring institution through a sustainable source of funding. Our goals include the following:

- To deepen the Arab-American community's understanding of our diverse, histories, cultures, and identities in order to build a sense of community among Arab-Americans in Massachusetts;
- To educate, empower, and mobilize Arab-Americans to understand and advocate for their rights and the rights of others;
- To combat defamation and stereotyping of Arab and Muslim Americans;
- To challenge unfair immigration policy;
- To fight discrimination in employment, housing, education, and public accommodation;
- To defend the constitutional rights of Arab and Muslim Americans; and
- To provide a fair and evenhanded response to the Israeli Palestinian conflict through public education and awareness.

To that end, the ADCMA is pleased to announce the creation of ***Al Mawared***: The ADCMA FUND to put in place the pillars of the organization's strategic plan.

## We Need Your Help YOU ARE THE ADCMA.

Our goal is to have a strong local chapter that is permanent and sustainable with local funds through foundation and individual support. With your help and support, *AlMawared* will provide crucial support for the following initiatives.

### Civil Rights/Legal Advocacy

- With the creation of a legal intake and advocacy program the ADCMA will be able to provide pro-bono ADCMA lawyers to handle civil rights and immigration cases, confront discrimination more systematically and document case histories and successes. Making the executive director full time will facilitate the legal intake work and follow up.

### Education & Cultural Program/Community Outreach

- Through hiring a community organizer, the ADCMA will be able to oversee and coordinate interns and volunteer teams to plan rich cultural programs and concerts, educational symposiums, lectures and films and most importantly to increase the outreach and membership of the ADCMA.
- By creating a cultural programming fund we can continue to bring exhibits like Faces of Iraq and international artists such as El Funoun and Marcel Khalife to Boston to celebrate our rich culture.

### Outreach and Communications

- By updating our technology, strengthening our website and communications, building our outreach and educational materials, and maintaining easily accessible office space, we will be able to broaden our base and educate and serve a larger community.

In order to meet these needs, the ADCMA **must raise \$150K by June 30, 2005, the end of our fiscal year.** We look to you, our community of supporters, to help us in our efforts to champion a vision that in a democracy no ethnic or religious community must sacrifice their liberty for the security of the nation. **Your generosity will ensure that we meet our goal.** The enclosed contribution form is for your convenience. We thank you in advance for your commitment to the ADCMA.

Shukran