Dear FYI Supporters,

Assalamu’alaikum - Greetings of Peace and Blessings!

It has been an eventful year! In 2016, we witnessed a drastic change in the socio-political climate in America, but with your help, the FYI has been there for the community.

Election night, our supporters turned to us for guidance. We were asked how to talk to children about the election results. How to empower themselves, families, and the community. We gathered our interdisciplinary team of professionals and provided resources within 24 hours. These resources benefited more than 50,000 American Muslims.

With the increase in reports of Islamophobia and hate crimes, we took measures to help better protect American Muslim youth. Last year, we advocated for the needs of Muslim youth at the White House and with government agencies to make a positive difference in the lives of Muslim youth. This has resulted in our ability to reach out and educate more than 700 educators across the nation in order to create safer schools for Muslim youth.

Your support has helped us expand our capabilities to better serve the community. We have doubled the number of researchers and speakers to provide you with resources.

We continue to grow and we thank you for your support throughout this year. We could not have done it without you!

Nadeem Siddiqi, PhD
Chairman of the Board

Sameera Ahmed, PhD
Director
The Family and Youth Institute conducts research on factors that impact and promote positive mental.

Research Team

- 2016 was a year of tremendous growth for the FYI research team. The FYI welcomed Drs. Mona Amer, Sawssan Ahmed, Mona Abo-Zena & Ayaz Hyder to the team.

Research Awards

- Dr. Mona Amer and co-author Dr. Germine Awad received the Evelyn Shakir Non-Fiction Award for the Handbook of Arab American Psychology.

- For her book, Transitions: The development of children of immigrants, Dr. Mona Abo-Zena, received the 2016 Social Policy Award for Best Edited Book from the Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA).
On-going Research

The interdisciplinary research team conducts research through multiple focus areas.

Youth
- American Muslim Youth
- Convert Muslim Youth
- Black Muslim Youth
- Youth Identity

Parenting
- Parenting Styles
- Cultural Resources

Mental Health
- Mental Health Promotion
- Religious & Cultural Competency

Marriage
- Pre-marriage Preparation
- Marriage Conflict

"The FYI does a great job crystallizing research into usable information for communities."
- The FYI Supporter

The FYI Annual Report 2016
2016 Publication Highlights

A Decade of Muslim Youth: Global Trends in Research.  
(Dr. Sameera Ahmed, Hanan Hashem)

Ten Years of Substance Use Research in Muslim Populations: Where do we go From Here?  
(Dr. Sameera Ahmed)

Sociocultural Factors and Parent–Therapist Agreement on Explanatory Etiologies for Youth Mental Health Problems.  
(Dr. Sawssan Ahmed)

From Minnesota to Cairo: Student Perceptions of Community-based Learning.  
(Dr. Mona Amer)

Methodological Note: On Using Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) for Survey Administration in the Study of Youth Development.  
(Dr. Mona Abo-Zena)

Being In-Between: Participatory Action Research as a Tool to Partner With and Learn About Emerging Adults.  
(Dr. Mona Abo-Zena)

Victim Characteristics, Situational Factors, and the Lethality of Urban Gun Violence  
(Dr. Irshad Altheimer)

Social Structure, Anomie, and National Levels of Homicide  
(Dr. Irshad Altheimer)

In 2016, The FYI Research Team had a record-breaking 8 publications!
The FYI education team brought research to life throughout 2016. Their comprehensive presentations prepared individuals with the knowledge and tools to ensure the health and well being of American Muslims.

With over 56 presentations and 350+ educational resources, the FYI education team reached over 6000 individuals!

- The FYI has been actively advocating for the mental health needs of American Muslims with policy makers on various topics including bullying, discrimination, mentoring, suicide prevention & Muslim mental health.

- The FYI held meetings with Health & Human Services, Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention, The American Psychological Association, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, and the National Mentoring Partnership.
Toolkits
- The FYI created 3 new toolkits in 2016: Post-election, Bullying, Grief Support
- Toolkits reached more than 50,000 individuals

Infographics
- The FYI Infographics continue to be among our most popular resources!

“Everywhere I go, I carry a folder containing The FYI’s infographics with me. It forms the basis of many a conversation on the challenges facing families and youth in our community”
- Imam Tahir Anwar

Professional Trainings
- More than 700 educators trained on issues facing Muslim youth
- More than 300 professionals trained on Muslim mental health issues
- 17 new professional resources developed

Webinars
- In 2016, The FYI conducted 4 webinars on Mental Health Stigma and American Muslim Youth identity building.
- The FYI was invited as subject matter experts by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to present on bullying prevention of American Muslim students.
In 2016, The FYI’s budget was $201,800. The FYI was able to leverage in-kind donations to triple the impact of the cash donations! For every $1 in cash received, we were able to get almost $2 of in-kind donations!

"The FYI is absolutely a worthwhile investment, and a crucial piece of our community’s healthy development."

- Colin Christopher

We continue to be judicious in how we spend the funds entrusted to us by the community.
Meet The FYI Team

Executives
Sameera Ahmed, PhD - Director
Sarrah AbuLughod, BA - Community Engagement Manager
Awais Chaudhury, BA - Development Officer
Alaa Mohammed, BS - Operations
Nadeem Siddiqi, PhD - Business Manager

Board of Directors
Saifaldin Abdur-Rahman, BA
Sameera Ahmed, PhD
Irshad Altheimer, PhD
Amal Killawi, MSW
Nadeem Siddiqi, PhD, Chairman

Support Team Members
Wahida Abaza, MD
Noha Elbanna, CPA
Mariam Kandil, MA
Saara Patel, MSW

Research Team
Mona Abo-Zena, PhD
Sameera Ahmed, PhD
Sawssan Ahmed, PhD
Irshad Altheimer, PhD
Mona Amer, PhD
Hena Din, MPH
Khalid Elzamzamy, MD
Huda Hamdan, MA
Hanan Hashem, MA
Ayaz Hyder, PhD
Amal Killawi, MSW
Madiha Tahseen, PhD

Community Education Team
Sameera Ahmed, PhD, Sawssan Ahmed, PhD,
Mohamed Rida Beshir, PhD, Duaa Haggag, MA,
Hanan Hashem, MA, Steven Hernandez, BA, Amal Killawi, MSW,
Sh. Suhail Mulla, MSW, Sadiq Patel, MSW, Hiat Saleh, MA,
Nadeem Siddiqi, PhD
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