

Building A Community of Trust

We, members of the Jewish and Muslim communities, seek to build trust and mutual understanding and strive to forge positive relationships between our respective communities. We are determined to work together in order to replace fear, distrust, and misunderstanding of each for the other, where it exists, with hope, and respectful communication.

As shared beliefs:

- We affirm the common humanity of all racial, religious, and ethnic groups, and our common needs for safety, security and dignity.
- We decry all forms of terrorism, racism, anti-Semitism, anti-Muslim prejudice, or any other form of discrimination or stigmatization against any racial, religious or ethnic group.
- We support the rights, guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, of faith communities to gather for worship.

To give expression to these beliefs:

- We support existing efforts, and the creation of additional opportunities, for open and honest interfaith and intercultural dialogue in Greater Boston
- We will strive to address disagreements and community concerns in ways that promote reconciliation rather than conflict.
- We urge leaders in our respective communities to publicly commit to these initiatives, and to seek additional means to build intercultural trust and mutual understanding.

We embrace a Greater Boston that is multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, and multi-religious, in which our diversity is respected and valued. We will together foster efforts to improve understanding and to decrease divisions between our communities. We will work towards a more harmonious Boston in which all people of good will share concerns in a civil manner, promote hope and not fear, and together enrich the civic life of our community.

Massachusetts Board of Rabbis, Rabbi Eric Gurvis, President; Rabbi Barbara Penzner, immediate past President

Robert Beal

Susan Calechman

David Dolev

Leonard Fein

Ruth Fein

Michael Felsen

Steven Fischman

Rabbi Ronne Friedman

Lisa Gallatin
Carol Goldberg
Avram Goldberg
Dr. David Gordis
Arnold Hiatt
Geoffrey Lewis
James W. Segel
Joel B. Sherman
Donald Siegel
Alan Solomont
Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Kenneth Sweder
Sidney Topol
Rabbi Moshe Waldoks

Dr Nabeel Khudairi – President, Islamic Council of New England
Ali Rabbani – President, Islamic Center of Burlington
Imam Talal Eid – Islamic Institute of Boston, US Commission on International Religious Freedom
Imam Taalib Mahdee – Masjid al Quran, Dorchester
Imam Faaruq – Mosque for Praising of Allah, Roxbury
Dr Abdul Cader Asmal – former President, Islamic Council of New England
Anwar Kazmi – Board of Directors, Islamic Society of Boston
Hossam al Jabri – President, Muslim American Society, Boston chapter
Rashid Noor –President, Islamic Center of New England, Sharon
Ali Noorani – Executive Director, Massachusetts Immigration and Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Imam Basyouny Nehela – Islamic Society of Boston
Salwa Abdallah – Board of Directors, Islamic Society of Boston
Dr. Syed Razvi – member, Islamic Center of Boston (Wayland)
Mahmud Jafri – Co-Chairman, Muslim-Jewish dialogue of Greater Boston.
Life Trustee, Islamic Masumeen Center of New England
Driss Djermoun – President, Islamic Center of Boston (Wayland)
Salma Kazmi – Co-Director, Center for Jewish Muslim Relations
Mona Abozena –Board of Directors, Muslim American Society, Boston chapter
Imam Khalid Nasr – Islamic Center of New England, Quincy
M. Bilal Kaleem – Executive Director, Muslim American Society, Boston chapter