



20 YEARS OF RESEARCH MAKING AN *IMPACT*

ISPU ANNUAL
REPORT 2022



TABLE OF CONTENTS

02	Mission, Vision, Values	21	Our finances
04	Letter from the Executive Director	22	Support our work
06	Discover	25	Meet our team
12	Educate	26	Our future
16	Equip	27	Stay connected

TIME MAGAZINE

“ISPU has been a boon to American Muslims, who had previously lacked good data about themselves, helping us see more clearly how we’re faring.”

— SOFIA ALI-KHAN



Enjoying an autumn picnic in celebration of ISPU's 20th anniversary.



Mission



Vision

Values

The Institute *for* Social Policy *and* Understanding (ISPU) provides objective research and education about American Muslims to support ***well-informed dialogue*** and ***decision-making***.

At ISPU, we envision an America where Muslims are ***thriving*** and ***equal***.

RIGOROUS Our research is objective, thorough and evidence-based.	RESPONSIVE We conduct research on what is relevant to the American Muslim community.	COLLABORATIVE We actively seek to work with, not in competition against, others in the field.	ACTIONABLE We conduct research to find solutions that are realistic and implementable.
		VISIONARY We continuously look for emerging challenges and opportunities.	EXCELLENCE Quality and professionalism are key throughout all that we do.



Meira Neggaz, ISPU Executive Director

Letter from the Executive Director:

2022 marked 20 years of ISPU—20 years of making an impact. 20 years of producing quality, timely, relevant research. 20 years of equipping changemakers across the nation with the resources needed to work towards thriving communities and full and equitable inclusion. 20 years of elevating local and national conversations to ones based on facts. 20 years that were only made possible by you—our partners, our sup-

porters, our scholars, our followers, our advisors, staff, and board.

In the midst of an ongoing and ever evolving pandemic and often heated hot button political conversations, ISPU con-

tinued seeking creative solutions to reach communities near and far to address the most pressing issues of the day while keeping a focus on long-term systemic change.

We published more research in 2022 than ever before, kicking off the year with findings from research on the Mental Health of Muslim Healthcare Workers. Following findings from the U.S. Mosque Survey 2020, we co-published the Countering Anti-Muslim Opposition to Mosque and Islamic Center Construction and Expansion toolkit, to aid and inform the work of community leaders and policymakers alike. Our American Muslim Poll returned for its sixth installment, providing a snapshot of Muslims and Americans of other faiths as well as no faith two years into the COVID-19 pandemic and amidst a number of highly charged current events.

“2022 was a year of deepened partnerships and community-building around our groundbreaking research.”

In November, during National Native American Heritage Month, we published the first phase of the Native American and Indigenous Muslims (NAIMS) project highlighting individuals from across the country who participated in in-depth, one-on-one interviews with ISPU researchers. And that’s just a sampling.

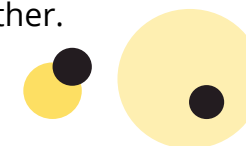
In addition to our research publications, 2022 was a year of deepened partnerships and community-building around our groundbreaking research. We held a cozy, autumnal 20th anniversary picnic in Michigan, our first major in-person event since March 2020, with ISPU friends and families. We also held a lively, packed educators’ training for the Branch Intermediate School District. As part of ISPU’s role in the Community Collaborative Initiative (CCI),

we were co-granted a \$200,000 Muslim Collaboration Prize to continue to work towards our goal of establishing ways to work together in solving a common problem. Not to mention: webinars with industry experts, appearances at conferences, meetings with policymakers, participation on panels, informative podcasts, media appearances and more. Putting rigorous research into the right hands in the right ways at the right time. That is what we do.

These initiatives had real world positive impact—better equipped educators, more engaged and informed policy makers, communities with a roadmap to addressing anti-Muslim bigotry, healthcare systems and mental health professionals better able to support Muslim healthcare workers, local leaders better able to advocate for their communities and so much more. As you turn these pages, you’ll read stories about that impact, as well

as deeper dives into the projects that made 2022—and all 20 years of ISPU’s work—so special.

We are so grateful for your trust, partnerships and contributions that made what you will read in these pages possible. I work everyday to work myself out of a job—to reach our vision of an America where Muslims are thriving and equal. But until that day comes, ISPU will continue to discover, to educate and to equip all those who can benefit. We look forward to continuing this progress throughout 2023, together.



MEIRA NEGGAZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



NAIMS Visions and Voices participant Mahasin Salim

DISCOVER

In 2022, ISPU published more rigorous, impactful research than any year in our 20 year history. That research covered all spheres of our organization's broad research interests, including studies that focused on family and wellness, community institution building, Muslim contributions and American pluralism. With some studies many years in the making, we were proud to publish 15 individual publications in 2022. Here's a selection of what we found →

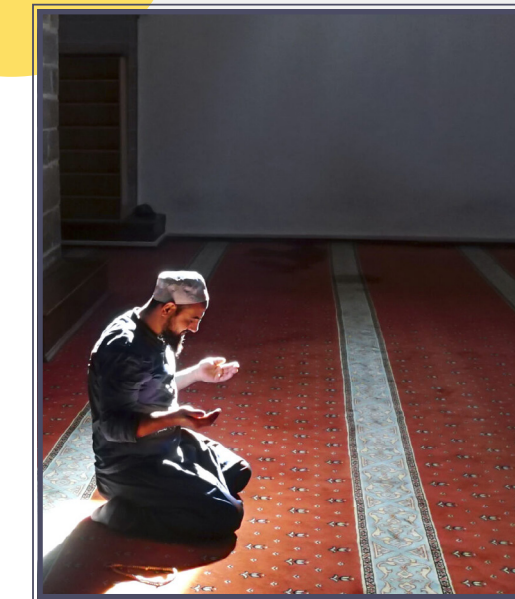


Exploring Muslim mental health during COVID-19

We partnered with the Stanford Muslim Mental Health & Islamic Psychology Lab to understand how American Muslim healthcare workers (HCWs) in the United States have been impacted by the stress of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how they have been coping with it. [Our study surveyed nearly 700 Muslim HCWs](#) about one year into the pandemic and revealed that, while the impact of COVID-related stress and the compounded stress of discrimination was significant, Muslim HCWs utilized several effective coping strategies, both religious and non-religious in nature.

We also published a [new analysis on mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) in the general populace. We found that Muslims experiencing distress report accessing mental health professionals at equal rates as their counterparts in the general

public with the same mental health challenges, but they are more likely to tap into their faith to cope with the negative mental health impacts of COVID-19. These results point to the powerful role of faith and healthy families in helping individuals cope with difficult circumstances.



A roadmap for communities facing mosque opposition

ISPU's researchers often identify trends and opportunities published in previous years to explore further. The US Mosque Survey 2020, co-published in 2021 by ISPU, the Center on Muslim Philanthropy, and the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), showed that more than one third of mosques faced opposition to construction in the last decade—a number that has grown significantly compared to the three decades prior. To help address this issue at the community level, alongside OverZero, [we published a new toolkit](#) to help communities facing these challenges. This toolkit offers resources to understand, preempt, and challenge opposition to mosque and Islamic center construction and expansion and prevent anti-Muslim narratives from taking hold.

Bringing collective Muslim voices into national conversations

2022 marked the sixth edition of our [American Muslim Poll](#), which provides a snapshot of American Muslims and Americans of other faiths as well as no faith. Fielding the survey

both interpersonal and institutional. And, with the nation taking part in very public debates on often contentious issues, we released timely focused analyses to bring Muslim voices into national conversations on hot button topics such as [vaccine uptake](#), views on [abortion](#),

[climate change](#), [gun control](#) and the [Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement](#).

ISPU's American Muslim Poll continues to provide the most comprehensive profile of who Muslims in the U.S. really are. This flagship publication builds directly on our mission of informing conversations and decisions with research and education.

two years into the COVID-19 pandemic as we entered a new phase of living with the virus, and in the midst of a contentious midterm election cycle, the survey covered topics ranging from demographics, to political engagement, to anti-Muslim bigotry,

The assets, needs, and opportunities of Illinois' Muslim community

In addition to our work surveying the Muslim community nationally, in the summer of 2022, ISPU completed a project assessing the strengths and struggles of the Illinois Muslim community. The product of three years of tireless effort by Illinois leaders and researchers to define, fund, and execute this study, [Illinois Muslims: Needs, Assets, and Opportunities](#) is a historic report convened by the Muslim Civic Coalition and partners and conducted by the



Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement at the University of Illinois Chicago (IPCE) and ISPU.

Based on surveys and focus groups, this report explored the demographics, challenges, opportunities, lives and experiences of Illinois Muslims providing leaders, elected officials, policymakers, corporations, media professionals, and social/civic/philanthropic organizations a foundation to understand and support Muslim communities in Illinois.



Spotlighting Native American and Indigenous Muslim Voices

According to our American Muslim Poll, 1-2% of Muslims in America are Native American/Indigenous. Yet, there is an absence of awareness and lack of representation of Native American and Indigenous Muslims both in the broader U.S. public and within the US Muslim community. On November 21, during National Native American Heritage Month, we published the first part of our [Native American and Indigenous Muslim Stories study](#). [NAIMS: Visions and Voices](#) is a much needed portrait and narrative showcase highlighting the unique lived experiences and stories of this minority within a minority at the intersections of identities, opening up dialogue on what it means to be an American today.

Native American and Indigenous Muslim Stories is published in partnership with and made possible by generous support from the Doris Duke Foundation's Building Bridges program, with support from IllumiNative.



FROM TOP: NAIMS: Visions and Voices participants Ashley Wolford, Xade Wharton-Ali, LaTanya Barlow, Dr. Maryam Blackeagle

WORKING TOWARD A MORE INCLUSIVE WORLD

In 2022, ISPU proactively engaged in two accessibility certification processes through MUHSEN, took on new JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) initiatives, and, as of late 2022, is making efforts toward carbon neutrality. ISPU values the interconnected nature of our communities: We are all part of one another as well as the Earth as a whole. We work hard to model justice, equality, and inclusion efforts in our own organizational habits and behaviors as well as in our vision of thriving communities and a just world.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES WE PUBLISHED IN 2022



"[10 Areas of Need in American Muslim Communities] is an amazing list! This should be sent to every masjid, Islamic school, and Islamic org."

— HASAN, ISPU newsletter subscriber

MAY

Only A Third of Americans In Distress Seek Out Mental Health Support

NOVEMBER

Native American and Indigenous Muslim Stories: Visions and Voices
with partner Doris Duke Foundation

JUNE


Most American Muslims Believe Laws Covering the Sale of Firearms Should Be Stricter

SEPTEMBER

Government Administrators Toolkit
with partners Yaqeen Institute and Muslim Americans in Public Services (MAPS)

JUNE

The Majority of Americans View Laws that Penalize the Boycott of Israel as an Infringement on Constitutional Rights

AUGUST

American Muslim Poll 2022: A Politics and Pandemic Status Report

JULY

Illinois Muslims: Needs, Assets, and Opportunities
with partners Muslim Civic Coalition and Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement at the University of Illinois Chicago (IPCE)

EQUIPPING YOUNG SCHOLARS

"As a second-generation American Muslim, I know more than most the dangers of allowing others outside of my religion to be the authors of its narrative. In an attempt to avoid such dangers, I plan to write a book that draws upon the experiences of Muslims from the past and present to paint a full picture of what it means to be a Muslim in America..."

[My professor] introduced me to ISPU's research, which proved to be a useful tool for me both in my academic research and personal life...I believe that the next generation of Americans is obligated to equip itself with the necessary information to combat the often misinformed beliefs that fuel animosity and hostility and stunt community development. ISPU understands the need for this information all too well, and it knows that younger American Muslims (and younger Americans in general) will be instrumental in using such information to create positive change in the coming years."

— AYOUB SAIDI, NextGen Advisory Council Member



NAIMS Visions and Voices participant Diana Itawi

EDUCATE

As we work towards our mission for every conversation and decision made that impacts American Muslims to be evidence-based, we work to reach the broad general public. We know those conversations are being had not just by decision-makers at the highest levels, but in worship spaces, Facebook comment sections, and school cafeterias. Throughout the year, we're participating in a wide variety of conversations to achieve that goal. Here are some highlights of those conversations in 2022 ➡



Catalyzing and informing important conversations

To reach a wide audience, we launched [Deep Dives with ISPU](#), a podcast that explores timely, relevant topics to the Muslim community, pulling from ISPU's own research and interviewing industry experts on a range of topics. Over the past twelve months, episodes have included explorations of Hollywood storytelling, accessible spaces for Muslims with disabilities, the mental health of Muslim healthcare workers, and experiences of Latino Muslims (including an episode completely in Spanish).

As always, in 2022, we hosted a variety of webinars for the general public and partners who follow our work, including webinars for each major publication we launched throughout the year. After the publication of our American Muslim Poll in August, we hosted

a series of webinars on specific findings, with topics including climate change, gun laws, abortion legality, and civic engagement. By recording our public research presentations, we ensure there's a constantly growing and accessible archive for the general public to explore.

We also presented at a variety of events convened by partner organizations. As part of an ongoing conversation series hosted by CAIR-MI, we appeared on [a panel to discuss anti-Black racism within the Muslim community](#). The

goal of the conversation was to provide means to address this racism through social and spiritual means. We also participated in [a panel about countering Islamophobia through civic and interfaith engagement](#), as part of Toronto and Regional Islamic Congregation's annual Family Summit, themed 'Countering Islamophobia: Effective Strategies and Resources.'

And we joined the Initiative on Islam in Medicine for [a panel covering new research on advancing equity for physicians in the healthcare system](#).

In addition to our research presentations, we continued to host a series of fireside chats—more informal ways for the public to chat directly with our researchers and get sneak peeks of ongoing ISPU research projects.

"Living in Minneapolis, I have a lot of Somali Muslim neighbors; your work gives me greater insight into their experiences living as Muslims in America, helping me grow in understanding and empathy."

— WESLEY, ISPU Supporter

Collectively moving the field forward

ISPU Director of Research Dalia Mogahed and ISPU scholars Sahar Aziz and Khaled Beydoun were part of a team, [convened by Boston University's Center for Antiracist Research](#), that examined the intersectionality of bigotry across a number of identities, producing, [Moving Toward Antibigotry: Collected Essays](#) from the Center for Antiracist Research's Antibigotry Convening. The essay collection explores the many facets of bigotry in America

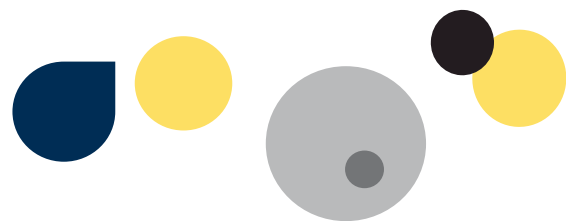


ISPU at MAS-ICNA 2022

Catching up at conferences

In addition to presenting at a selection of conferences, including ISNA, throughout the year, we wrapped up 2022 with another successful MAS-ICNA in Chicago. With support from ISPU's staff and our NextGen leaders, ISPU's Outreach and Partnerships Manager, Petra Alsoofy, was able to conduct impactful sessions that reached a total of 740 people. She facilitated conversations on a range of timely topics that included mosque opposition, internalized Islamophobia, views on gun control, views on abortion legality, and the use of data and stories with the Muslim Civic Coalition's session. Our professional, expert speakers on each topic provided balanced and authoritative views.

and the opportunities for unity in combating them. As Antibigotry Convening Fellows, Dalia, Sahar, and Khaled produced a chapter discussing the roots, manifestations, and challenges in addressing Islamophobia.



WORKING WITH A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS

With nearly a quarter of Muslims between the ages of 18-24, young people are our present and our future. That's why we launched ISPU's [Next Generation Advisory Council](#) in 2022. Our Council members directly shape ISPU's organizational strategy, programs and nationwide community engagement, providing invaluable insight and ensuring that young voices and concerns are built into our present work and future strategies. As an integral part of ISPU's work, we are also preparing members for future leadership positions in nonprofits serving our communities and beyond. We have no doubt they will rise to the challenge!

5 ways to follow ISPU's work in 2023

Subscribe to Deep Dives with ISPU

Follow us on social media

Sign up for our newsletter

Check out latest research at ISPU.org

Catch up on our webinars at youtube.com/theISPU

CREATING NEIGHBORLY SPACES INFORMED BY RESEARCH

"I am an architectural researcher at design studio Formafantasma and a graduate of Columbia University, and was awarded Columbia University's Incubator Prize, dedicated to supporting new forms of anti-racist professional practice and to funding alumni-led initiatives that critically redefine community engagement and participation. My winning proposal looked at the Muslims in New York City, who constitute 40% of taxi drivers and 57% of street food vendors: two professions that "epitomize the city's culture" (from ISPU's Muslims for American Progress NYC project). While many of them spend their days and nights "circumambulating" the city streets, these on-the-go communities lack adequate spaces to perform daily rituals, such as praying and 'wudu'. Both practices are crucial for Muslims who organize their lives and interactions around them. Many of these communities live in East Harlem where semi-integrated praying spaces within restaurants and bodegas accommodate for the five prayers a day. These existing arenas of care demonstrate strong neighborly kinship.

Once extra-muros, the taxi drivers and street food vendors are confined to pray and perform ablution wherever they can: reduced to a corner of asphalt near their vending unit or between two cars along an expressway. This project traces these shared realities and aims to integrate micro-infrastructures of care into the built and unbuilt grids of the city, facilitating the collective practices of Muslims."

— IBRAHIM KOMBARJI



NAIMS Visions and Voices participant Ed Sanders

EQUIP

As part of adapting to a world irrevocably changed by COVID-19, the majority of our meetings, presentations, workshops, and panels with community and faith leaders, scholars, policymakers, educators, journalists, and other leaders are now virtual, which allows our small staff to take on more requests. We can sit in on a call with federal lawmakers in the morning, Zoom with mosque leaders at lunch, and host a virtual fireside chat for partners across the country in the evening. These conversations, trainings, and education events make up what we call our “equipping” work: the work with leaders across many sectors who have the capability to create positive change →



Working in community on public policy

Three years ago, the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU) joined a group of 25 national and regional Muslim nonprofit organizations, brought together by the Community Collaborative Initiative (CCI), hosted by Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, with the goal of establishing ways to work together towards solving a common problem.

Forming part of the Public Policy and Advocacy subgroup, which also included American Muslim Health Professionals

(AMHP), EmgageUSA, the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), and the Muslim Civic Coalition, we spent three years collaborating on programming, and eventually winning a [\\$200,000 Muslim Collaboration Prize](#) to continue this work over the next few years.

As part of this work, we convened the first [National American Muslim Policy Conference \(NAMPC\)](#), a joint initiative bringing together elected officials, community organizations, experts, community members, and leaders from across the nation to discuss the Muslim community's policy priorities and needs.

Connecting journalists with the facts



Media professionals have a unique ability to shape public perception and understanding. Every year, the Religion News Association's conference is an unmissable opportunity to connect with faith and religion journalists from across the U.S. We presented to attendees on covering American Muslims creatively and confidently, grounding our presentation in coverage of Ukrainian refugees, as compared to refugees from other countries, presenting research-informed strategies and positive examples of past coverage, and sharing our toolkit for journalists.

We also worked directly with journalists. When PBS reported on a parental

effort in Louisiana schools to increase awareness and accommodations for students observing Ramadan, we were able to provide a previously unreleased data point from our upcoming American Muslim Poll, share our data on religious-based bullying, and share important context on issues surrounding observance of Ramadan. The result? A deeply reported story from a national news outlet on why accommodations and support are important steps to inclusivity for kids.

At the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's annual conference in Detroit, our session, "Twenty Years after 9/11: How have depictions of Muslims and Islam in US news media evolved over the past two decades?" was sponsored by the Religion and Media Interest Group (RMIG). We presented our work on why the media matters, and fielded questions on surveillance, local media coverage, and community representation.

CHANGING HEARTS WITH RIGOROUS RESEARCH

"You do not know the impact you had. After you left [the presentation], there were three women who broke out in tears telling me how much they learned. Your presence and articulation contradict many of the stereotypes about Muslim women these people were exposed to. I had another person come up to me, and told me the panel was one of the best they have ever attended."

— OMAR HAMMAD, Panel Coordinator, Religion and Media Interest Group, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Informing Federal Policymakers

Decisions that impact upon Muslims are made at all levels of government. Our outreach to federal lawmakers helps ground decision making in fact. Here are a few of the ways in which we informed officials in 2022:

We shared information drawn from our growing body of research on anti-Muslim bias, discrimination, and hate to show the impact to mosques and Islamic centers at a [Protecting Places of Worship Roundtable](#), hosted by the White House, the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Convened as part of National Preparedness Month, the roundtable brought together faith-based community representatives to share safety and security best practices such as information sharing, preparedness and planning, community impacts and lessons learned, response and recovery, as well as risk mitigation and resources.

We regularly joined the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice

for their interagency meetings with Muslim, Arab, Sikh, South Asian, and Hindu communities and participated in additional listening sessions on discrimination within social media platforms and religious based bullying. And, in collaboration with a number of other organizations supporting Muslim mental health, we shared our research with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Our work with Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS) produced our [Government Administrators Toolkit](#), which

provides research and resources on Muslims for public servants to counter the converging challenges of misunderstanding of Islam; a lack of data on American Muslims in the public sector; and a relative scarcity of Muslim voices in policy circles in America.

ISPU RESEARCH AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS

"Like headlights on a car, ISPU shows us who we are, and where we're going. But it also tells other people that we're coming. In the fall of 2022, I had the privilege of spending about six hours in the White House. I spent time talking to Ron Klain, the Chief of Staff to the President of the United States. We were speaking about a number of different things: first, it was the economy, then it was the midterms message. And then we got along to the Muslim community. He told me, 'You know, I just read a really interesting report about the Muslim community. I think it was from this organization called IZ-POO.' I said, 'Yes, the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding.'"

What I'm trying to tell you is that they see us coming, that people in places of power pay attention to the work that comes out of ISPU."

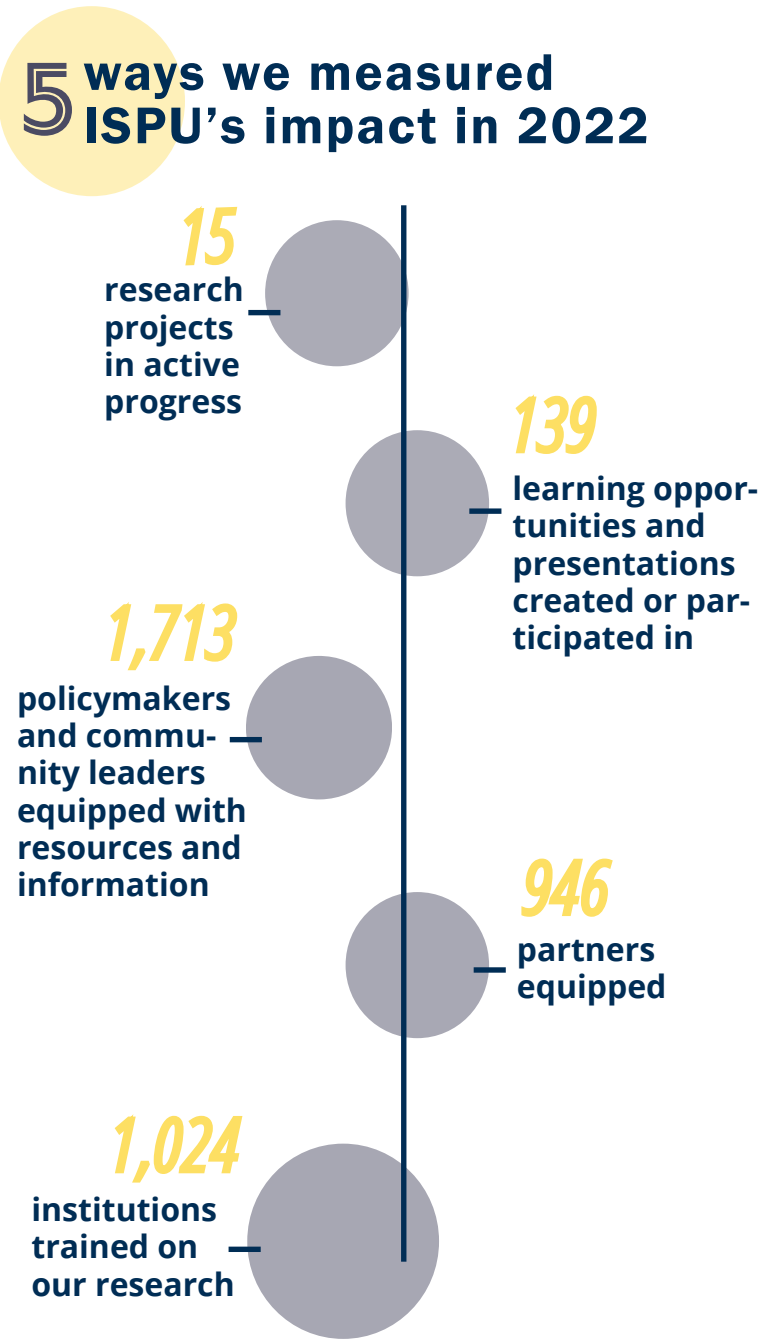
— DR. ABDUL EL-SAYED, Physician, epidemiologist, educator



Dr. Abdul El-Sayed

"I am both amazed and deeply inspired by the work of ISPU. I look forward to delving more into the research and reports you've put out about these cross-sectional issue areas...ISPU offers a great example of paradigm shifting operationalized."

— DENYS SYMONETTE MITCHELL
Director, Policy and Partnerships,
National Women's Health Network



REACHING AND TEACHING EDUCATORS

"In October, I invited ISPU to present to my district's educators for a full day training event. With the increasing number of Muslim students, we need to continuously reflect on what we are doing and ask ourselves, "Are we really including all?"

I absolutely, 100% would recommend this training. ISPU presented research-based data in a non-confrontational way that allowed all of us to access the information. About a week after the training, the Culinary Program at the BACC hosted a Global Cuisine Event. One of the meal offerings was a ramen noodle dish with pork. During the event, the instructor came up to me and said:

'I could have put chicken in that dish instead of pork, so that all of our guests could eat it. You need to keep doing the trainings like you are doing because I need to be more thoughtful and more culturally responsive.'

My hope is that teachers and all community members walk through life with that culturally responsive filter on. I hope that decisions are made thinking about all of the populations we serve, and not just what we are used to. That people think about the "why" before they jump to conclusions. That students are seen for their individual strengths and not lumped together with a cultural group that they may or may not resonate with. My ultimate goal is that if we know better, we do better. I hope that I can offer the knowledge—so that we can all do better. And, ISPU is helping us do that."

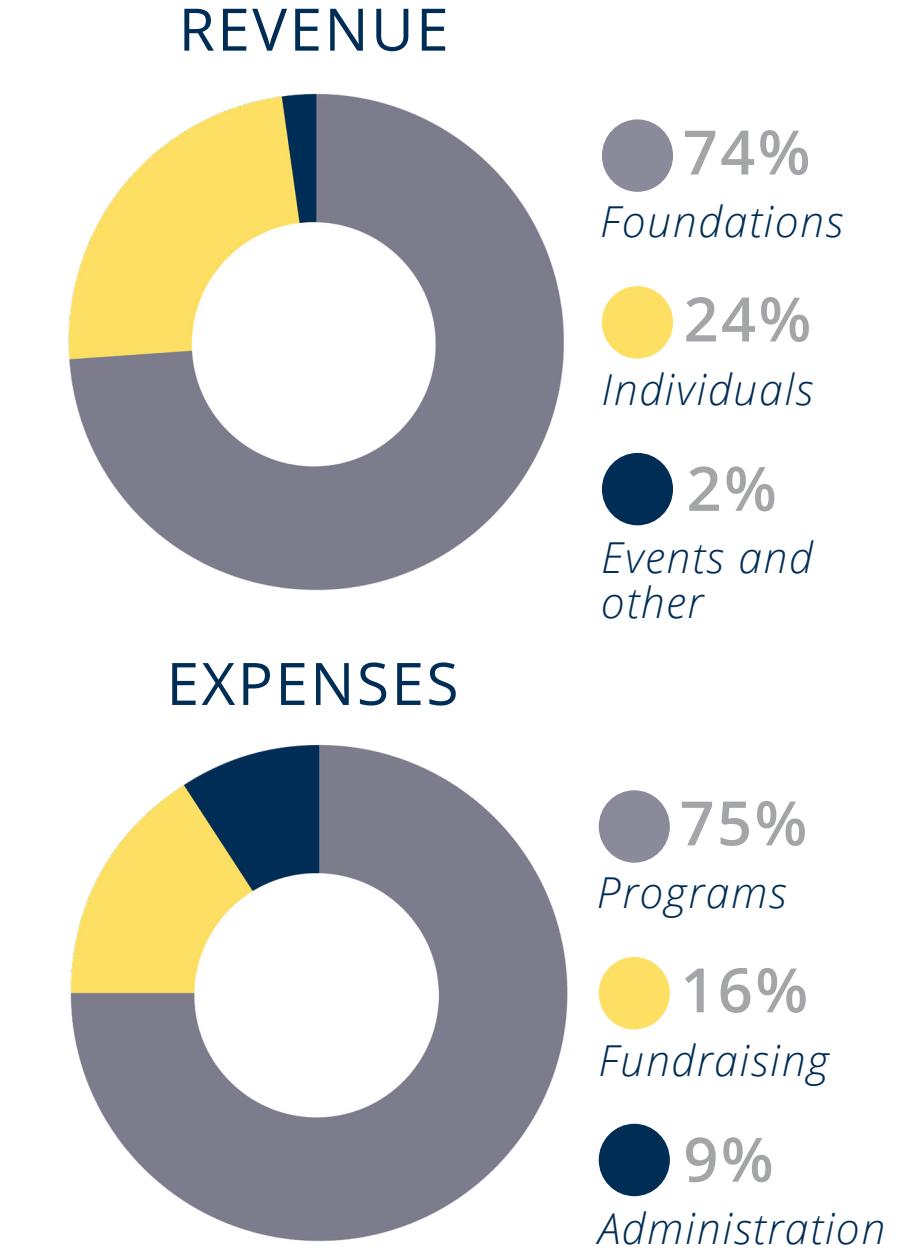
— KRIS JENKINS, Superintendent, Branch Intermediate School District

OUR FINANCES

REVENUE	2022 (DRAFT)	2021 (AUDITED)
Institutional Grants*	\$1,179,686	\$795,730
Individual Contributions	\$372,066	\$413,833
Event Revenue (net of expenses)	\$11,437	\$73,728
In-Kind Donations	\$3,731	\$250
Other	\$23,646	\$121,805
Total Revenue	\$1,590,566	\$1,405,346

EXPENSES	2022 (DRAFT)	2021 (AUDITED)
Programs/Research	\$968,733	\$602,830
Fundraising	\$200,325	\$167,982
Administration	\$117,882	\$118,160
Total Expenses	\$1,286,941	\$888,972

ASSETS	2022 (DRAFT)	2021 (AUDITED)
Net Assets (beginning of year)	\$1,723,950	\$1,207,576
Net Assets (end of year)	\$2,027,576	\$1,723,950
Change in Net Assets	\$303,626	\$516,374



**ISPU was awarded several multi-year grants to be expended in subsequent years. Following generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the entire amount of the granted funds were recorded as income in previous years while the expenses were recorded throughout the life of the multi-year grants.*



Jennifer Tepper, ISPU Director of Development

SUPPORT OUR WORK

When I look back on our work in 2022, one moment is crystallized in my memory: that mid-September day when we gathered together under a beautiful fall sky in Michigan, for the first time in far too long, to be among one another. That celebration of our 20th anniversary meant so much to our staff, board, and extended ISPU family.

We're looking forward to many more opportunities to gather together after such a long time. As you've read throughout this report, our research team has been working long and hard to publish the wealth of research produced in 2022, and we look forward to sharing that with communities across the country in 2023. That work, which makes such deep

impacts across the nation is made possible, thanks to you. Your dedication, investment, and vision for an America where Muslims are thriving and equal continues to power our work. Your support of our research and education, whether as one-time donors, monthly sustainers, givers during Ramadan and end of the year, or through planned gifts, allows us to not only keep the proverbial lights on, but to expand and grow our programmatic work beyond what we could have dreamed when we were founded two decades ago.

It's your generosity and support that energizes us and stands alongside us in spirit when we present at the White House, consult with Google, reach teachers across the country, and build our network of faith leaders, practitioners, community leaders, and so many others. This leads to policies, programs and perceptions created on facts, not guesses

"I invest in ISPU because it is an open and transparent look into American Muslims backed by data and research. It is needed by policymakers, media, educators, politicians and others."

– QAID SAIFEE,
ISPU Donor

or misinformation. It is you who makes it possible for minds to be opened and hearts to be changed.

We've spent part of 2022 looking back and marking the last 20 years in celebration together, and now our eyes are fixed firmly on the future. And there's so much to look forward to, as we plan to grow our team, make a mission impact, and continue to work to ensure American Muslims are thriving and equal in the United States. We invite you, as always, to join us.

JENNIFER TEPPER
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

3 ways to increase your impact and leave a legacy



PLANNED GIVING

If you see part of your legacy as contributing to a field of research on issues impacting American Muslims, please consider incorporating a planned gift to ISPU into your will or trust. For more information on how to do this, connect with us at plannedgiving@ispu.org.



ISPU x VENMO

We're always looking for new ways to make it easy to support ISPU. That now includes Venmo as a way you can give to ISPU. It's as easy as a few clicks on your phone! Donate to ISPU using the Venmo app at [@theISPU](https://venmo.com/theISPU).



MATCHING POTENTIAL

Over 26 million people in the United States work for a corporation that matches donations. Double the impact of your gift by asking if your employer has a matching gift program. This is a great way to leverage your donation and introduce others to ISPU's work!

WAYS TO GIVE

You can ensure that all dialogue and decisions affecting Muslims in America are well-informed, by...

JOINING

our community by signing up for our newsletter, following us on social media, and subscribing to our podcast.

INVESTING

in the future by supporting our work.

PARTNERING

with us by using our research and tools in your own work.

MEET OUR TEAM



OUR STAFF:

Meira Neggaz, Executive Director
Dalia Mogahed, Director of Research
Nadia Ahmed, Director of Finance
Katherine Coplen, Director of Communications
Jennifer Tepper, Director of Development
Petra Alsoofy, Outreach & Partnerships Manager
Erum Ikramullah, Research Project Manager
Maha El Sinbawi, Research Project Manager
Rebecka Green, Communications & Creative Media Manager
Nancy Titus, Administrative Assistant

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Marwa Zohdy, Illinois, Board Chair
Colleen Ezzeddine, Michigan, Vice Chair
Monem Salam, Washington, Treasurer
Aisha El-Amin, Illinois, Secretary

SPOTLIGHTING ISPU’S AWARD-WINNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“ISPU is a stellar example of intentional board selection and development...ISPU’s techniques are a case study for other nonprofits who want to build a culture of philanthropy. That’s why I chose to spotlight them and their tools in the chapter I authored on Engaging the Board for Fundraising for Achieving Excellence in Fundraising, 5th Edition.”

— GASBY BROWN, Former ISPU Board Member

Luna Banuri, Utah
Rachel Branaman, Virginia
Reem El Shafaki, Texas
Sadaf Hossain, New Jersey
Mohammad Khalil, Maryland
Yvonne Maffei, New York
Oussama Mezoui, Virginia
Nahela Morales, Texas

Faye Nemer, Michigan
Afshan Paarlberg, Indiana
Kashif Poshni, Maryland
Ahsan Shaikh, Chicago
Shariq Siddiqui, Indiana
Mohamed Smaidi, Ohio
Iltefat Hamzavi, Founding Chair Emeritus, Michigan

OUR SCHOLARS:

Hassan Abbas	Ben Herzig
Eman Abdelhadi	Altaf Husain
Engy Abdelkader	Amir Hussain
Quaiser Abdullah	Arsalan Iftikhar
Sameera Ahmed	Rebecca Karam
Kristine Ajrouch	Muhammad Khalifa
Laila Alawa	Nancy A. Khalil
Halima Al-Khattab	Sahar Khamis
Nadia Ansary	Saeed Khan
Rania Awaad	Amal Killawi
Sahar Aziz	Lance Laird
Ihsan Bagby	Nazita Lajevardi
Abbas Barzegar	Erik Love
Moustafa Bayoumi	Julie Macfarlane
Hatem Bazian	Ifrah Magan
Elisabeth Becker	Faiqa Mahmood
Khaled Beydoun	Sana Malik
Louise Cainkar	Brennan McDaniel
Cyra Akila Choudry	Hadia Mubarak
Youssef Chouhoud	Precious Rasheeda
Karam Dana	Muhammad
Manijeh Daneshpour	Sohad Murrar
Omar Ezzeldine	Aasim Padela
Kathleen Foley	Maryam Razvi Padela
Todd Green	Alisa Perkins
Hamada Hamid	Asifa Quraishi-Landes

Kumar Rao
Kameelah Mu’Min Rashad
Muniba Saleem
Carey Shenkman
Tasneem Siddiqui
Abdulkader Sinno
Daniel Tutt
Asma Uddin
John Voll
Kayla Renee Wheeler
Radwan Ziadeh

WORKING GROUP ON BLACK MUSLIM RESEARCH 2020 AND 2022 COHORTS

Ihsan Bagby
Kameelah Mu’Min Rashad
Quaiser Abdullah
Precious Rasheeda Muhammad
Zaheer Ali
Muhammad Khalifa

INAUGURAL BLACK MUSLIM EXPERIENCES RESEARCH FELLOW
Rasheed El Shabazz

ISPU EDUCATORS (Inaugural Cohort)

Marwa Abdalla
Aamina Ahmed
Luna Banuri
Suzy Ismail
Afrax Khan
Azka Mahmood
Hind Makki
Chris Murray
M. Naeem Nash
Tara Zaafran

ISPU EDUCATORS (Faith Leaders Cohort)

Jim Eaton
Hurunnessa Fariad
Nina Fernando
Eli Freedman
Phillip Thurman

NEXT GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mariam Elgafy
Saad Iqbal
Ayesha Islam
Reem Killawi
Amara McKinney
Ayoub Saidi
Nada Shalash

“ISPU has been able to bring together Muslim experts in myriad fields under a collaborative umbrella to address and discuss issues relevant and pertinent to Muslims. ISPU is a partner and leader in this area, and as such, a world without the organization would mean that Muslims are once again scrambling to get reliable data.”

— QAISER ABDULLAH, ISPU Scholar



OUR FUTURE

2

Be an aggregator for research on American Muslims and issues that impact them, highlighting and disseminating relevant research through webinars, podcasts, in person forums, blogs, and social media.

3

Be a catalyst to grow scholarship on American Muslims by providing mentorship, resources, platforms and connections to scholars working on our issues.

As we wrap up the first 20 years of ISPU's existence, we are setting our sights on the future ISPU, the ISPU of the next 20 years. And we have a big vision, one that significantly expands on our current work and grows the field of scholarship to support thriving and equal Muslim communities. Our goals are threefold:

In essence, the ISPU of today expanded to meet current needs and tomorrow's challenges. We can't do this alone. Your partnership, support and ideas are critical to fulfilling our mission. We very much look forward to continuing to chart this path, together.

1

Be the go-to source for reliable, actionable, one of a kind, high quality research on American Muslims and issues that impact them.

Foundation Partners in 2022



American Muslim Community Foundation

Barzinji Family Foundation

Common Counsel Foundation

Democracy Fund

Doris Duke Foundation

El-Hibri Foundation

Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation

Muslim Collaboration Prizes

Pew Charitable Trusts

Pillars Fund

Pop Culture Collaborative

RISE Together Fund

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Tides Foundation

WF Fund

W.K. Kellogg Foundation



Institute for Social Policy and Understanding

STAY IN TOUCH

MAILING ADDRESS:

3200 Greenfield Rd, Suite 300

Dearborn, MI 48120

+1 (800) 920-4778



@TheISPU



@TheISPU



@The_ISPU



@TheISPU