



ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Our Voice Our **Future**

EMERGE USA

POWER THROUGH PARTICIPATION

www.emerge-usa.org

EMERGE USA is a national civic engagement organization who aspires to ensure that under-represented communities have the same constitutional rights, social privileges, and political opportunities afforded to all Americans.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

How Our Programs

Lead to Policy Reform

Policy Reform:
Economy, Healthcare, Education, Foreign Policy, Immigration

Community Representation
Interns, Staffers, Policy, Lobbyists, Elected Officials



EMERGE USA PAC activity leads the community in candidate research & questionnaires, direct campaign contributions & endorsements, and PAC candidate endorsement cards.

Also, EMERGE USA'S 501 c(4), EMERGE USA COMMITTEE FOR VOTER ADVOCACY, ensures our communities have a voice by advocating on issues that are important to them.

Emerging Data

Polling/ Statistics/ Analysis

- A Database That is 150,000+ People Strong
- Statistics on Policy Issues and Current Events
- Analysis and Reports Compiled and Presented to Media & Elected Officials

Emerging Voters

GOTV, Candidate Forums, Voter Guides, Voter Registration

- Increasing Voter Turnout Through the Vote Education and Engaging Voters
- Voter Education: Access to the Helpful Facts and Community to Engage and Mobilizing the Community to Engage and Meet Candidates and Elected Officials

Emerging Leaders

Youth Leadership Development and Mentorship

- Leadership Development and Empowering Youth
- Mentors and Successful Role Models
- Developing Youth With Dedicated Community Engagement Talent Through Fellowship, and Staff Roles



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The broad goal of EMERGE USA is to take the Muslim, South Asian and Arab American (MASA) communities and other underrepresented communities and training them on how to engage the political process so that instead of hoping to have our voices heard from the outside we can guarantee our voices will echo loudly on the inside. EMERGE USA carries out its mission through three unique lines of programming: **Emerging Voters, Emerging Data and Emerging Leaders.**

THE TRUE WORTH OF A MAN IS TO BE MEASURED BY THE OBJECTS HE PURSUES.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-CHAIRMAN

This year saw the rise of the minority voice in American politics and you the members of EMERGE USA played a crucial role. I want to thank you for your support and tell you briefly how we used your contributions. We entered 2012 with aggressive goals for our three main focus areas: Emerging Voters, Emerging Data, and Emerging Leaders. Together we surpassed our goals and have set the Muslim, Arab, South Asian (MASA) American communities on a path that will pave the way for the next generation to represent all Americans.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-CHAIRMAN

Emerging Leaders was fully revamped to follow the model of some of the top leadership development programs in the country. We took steps to ensure the resources were in place to make the Emerging Leaders program among the elite leadership development programs for college age young people across the state. This program will create quality leaders who will understand all sides of a problem and the needs of all constituents. The retooled program helped us achieve "Best Non Profit" of the year from the New Times Magazine in South Florida.

Through our Emerging Data program our database of registered MASA voters grew from 120,000 to above 150,000. This continued investment into a core asset of the community will allow for us to continuously gather information through our constant polling of this database in order to produce data for social and political science research, media, and elected officials about the MASA community. Our data and organizational model were key components to academic publications such as "Engaging American Muslims: Political Trends and Attitudes" by Professor Farid Senzai of Santa Clara University.

Emerging Voters "get out the vote" efforts this year resulted in a voter turnout of just over 80 percent from our database of registered MASA voters. This was accomplished through investing vast resources into a three prong attack to get people to vote. We used our ongoing phone banking activities to tirelessly call our database to encourage them to vote. We also created a strong public push for absentee balloting and early voting by visiting religious and community centers, as well as universities to talk about the importance of increasing the value of the MASA community within the political process. Finally,

EMERGE USA used dozens of volunteers on Election Day to help make sure people could find their polling stations. All of these efforts resulted in an unprecedented level of energy and enthusiasm in our communities this election cycle and made it a cultural norm to vote. This is a sea of change in community culture which will allow us to put more resources into directing MASA members into the party structure and allowing them to participate more fully in civic life.

This year EMERGE USA was very visible in the news and was able to show that our communities are an asset to our neighborhoods, cities and country. Our data was the source of a New York Times piece called the "Muslim Swing Vote" in early spring of 2012. Since then we have continued to be a visible flag bearer for the community so our children will be active participants in this process for years to come. 2013 will be another exciting year where we will continue to work hard for you and ensure that your voice is heard within policy discussions that influence the future of our country.



CO-CHAIRMAN, EMERGE USA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

AJ Durrani, Chairman
Khurram Wahid, Co-Chairman
Amin Mitha, Treasurer
Nauman Abbasi, Secretary

Saif Ishaq, Dr. Doured Dagastani,
Malik Aziz, Dr. Shahid Usmani,
Dr. Shaista Usmani, Imran Siddiqui

MEDIA QUOTES

NewTimes

JUNE 18, 2012

BEST NONPROFIT - 2012

"By getting more of Florida's 120,000 registered Muslim voters involved in politics, EMERGE hopes to combat fear and bigotry. Helping young Muslims land internships at City Hall and introducing them to Tallahassee power brokers is a key part of his mission."

CNN

APRIL 3, 2012

MUSLIM VOTERS COULD SWING ELECTION, REPORT FINDS

"...a get-out-the-vote phone bank contacted 23,000 in one day during elections in 2008 and 2010...EMERGE USA, which ran the phone bank - says efforts like his will increase Muslim voter turnout."

The Miami Herald

NOVEMBER 26, 2012

FLORIDA MUSLIMS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE VOTE

"...American Muslims become engaged in the political process with help from organizations like EMERGE USA."

The New York Times

APRIL 2, 2012

THE MUSLIM SWING VOTE

"An EMERGE USA poll taken during the 2010 midterm elections found that more than 60% of registered Muslim voters in Florida were likely to vote."



CREATIVE LOAFING

SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

ACTIVIST CHALLENGES TERRY KEMPLE ON ANTI-CAIR CAMPAIGN

"Laila Abdelaziz (of EMERGE USA) asked Kemple why he continues to make incendiary comments about the Muslim community..."

Orlando Sentinel

MARCH 19, 2012

FLORIDA MUSLIMS COULD BE PIVOTAL IN 2012 ELECTION

"And the anti-immigration fervor, while aimed largely at Hispanics, also has alienated Muslims from the Republican Party, said Imran Siddiqui, a board member of EMERGE USA..."

Institute for Social Policy and Understanding

APRIL 3, 2012

ENGAGING AMERICAN MUSLIMS: POLITICAL TRENDS & ATTITUDES

"The Florida case study suggests that the American Muslim voter community is increasingly engaged, in part due to the mobilization efforts of EMERGE USA..."

EMERGE IN THE NEWS



City of Tampa

OCTOBER 27, 2012

TAMPA FIELD DIRECTOR LAILA ABDELAZIZ

Conducting the invocation at City of Tampa City Council Meeting



THE HUFFINGTON POST

OCTOBER 25, 2012

WHY THE FLORIDA MUSLIM AMERICAN VOTE COUNTS

"EMERGE USA has been working to mobilize the Muslim American vote in Florida."

South Florida Sun-Sentinel

APRIL 6, 2012

EVERY VOTE COUNTS, INCLUDING MUSLIM VOTES

"Candidates have found it beneficial to bash American Muslims...While this strategy may have worked in the past, it could backfire in a battleground states such as Florida where minority groups including American Muslims are likely to play a key role."

The Political Hurricane

NOVEMBER 18, 2012

MUSLIM-AMERICAN VOTERS PROVIDING A BOOST FOR DEMOCRATS IN FLORIDA

"Activist organization EMERGE USA played a leading role in turning out Muslim-American voters for the 2012 Presidential Election."

Alhurra TV

SEPTEMBER 26, 2012



Alhurra TV covered EMERGE USA's 2012 Get Out the Vote (GOTV) activities, which aired in Arabic across the Middle East.

IMPACT

Quotes from community leaders and some elected officials



FORMER GOVERNOR AND U.S. SENATOR BOB GRAHAM

"EMERGE is a very important organization with a very challenging goal and the three prongs that EMERGE has organized around are the steps for effective citizenship in our democracy."



PALM BEACH COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY DAVE ARONBERG

"Florida cannot go forward in the 21st Century and compete while we are a people divided. We need to come together and EMERGE USA is at the forefront of doing that."



TAMPA MAYOR BOB BUCKHORN

"It's been my privilege to work with EMERGE USA. I'm proud of what the organization has accomplished and proud of the young people it has brought into the process."



CONGRESSMAN KEITH ELLISON

"EMERGE USA is organizing people on a grassroots level and helping them find their own power and their own voice across Florida and the United States."



ORLANDO MAYOR BUDDY DYER

"EMERGE USA has been devoted to empower young people through education, advocacy and mentoring to create the next generation of leaders. I'm proud of the accomplishments of this organization and its continuous commitment to embrace the diversity through first-hand experiences and interaction with cultures."



MIAMI DADE MAYOR CARLOS GIMENEZ

"The diversity of Miami-Dade County is one of our greatest strengths and EMERGE USA plays a key role in encouraging diversity within our civic institutions."



FORMER BROWARD COUNTY SHERIFF AL LAMBERTI

"EMERGE USA is an important organization paving the way for underrepresented communities to get more involved in civic life."



CONGRESSMAN PATRICK MURPHY

"I am very proud of the diverse coalition that led me to victory. The Muslim, Arab, and South Asian-American communities in Florida and nationally were an instrumental part of our team for the past 18 months."

EMERGING VOTERS ELECTION 2012

CANDIDATE FORUMS

EMERGE USA organized candidate forums across Florida and in Houston, TX with local, state, and federal candidates, to inform our communities about the key issues in the 2012 election.

EMERGE USA's candidate forum was extremely informative, it provided me with a venue to better understand the candidates and their views on the issues that matter most to me. This year, I was an informed voter and that's all thanks to the candidates that came out to speak at the Arab American forum." Yasmin Kouchak, 29, Orlando



EARLY VOTING DAY

EMERGE USA formed a coalition of organizations to turn out the early vote for 2012. In October 2012, Florida Muslim early vote day was able to turn out over 1,000 votes from the Muslim, Arab, and South Asian communities in Florida.

EDUCATING ON POSITIONS

EMERGE USA distributed thousands of issue booklets and ran advertisements in local ethnic media in Florida and Texas to educate our communities on positions taken by the presidential candidates on issues important to them.

"Emerge's voter guide provided all the information and was a tremendous resource in helping voters make an informed decision about our locally and nationally elected officials." - Dr. Hajira M. Shujaat, 35, Orlando

"I recently moved back to the states and I have never experienced voting before. To be honest I didn't really think it would make a difference if I voted or not but after listening and reading what EMERGE USA had to say they really made me feel that my vote matters. With the help of Emerge I learned what to expect in the voting process so I wouldn't feel overwhelmed. I know if it wasn't for EMERGE I wouldn't have voted." - Diana Shanaa, 22, Orlando

"As a new U.S. citizen I was excited for this past election to exercise my most important right as an American- To vote. EMERGE USA energized my enthusiasm to be involved politically with my local community." - Riz Manji, 26, Orlando

"As Bosnian immigrants, this country has offered us so much and now, with our right to vote, we want to make a difference and vote because we've seen how every vote makes a difference. Our daughter's engagement and work with EMERGE USA has motivated the entire family." - Samila and Amir Spahic, Tampa



"This country has offered us so much and now with our right to vote, we want to make a difference because we've seen how every vote does count. After waiting several hours in line and voting I felt a great sense of empowerment and a true sense of citizenship." - Nader Abbara, 18, Miami

EMERGING LEADERS

BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY!



2011-12 was the inaugural year of the Emerging Leaders Program, which seeks to develop the future political and civic leaders of our communities.

EMERGE USA conducted a communications training in Tampa, FL with the Washington, DC based Truman Security Project.

SUCCESS STORIES OF PARTICIPANTS:

- ✓ EMERGE USA interns and Emerging Leaders graduates have landed internships, fellowships, and jobs at the following:
- ✓ Emerging Leaders graduates obtained internships in the offices of US Senator Bill Nelson, Tampa Congresswoman Kathy Castor, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and many other elected officials including members of Congress, State Representatives, and Municipal Representatives.
- ✓ Obtained campaign jobs and internships during election cycles such as for Obama for America.
- ✓ International service programs through FEBA (Federation of Balkan American Associations).
- ✓ Career jobs in their respected fields (medicine, accounting, law, politics and social services).
- ✓ Placement and mentorship in their dream undergraduate and graduate programs.

THREE RETREATS:

South Florida: "A Community of Leaders"
Tallahassee: "Understanding Power" and
Tampa: "Bridge Building"

"It's an experience of a life time." - Nusaiba Mubarak, Panama City, FL

"The Emerging Leaders Program taught me how to build relationships with people over time and really showed me how important these relationship will be as I grow older." - Saif Hamideh, Miami, FL

"I've learned so much more during the Emerging Leaders program than I have in an entire semester of college." - Mo Cheikhali, Tampa, FL

EMERGING DATA ELECTION 2012

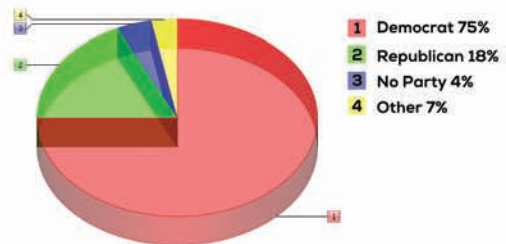
Over 40,000 targeted calls made to MASA voters in Florida and Texas reminding them to vote and polling them on issues that are important to them.



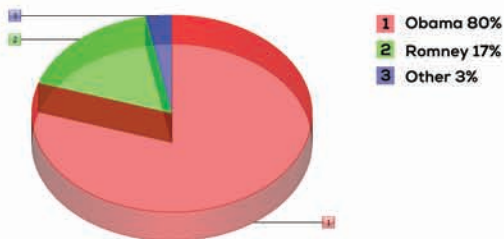
Did you vote in the 2012 Presidential Elections



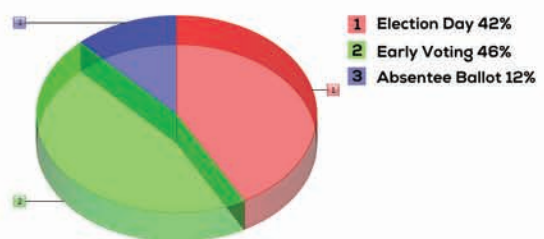
Which party do you feel reached out to you for your vote?



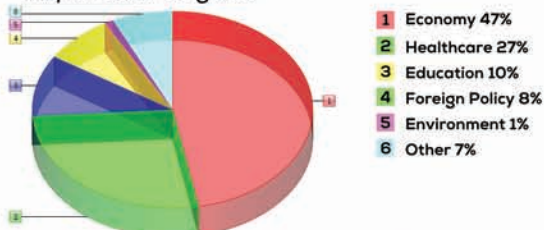
Who did you vote for?



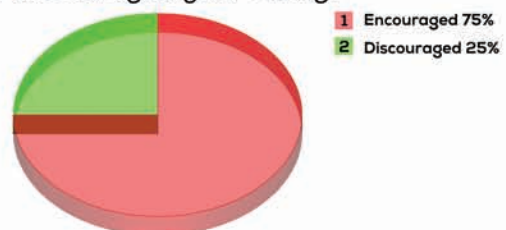
How did you vote?



What issue was most important to you?



Rhetoric against Muslims encouraged or discouraged your voting?



RAMADAN 2012 BREAKING BREAD WITH LOCAL LEADERS

Emerge USA hosted Iftar dinners across the state during the month of Ramadan



Broward County: City of Sunrise Mayor Mike Ryan and and Sikh Community Leaders



Miami-Dade County:
Mayor Carlos Gimenez



Hillsborough County:
State Representative Janet Cruz



Orange County:
State Representative Scott Randolph



Palm Beach County:
State Attorney Dave Aronberg



MISSION:

EMERGE USA PAC is a Florida based political action committee that supports candidates for state and federal office based on their support for civil rights, minority rights and a diverse America where underrepresented communities are seen as a part of the social fabric of our nation.

WHO THE PAC SUPPORTS:

- ★ Support for civility in political discourse and the belief that the use of any minority community as a political tool is divisive and detrimental to our pluralist society.
- ★ Support for the protection of civil liberties for all Americans.
- ★ A clear record of advocacy ensuring that under-represented communities to have a voice in the political process.

2012 ELECTION CYCLE:

- 68 endorsements and 47 victories
- Emerge USA PAC recommendation cards distributed throughout the state of Florida

KEY VICTORIES:



Patrick Murphy
18th Congressional District

Alan Grayson
9th Congressional District

Joe Garcia
26th Congressional District

Ander Crenshaw
4th Congressional District

Jerry L. Demings
Orange County Sheriff

Carol Kurdell
Hillsborough County School Board

Dave Aronberg
Palm Beach County State Attorney



DEFEATED

EMERGE USA PAC rallied our communities to defeat the radical former Congressman Allen West

ANNUAL BANQUET

INVESTING IN TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mohammad Hameeduddin
Mayor of Teaneck, NJ

Shared the motivational story of how he got involved in politics and why civic participation is important for the future of our communities.

EMERGING LEADERS GRADUATES

Saif Hameideh and Amina Spahic spoke to the audience about how the Emerging Leaders Program inspired them and guided them to the path of politics and government.



EMERGE USA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Shabbir Motorwala
Community Activist

Recognized for blazing the trail of community organizing in Miami-Dade County.

Nawara Alawa
University of Miami Student Body President

Recognized for her effective grassroots campaign she ran to get elected.

GET INVOLVED



Become a member, stay in touch with us via email, Facebook and Twitter. We will help you find others who are doing similar work in your neighborhood.

FOLLOW US:



facebook.com/EMERGEUSAORG



twitter.com/EMERGEUSA



youtube.com/EMERGEUSA



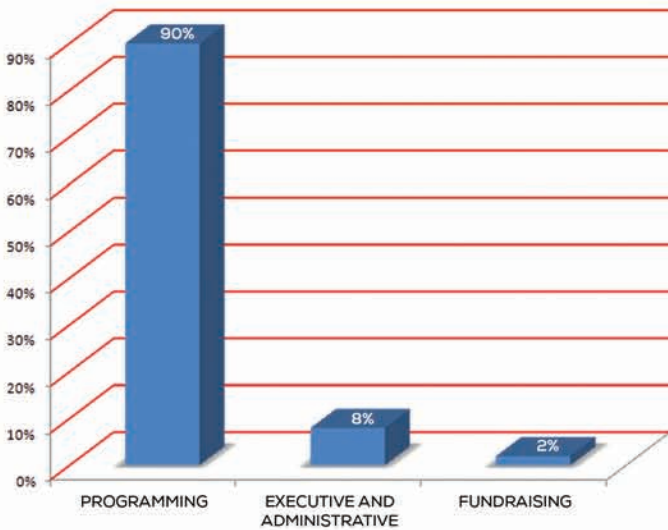
info@emerge-usa.org



FINANCIAL STATEMENT



EXPENSE ALLOCATION

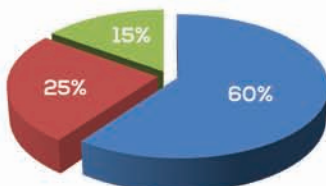


EMERGE USA efficiently uses its funding to support its core programs with minimal administrative costs.

Most of EMERGE USA's current funding is from private donors, however EMERGE is focusing on diversifying its revenue streams by:

- Applying for grants to support our civic engagement programs.
- Establishing an endowment fund to invest in the organization's long term sustainability. EMERGE USA's endowment fund invests in conservative, income producing securities with both traditional and Shariah compliant options.

2015 PROJECTED REVENUE



- PRIVATE DONATIONS
- GRANTS
- ENDOWMENT FUND INCOME



SUPPORT **EMERGE USA**



GIVE ONLINE

Contributions to EMERGE USA can be made online at www.emerge-usa.org/donate

GIVE BY CHECK

Please complete the form and enclose it with your payment, payable to EMERGE USA.
MAIL TO: 3425 US Hwy 98N, Lakeland, FL 33809

GIVE BY CREDIT CARD

Please complete and sign the form below.

I will provide operating support to EMERGE USA in the following amount:

- \$25,000
- \$10,000
- \$5,000
- \$1,800
- \$1,000
- \$500
- Other _____

My payment is enclosed (check made payable to "EMERGE USA").

I will pay this pledge in full by ___/___/____.

Please charge my credit card for the amount indicated above.

I am interested in getting involved with EMERGE USA.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

CARD TYPE VISA MC AMEX OTHER

NAME ON CARD _____

CARD NUMBER _____

EXP DATE _____ SECURITY CODE _____

SIGNATURE _____

All contributions are made to EMERGE USA's 501(c)(3) and are tax-deductible

EMERGE USA

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SCAN WITH PHONE

Building Tomorrow's Leaders **Today**

We envision a society through which participation in our civic responsibility will help bring equality and justice for all Americans.