An Introduction to your Outreach Coordinators
Br. Jamaal Zaheen

What are my responsibilities?

Part of my tasks and responsibilities include taking part in Da’wah (outreach) efforts around IIOC and the greater Orange County area in hopes of opening up the lines of positive communication with our larger non-Muslim community. Outreach activities would include da’wah tables at malls, festivals, libraries, and such. For example, just recently, we have been honored to take part in outreach tables at Los Cerritos Mall. The response was great and we had mall goers stop by to pick up free information on Islam and to ask questions regarding what Islam is. The Los Cerritos Mall Management was great and accommodated us in every respect. One mall goer even stated that he was very happy that there was representation from the Muslim community here to speak about Islam to the masses.

Additional Tasks?

In addition to outreach efforts from above, I will also be responsible for presentations about Islam to middle schools, high schools, colleges and churches. All this is in the hopes of building a better and long lasting relationship with our non-Muslim neighbors and friends. But I also found that our community needs to be educated and informed in how to actually take part in outreach efforts and to understand the importance of da’wah. Thus, we will also have events and seminars taking place that are geared towards raising the awareness and importance of IIOC’s Outreach Department along with informing our community in how to actually take part in da’wah. Currently, the planning stage has started and we have some very exciting and heart trembling events lined up that will be show cased very soon to the community Insha’Allah. What are they? I will have to leave you at a cliff hanger for now but stay tuned to find out more!

We really need you at IIOC! No we really do!!!

In order for us to prosper and make a huge impact in the greater Anaheim and Orange County area, we need your help. First, we need your duas. We can’t do anything unless we have the help of Allah (SWT). Only through His Mercy will we be able to do anything. Thus, duas are very important. It’s free as well so please don’t forget us and the work that we are so dedicated and passionate about doing.
Br. Amin Eshaiker

What are my tasks and responsibilities?

I help coordinate the many prison outreach programs that Link Outside offers. The goal of Link Outside is to Connect, Keep in Touch and Educate.

Connect
Volunteers provide in-person visitation to various prisons in Southern California. Our volunteers range from community members to local religious leaders. Our visits include Jumah Friday prayer service; personal development workshops; religious lectures and classes.

Keep in Touch
Our organization personally replies to every letter that we receive from inmates of all faiths. Our community’s religious leaders, community organizers and mentors provide personalized responses to each letter. Our prison mail correspondence offers both spiritual and social mentoring. Link Outside also distributes newsletters to keep inmates informed with the outside world.

Educate
Link Outside provides incarcerated men and women opportunities to access rich Islamic knowledge. We place mail orders for a wide range of Islamic literature from around the world at no charge to the inmate or correctional institution. Incarcerated brothers and sisters can have religious questions prudently answered from Muslim scholars by mail. We also offer college-level correspondence courses through the College of Islamic Studies.

How You Can Help?
We are always looking for volunteers to help with this noble work. Whether you like to join us on prison visits, be a pen pal or to give us a hand with office work, there are many opportunities for you to contribute. Imagine the reward you can get for each brother or sister that benefits from your help.
I graduated in 2011 from George Mason University with a degree in Religious Studies and have since started graduate work in Islamic Studies.

As a young adult I was constantly engaged in communal work. While pursuing my B.A I was nominated President of the M.S.A at GMU. I began directing youth programs and held youth board representative positions at local masajid. I became a Youth Director in 2011 and relocated to Houston in 2013 doing youth work full time.

I relocated to Southern California in February 2015 as the Outreach Coordinator at IIOC.

What do I do at IIOC?

I’m responsible for the internal dawah at IIOC, which comprises of the monthly open house event and providing tours and informational materials for guests that come to learn about Islam. I also organize our New & Recommitted Muslims Group, which includes mentorship, educational classes, and social outings. We’re also launching a professionals group which I’ll be overseeing.

How can you help?

We are always looking for people to join our committee. We’re looking for people that enjoy personal conversations with others revolving around Islam. We are specifically looking for people that would like to help mentor New Muslims, and we’re also looking for people that can speak to guests during the monthly open house.

To volunteer please look at the volunteer descriptions posted and let us know you’re interested!