



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY MUSLIM FOUNDATION SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER

MCMF held its monthly drive-thru distribution in March, April, and May 2021. Serving 69,000 pounds of food to 1,000 families in MOCO. The food boxes contained rice, pasta, pasta sauces, oil, milk, peanut butter, onions, potatoes, and carrots. We would like to thank Councilmember Laurie Anne Sayles and Gabriel Acevero for joining us and helping us distribute food boxes to the needy families.

Additionally, MCMF would like to thank our partners: The MOCO Food Security Task Force, Capital Area Food Bank, Health and Human Services, MOCO Police, Marla Caplon, and all MCMF Volunteers for helping us organize the drive-thru distributions.



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# Monthly Food Pantry Distributions



# April 2021: State Wide Ramadan Food Distribution Program

The refugee Ramadan Distribution Program was all funded by our generous donors and distributed over 100,000 pounds of food to needy families in PG, MOCO, and Baltimore Counties. Thank you to our partners Lutheran Church, ECDC, IRC, and Housing for Homeless for helping us reach out to the needy. We also would like to thank Mr. Irfan Malik for helping us serve the needy in Baltimore. The Ramadan packages contained a one month supply of rice, oil, sugar, pastas, peanut butter, dry lentils, a variety of beans, juice, fresh produce (fruit, onions, potatoes, cabbage, dates), and Rooh Afza.



# Ramadan Feed the Homeless Program at Ar Rashiddun

- 3,500 pounds of food to 50 families

- 500 meals to low income DC families during Ramadan



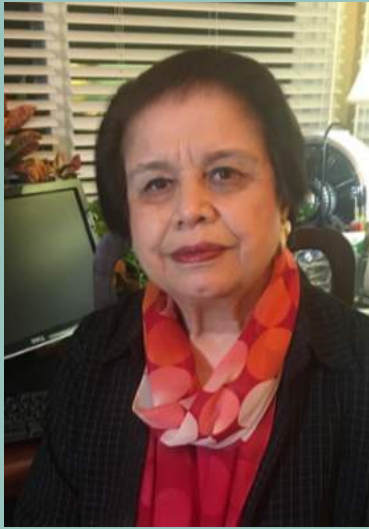
# THE CHANGE MAKERS

The MCMF Women Empowerment Program (WEP) celebrated Women's History Month and presented Women Leadership Awards to remarkable women in the state of Maryland.



Ms. Bano Makhdoom is a board member of MCMF and chairs the MCMF Women Empowerment Program (WEP). March is designated as Women's History Month by Presidential Proclamation. In light of this, MCMF wanted to celebrate the women in our community who demonstrated exceptional strength, leadership, and resilience during the pandemic. MCMF awarded Women Leadership awards to women in the state of Maryland. The recipients were healthcare workers, business, and professional women. MCMF will feature these women every month to celebrate their uniqueness, their resilience, and continue to share their stories of success. Councilmember Laurie Anne Sayles was awarded the Women Leadership award for her exemplary work in the Gaithersburg Council.

In addition to the awards, MCMF gave gifts of printed scarves and handmade jewelry to refugee women startups. The jewelry was handmade by Iman Sheikh and donated to MCMF. We would like to thank and recognize Iman Sheikh, our youngest volunteer for her dedication and volunteerism.



**Councilmember Laurie Anne Sayles receives the Women Leadership Award**



**Maryama and Hassatou, Start up- H&A Homecare Services**



**Iman Sheikh, our youngest volunteer donating hand made jewelry for refugees**



**Jewelry made by Iman Sheikh**



**Gifts**



**Healthcare worker receives gifts**



**MCMF team**

# Women Leaders: MCMF Award Recipients



**Senator Nancy King**



**Delegate Lili Qui**



**Councilmember  
Laurie Anne Sayles**



**Honorable Aruna Miller**



**Councilmember  
Nancy Navarro**



**Dr. Tazeen Hashmi  
MedStar Harbor Hospital**



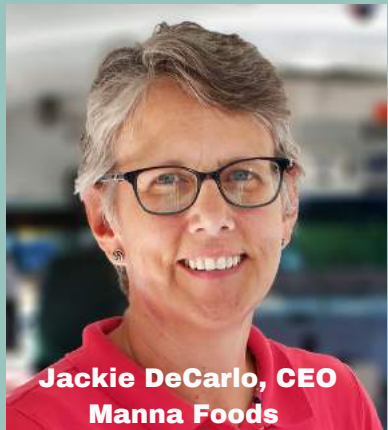
**Mona Ngem of American  
Muslim Senior Society**



**Shehnaz Arshad of Devotion  
Adult Special Needs Care**



**Karen Bashir of MCC**



**Jackie DeCarlo, CEO  
Manna Foods**



**Tazeen Ahmed of Up to US**



**Ishrat Hussain of USAID**



**Mumtaz Jahan**



**Ayesha Khadar  
of Sha's Creations**



**Sahel and Sougol  
of Yekta**



**Mimi Hassnain  
Community Activist**

# MCMF Annual Iftar



On April 21st, MCMF in partnership with the Office of the County Executive, Marc Elrich and Montgomery County Muslim Council (MCMC) held their annual Iftar celebration. The event was virtual and over 100 participants attended. Guests included County Council President Tom Hucker, and other county council members and delegates. Senators Andre Carson, Ben Cardin, and Paul Sarabanes also joined. Senator Chris Van Hollen sent a message of greetings to the Muslim community. The community listened to the wonderful guest speaker, Homyra Ziad, head of Islamic Studies at John Hopkins. Finally, the County Executive issued a proclamation to MCMF and was presented by the County Executive and County Council President Tom Hucker.

We are very grateful to our speakers and guests who attended the event and made it a success!

# MCMF Annual Cookout and Volunteer Awards Ceremony

On May 30, 2021, MCMF held its annual cookout at the Black Hill Regional Park. The event was organized by the MCMF senior group lead by Mr. Ramzan Shah and Shagufta Sheikh. Over 100 people were in attendance including County Executive Marc Elrich, Delegate Jim Gilchrist, County Councilmember Will Jawando, County Councilmember Laurie Anne Sayles, Councilmember Gabe Acevero and Mr. Mumin Barre, Member of the Democratic Central Committee. The County Executive gave Certificates of Appreciation to the volunteers for their dedication and volunteerism during the COVID-19 pandemic. MCMF awarded scholarships of \$1,000 to needy highschoolers. The County Executive presented the scholarship certificates to the students. The participants celebrated MCMF's Volunteer Group of the Year award for 2020. This award was given to MCMF by the MOCO Volunteer Center for MCMF tireless work and contributions during the Pandemic.



County Executive with Volunteers



County Executive Marc Elrich and Laurie Anne Sayles



Delegate Jim Gilchrist and Councilmember Will Jawando



# Volunteer Award Ceremony



# Youth News

MCMF partners with Youth Tech Club and currently has 27 students. The program operates virtually on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. The duration of each class is one hour. The program currently offers Scratch (MIT), Javascript, Python (advanced and basic), and HTML and CSS classes.

Please register on their website:  
[www.youthtechclub.com](http://www.youthtechclub.com)



Confidence building and presentation skills seminars held by renowned life coach Mr. Umar Hameed.



STAY TUNED FOR MORE SEMINARS!



The Youth Committee held teen Yoga and Zumba classes for several weeks. The classes were conducted by Simon Says Yoga.



The SAT course successfully ended in May 2021 and tutored 25 low income students.

# Announcements

- MCMF received the 2020 Volunteer Group of the Year Award by MOCO Volunteer Center. Thank you to all our volunteers for your wonderful contributions!
- The MCMF drive-thru distribution is on Sunday, June 13, 2021 from 11 am to 1 pm. To volunteer, please contact the MCMF office or register online.
- Eid al-Adha is on July 19th, 2021. The MCMF Zabiha drive will start on June 15 (rates to be announced).
- Homeless Resource Day is on July 21, 2021.
- In May 2021, the MCMF Youth Scholarship award of \$1,000 was given to 5 students. The next application session will open shortly.
- SAT course applications are ongoing. Please contact Nasreen Khan at [nasreensikandar@yahoo.com](mailto:nasreensikandar@yahoo.com)

[MCMFMD.ORG](http://MCMFMD.ORG)  
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