



NATIONAL MUSLIM
DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL

Background:

The National Muslim Democratic Council (NMDC) hopes to give voice to a growing minority faith community within the Democratic Party, while also helping articulate Democratic priorities and policies to the American Muslim community.

In the near term, the NMDC will (1) serve as an informational resource to Democrats about American Muslims, (2) articulate a faith-based argument supporting Obama's re-election and Democratic Party priorities and (3) encourage, train and support American Muslim engagement within the Party.

Its founders are inspired by the National Jewish Democratic Council, the Catholic Democrats, Faith in Public Life, Sojourners and other spiritual progressive organizations.

Congressmen Keith Ellison and Andre Carson serve as the organization's founding honorary chairmen.

Mission:

The mission of the National Muslim Democratic Council is to advance our shared values of equality, justice and mercy and to serve as a resource about the American Muslim community to civic, political and community leaders.

Strategies:

To accomplish its mission, the NMDC shall:

- **Connect** American Muslim elected officials, Democratic activists and organizations with each other to leverage our resources and build consensus on priorities.
- **Advance** those policy perspectives and legislative initiatives of the Democratic Party that most resonate with our faith-based values.
- **Work** to maximize American Muslim support for Democratic candidates and policies.
- **Serve** as a trusted resource to Democratic candidates, elected officials, Party organizers and progressives about American Muslims and their diverse communities by conducting educational programs and providing reliable, accessible and timely information.
- **Train** and encourage American Muslims to serve the broader community and our country, especially through government service, elected public office and leadership within the Democratic Party.
- **Collaborate** with other faith-based and community leaders and groups to elevate the public discourse around faith in public life.



2012 Election Strategy:

Focus on Key Races – Employ an aggressive GOTV and voter persuasion operation on a few key races where American Muslims can make a difference:

1. Michigan Senate Race supporting Debbie Stabenow
2. Virginia Senate Race supporting former Virginia Governor Tim Kaine
3. Florida District 18 (South Florida) supporting Patrick Murphy against Allen West
4. Ohio District 3 (Columbus) supporting Joyce Beatty

Hire Professional Staff – Hire three field directors and a social media director to supplement local GOTV efforts of community organizations while pursuing a voter persuasion strategy aimed at American Muslim communities in those states and districts.

Maintain transparent and accountable governance – The field directors and social media director will be supported by an active Board of Directors and Advisory Board comprised of Muslim community and Democratic party leaders and organizers.

Engage the Democratic Party and American Muslim Community – The NMDC will host a hospitality suite at the DNC Convention for an estimated 100 American Muslim delegates.

In addition to paid media and local townhall meetings, the NMDC will be present at the national convention of the Islamic Society of North America, the Imam Warith al-Deen Muhammad community annual gathering and other national and regional meetings of American Muslim organizations.

The Board of Directors and Advisory Board are still in formation.

For more information, please contact:

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