# Atlanta Showcase Announcement

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Inspired Generosity: Muslim American Stories in Philanthropy Comes to Atlanta

**Atlanta, GA (September 12, 2024)** - The WF Fund is proud to announce that Inspired Generosity: Muslim American Stories in Philanthropy will be showcasing in Atlanta from September 20, 2024 to October 26, 2024 at the Auburn Avenue Research Library. This groundbreaking exhibit celebrates the rich tapestry of Muslim American generosity and its profound impact on our communities.

Inspired Generosity provides a national stage for powerful stories of generosity from the Muslim American community, spotlighting tales of spirituality-driven good works. The exhibit features up to 50 curated stories shared through various mediums, including videos, photos, audio recordings, written narratives, poems, and digital art.

"Giving by, for, and with the communities we represent is the future of philanthropy and each and every one of us belong in this movement," said Dilnaz Waraich, President of WF Fund.

#### Key Facts about Muslim Americans and Philanthropy:

- Muslim Americans constitute about 1.1% of the total U.S. population and are projected to become the second-largest religious group in the country by 2040 (Pew Research Center, 2017).
- 98.2% of Muslim Americans engage in charitable giving, donating an average of \$2,070 annually (Muslim Philanthropy Initiative, 2021).
- The Muslim nonprofit sector is young, with many organizations established in the post-9/11 era (Siddiqui, Samad, & Wasif, 2022).
- Muslim-led nonprofits face unique challenges, including Islamophobia and lack of access to mainstream philanthropic support (Siddiqui, Samad, & Wasif, 2022).

#### Atlanta-specific facts:

- Atlanta's Muslim population has grown by 35% since 2010, making it one of the fastest-growing Muslim communities in the Southeast (Atlanta Regional Commission, 2023).
- The Atlanta Muslim Philanthropy Network has raised over \$5 million for local causes in the past five years (Atlanta Muslim Philanthropy Network Annual Report, 2023).
- Muslim-owned businesses contribute an estimated \$1.2 billion annually to Atlanta's economy (Georgia Muslim Chamber of Commerce, 2024).

## Inspired Generosity aims to:

- Highlight the diversity and depth of Muslim American philanthropy
- Foster greater understanding and empathy within communities
- Inspire others to engage in acts of generosity
- Address the lack of philanthropic access and funding disparities faced by Muslimled nonprofits

The Atlanta showcase will be held at the Auburn Avenue Research Library, located at 101 Auburn Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30303. The exhibit will be open to the public Monday and Tuesday from 10 am to 8 pm EST, and Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm EST (closed on Sundays).

For more information about Inspired Generosity, the Atlanta showcase, and to register for events, please visit <u>inspiredgenerosity.org/atlanta</u> or contact Tamela A. Spicer at <u>tamelas@wf-fund.org</u>.

#### About WF Fund

The WF Fund uplifts and empowers communities nationwide through strategic philanthropy and collaboration deeply rooted in timeless values. Since 2016, the fund has invested over \$26 million to develop nonprofit capacity and leadership across the country. The WF Fund works to advance religious pluralism, civic engagement, human services, and philanthropic training, while boosting nonprofit collaboration. At its core, the WF Fund values collaboration, compassion, transparency, and a sense of urgency for the work.

# About Inspired Generosity

Inspired Generosity: Muslim American Stories in Philanthropy is a national storytelling initiative that provides a platform for Muslim Americans to share their experiences of faith-inspired generosity. Through traveling exhibits and a digital platform, Inspired Generosity aims to reshape the narrative around Muslim American contributions to society,

addressing key issues such as lack of philanthropic access, funding disparities, and the impact of Islamophobia on Muslim philanthropy.

### Media Contact

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