CJMU
Commission for Jewish Muslim Understanding

Statement of Purpose

The Commission on Jewish-Muslim Understanding of the Greater Rochester Area has the purpose of creating mutual understanding and appreciation between the Jewish and Muslim communities with a view toward broadening mutual respect and enhancing active cooperation within the Greater Rochester area.

Through educational and social opportunities, and social justice activities, the Commission encourages increased understanding and dialogue among its members, its synagogues and masajid, and within the community at large. One of the main purposes of the Jewish-Muslim Commission is addressing educational, social, religious, and moral issues of the communities at large.

The Commission commits itself to specific steps towards implementing its purpose by:

- Fostering interaction between Jewish and Muslim communities.

- Defending the civil and human rights of members of both communities through advocacy, education, dialogue, and public relations.

- Address the media regarding its role in presenting accurate and fair reporting on issues of concern to Jews and Muslims and its role in fostering each-others understanding.

- Creating educational programs of common interest.

- Maintaining links with other interfaith and community groups in the area.

Membership
The Jewish Community Federation and the Greater Rochester Council of Masajid will each appoint eight people to serve a term of 4 years. In the first year, four of those chosen by each group will be asked to serve a two year term so that there will be a staggering of members retiring from the Commission at any one time, and assure continuity of the group. One Jewish member and one Muslim member will be appointed by their membership to serve as chair and co-chair of the Commission. Chairmanship will alternate between Jewish and Muslim members on a yearly basis, the Chair being chosen by their respective group and not by the entire Commission.
The Commission will also choose a Secretary each year.