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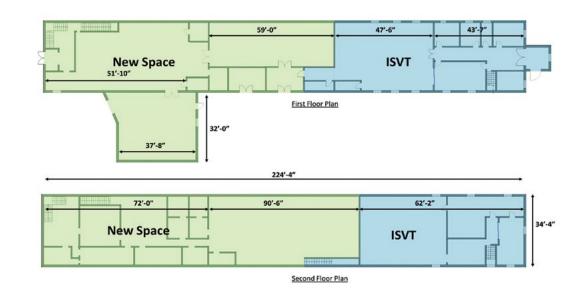
URGENT

An Expansion Opportunity Comes at the Right Time



The first Islamic center in the state of Vermont (USA) has outgrown its Masjid. We have an option to expand from 5,000 sq. ft. to 15,000 sq. ft.

We need to raise \$750,000 by September 1, 2014. Help us serve a very special Muslim community.



Why There is a Need

The community of Muslims in Chittenden County, which is the most populous in the state of Vermont, has in recent years grown from a few hundred to well over three thousand, increased by refugees from Bosnia, Somalia, Burma, Iraq, and most recently from war-torn Syria. The ISVT is the first Islamic center in the state of Vermont. and, Alhamdulillah, we have been blessed to see the congregation of our Masjid grow along with the influx of refugees.

You receive many requests to help Muslim communities across the world. Please consider helping a very special community in a very special place: The growing congregation of the Islamic Society of Vermont (ISVT), located in a traditionally non-Muslim state in the northeast United States.

What We Need

We have a pressing need to increase the space of our Masjid, located in Colchester, Vermont, just outside of the state's largest city, Burlington.

How Do We Meet the Need?

We have signed an agreement with the current owner of the other two thirds of the building in which our Masjid is located, to purchase the remaining 10,000 sq ft of the building.

How Much We Need to Raise

We need to raise **\$750,000** for this space. We need to pay the current owner of the space by September 1, 2014.

Why You Should Care

About the Islamic Society of Vermont

The ISVT is the first Islamic center in the state of Vermont, offering a full range of services and support to our growing community. Here is a guick list of our ongoing accomplishments:

- 1999 Founded first Masjid in Vermont
- 2000 Started Weekend Islamic School
- 2008 Established first Islamic Burial Site in Burlington
- 2009-2013 Invested nearly \$100,000 to upgrade the Masjid's external structure and internal facilities, including a new roof, new furnace, expanded wudu stations, a shower for the convenience of visiting jamaats, and new carpet.
- 2011 Hired Imam Islam Hassan as our first full-time Imam.





COLCHESTER

ESSEX

What Makes Our Geographic **Location Unique For Islam**

- Historically, there have not been many Muslim residents in Vermont state.
- Most Muslims live in Chittenden County.
- Most Muslims are recent refugees via the Refugee Resettlement Program (for example, from Bosnia, Somalia and Iraq). BURLINGTON We are expecting more Muslim families to arrive this year. SOUTH BURLINGTON WILLISTON

What Makes The Islamic Society **Of Vermont Masjid Unique**

Just as Chittenden County contains most of Vermont's Muslims, the specific location of the ISVT Masjid within Chittenden County is of great importance to them.

- The increasing Muslim population has been settling within a 10 mile radius of our Masiid.
- Our location is well known to the community, easily accessible by public transportation, and conveniently close to major business, educational, and government entities that serve and employ the large number of Muslims in the area. Indeed, the building for the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program (the entity responsible for helping relocate all the Muslim refugees], is literally four blocks down the street from our Masjid. Altogether, this facilitates attendance for Jumu'ah and other Islamic community events.
- The Masjid is less than ten minutes away from several exits on Interstate 89, making it a convenient stop for Muslim travelers between Canada, New England, and New York.





Why the Opportunity to Buy the **Building Comes at the Right Time**

- Our community exceeds the space of our Masjid.
- There is not enough room for all activities and our Weekend Islamic School.
- · We already have all the important permits in order.

What We Plan To Do With Our Islamic **Community Center**

- Prayer Space: Today our Masjid is able to host 320 people per praying time. Our plan is to expand the prayer space to a total capacity of 900 people.
- On-site residence for our Imam: We intend for our Imam to reside at the ISVT to better serve the congregation.
- Banquet Hall and Kitchen: We plan for a spacious banquet hall, an event room in which to carry on Islamic events such as weddings, community dinners, interfaith gatherings, etc.
 - We would also provide our community with Halal meat options all year long.
 - Pre-school Center: We plan for a fully equipped center for 20 children, including a separate kitchen and bathroom facilities and an outdoor playground.
 - Youth Recreational Room: We plan to provide a recreational room for our Muslim youth.
 - Designated Area for Burial Preparation: Provide a space for funeral services (washing and shroud) for Muslims in accordance with Shari'a.

The People Who Will Benefit From Our Islamic Community Center

- We will offer a deeper Islamic connection for Vermont Muslims.
- We will offer a more profound experience for Jumu'ah, Taraweeh, and Ramadan prayers.
- We will have better service for children, women, and families.



Weekend Islamic Schoo

More Effective Islamic Outreach In Vermont

- We will strengthen the bonds among Muslims in the State of Vermont.
- We will be able to host Muslims travelers from Canada. New England, and New York.
- We will be a better source for non-Muslims seeking to learn about Islam.

The purchase of the remaining two thirds of the building will make the ISVT a permanent fixture on the Vermont landscape for generations to come - a hallmark for thousands of others to benefit from. Imagine in generations to come, the place you helped to establish for the sole worship of Allah will still be prayed in, and you will be reaping the rewards. Who would willingly let such an opportunity slip by?