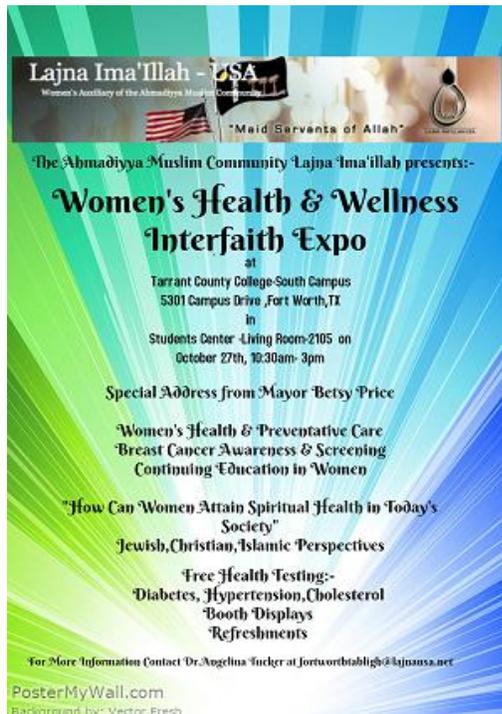


Fort Worth Health Expo and Interfaith Symposium



The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Lajna Ima'illah Women's Auxiliary hosted a Women's Health and Wellness Interfaith Expo at Tarrant County College on Monday 27th October 2014. The Expo attracted a diverse population of women from different religions, cultures, creeds and races it was a true representation of our mission of unity in diversity.

Naghmana Chaudary hosted the event and opened the expo by introducing Wajiha Kamran who did a beautiful recitation of the Quran recitation verses 33:36. Sadr Lajna Ima'illah Fort Worth, Javaria Zahid, gave an overview of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in her opening address. She showed a short video and stated the mission of our expo: to empower women to take control of their health –mind, body and spirit.

The expo featured 2 headline speakers one of which was our very own, Mayor Betsy Price whose contribution to health and women's well being makes her a role model to all women and unprecedented in her office of the 17th largest city in the US. Dr. Jamie Walker Erwin obstetrician and gynecologist from Baylor health captured the audience with her thorough presentation on Preventative Health Care in women of all ages. Dr. Erwin's ease with the audience made her presentation a gentle, encouraging outreach to each sector of the female population to really look at the health issues that affect them and take control of it.



Mayor Price address the Fort Worth Health Expo

Sherree Bennett from the Joan Katz Breast Center gave a heartwarming account of her experience as a breast cancer survivor and very easy to follow demonstration of breast self-examination. Sherree is the director of the Joan Katz Breast Center and is indeed an inspiration in her field.

Kim Karlson from Kim Karlson Ministries gave a heart wrenching account of her journey through physical ailments and how she was able to overcome the insurmountable odds and obstacles through her faith and prayer. Kim Karlson now conducts classes and conferences to reach out to people needing a solution for their health complications.

Kristin Burrows from the Daughters of Abraham addressed the interfaith topic “How can Women Attain Spiritual Health in Today’s Society”. Kristin is a female activist in her community. She attends seminars, workshops and conferences in an attempt to make the connections that we as women and as individuals need for health and wellbeing. Kristin is very passionate about her work and is a leader by example.

Dr. Angelina Rohanna Tucker from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community addressed the same interfaith topic from an Islamic perspective she highlighted 2 main stereotypes in the western society about women wearing the hijab (veil) and the rights of women in Islam. Dr. Tucker took her audience on a journey from misconception to reality by showing through the Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet Mohammad^{saws} how hijab and women’s rights in Islam are in fact a means of women attaining spiritual health in today’s society.



Walgreens Pharmacy provided free health Screenings for this event, Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, Diabetes, and Body Composition. Allied Health Programs from the Trinity River Campus TCC provided free vision screenings.

Participants included the Multicultural Alliance, Daughter’s of Abraham, Baylor health Care, Joan Katz Breast Center, American Cancer Society, Moncrief Cancer Institute, TCC Trinity River Campus Allied health Programs, Humanity First, Kim Karlson Ministries all working together to empower women to take control of their health - mind, body and spirit.

Forty people were present, half of them non-Ahmadi. Forty programs were distributed which detailed the overview of Ahmadiyyat and 30 flyers with the same on the day of the event. Leading up to the event at least 100 flyers were distributed online and in person.



The feedback from the audience and speakers was very encouraging. Many expressed ignorance of Ahmadiyyat and were very grateful to learn who we are, what we believe and most of all to support our slogan ‘Love for All Hatred for None’. Mayor Price also added before leaving, ‘I like the motto "Love for All Hatred for None", it should be implemented in our society’.