



Spotlight on Human Rights - March 2018

Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) <http://www.cair.com>

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) <http://www.cair.com> is a nationwide advocacy group that seeks justice and mutual understanding between Muslims and the rest of American Society. It was first organized in 1994 and has headquarters in Washington, DC. CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding. Civil rights advocacy is at the center of CAIR's work. Civil rights staff at its offices nationwide receive reports of discrimination on a daily basis and work to resolve them through mediation, negotiation, public pressure or, if necessary, through legal action. CAIR's operating budget is funded by donations from American Muslims and others of many faiths who support its mission. CAIR faces challenges via internet misinformation and conspiracy theories that are addressed on its website <http://www.cair.com/about-us/dispelling-rumors-about-cair.html>. CAIR also places emphasis on education within the Muslim and non-Muslim communities. In Philadelphia there is a strong chapter (<https://pa.cair.com>) which offers courses such as "Islam 101: Introduction to Islam And Muslim Civilization", "Politics, Islam and Violence", "Gender and Family in Islam" and others. These are provided in local schools, churches, mosques and other venues.

