



United Sri Lankan Muslim Association of Australia

Secretary's Report 2018/2019

This year marked a successful year for USMAA, now in its 29th year since being established in 1990.

The 2018/2019 team was elected at the AGM and consists of the following members.

Position	Name
President	Yusuf Zarani
Vice President	Miqsan Mohinudeen
Secretary	Shahla Vilcassim
Assistant Secretary	Saara Imtiaz
Treasurer	Hishan Naufal
Assistant Treasurer	Omar Fahmi
Committee Members	Areeb Hameed Fazly Badurdeen Himshan Ansar Omar Alif

Membership

Of the 500 members we have on file, we had a total of 104 membership payments. This comprised of 71 family memberships, 12 individual memberships, 15 pensioner family memberships, 4 individual family memberships and 2 students.

I would like to welcome all new members and thank all our existing members for supporting this organisation.

Management Committee Meetings

We had a total of 7 Management Committee meetings along with 5 Executive Committee meetings, two conducted via Teleconference to discuss urgent matters.

In addition to this, any minor consultations made by the Executive Committee that were discussed on a Exec Committee Discussion WhatsApp Group were disseminated to entire Management Committee via an USMAA Committee WhatsApp Group.

Date	Time	Team	Notes
1st August 2018	1900-2030	Exec Committee	Handover meeting
5th August 2018	1300-1700	Committee	Event planning meeting
11th August 2018	1900-2000	Exec Committee	



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21st August 2018	1200-1300	Committee	Post Eid Breakfast review
27th August 2018	1900-2100	Committee	Pre Eid-Dinner meeting
7th October 2018	1030-1430	Committee	
17th November 2018	1400-1600	Exec Committee	SGM Preparation
9th December 2018	1400-1700	Committee	
10th February 2019	1400-1700	Committee	
30th April 2019	1930-2100	Committee	Ramadan planning meeting
7th June 2019	2000-2100	Exec Committee	Teleconference
11th June 2019	2000-2100	Exec Committee	Teleconference

Subcommittees

Janaza Subcommittee and Positive Ageing Subcommittee organised the Annual Janaza Fund Raising Dinner and two Seniors Night events respectively. Youth Subcommittee organised a Trivia Night to raise funds for a very worthy cause.

Events

USMAA Management Committee organised a series of events for this year.

The year commenced with the celebration of Eid-UI- Hajj with a breakfast event after morning prayers held at the Southern Community Centre on the 11th August.

This event was followed by the Eid-UI-Adha Dinner on the 8th September held at Mulgrave Community Centre with an excellent turnout of 260 guests including invitees from Islamic Council Victoria, Victorian Greens Party, Labour Party and Liberal Party.

Positive Ageing Subcommittee organised two Seniors Night through the year, one in August 2018 at the Mulgrave Community Centre and the second in January 2019 held at the Brandon Park Community Centre. A representative from gD Homecare, a registered NDIS service provider gave a short presentation on their services provided.

Management Committee called for an SGM on 24th November to appoint an Auditor for the year 2018/19 and to make amendments to the USMAA constitution to bring it in line with changes to the Australian Law.



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This was followed by a Members Night which started with an information session given by members of the Janaza Subcommittee.

A Trivia Night was organised by the Youth Subcommittee on the 23rd February to raise funds for Headspace, the National Youth Mental Health Foundation. Youth mental wellbeing is an important aspect to maintaining good overall health as well as social development and is unfortunately under resourced. Representatives from this Foundation were present to discuss with the audience the importance of this organisation and their services to the community.

The Janaza Subcommittee organised their annual fund-raising dinner on the 30th March which was well received.

On the 30th of April, we organised a Memorial for the victims of the horrific terrorist attack that took place in Sri Lanka on the 21st April. This event "Prayers for Victims, Peace and Unity in Sri Lanka" was held at the Islamic Council of Victoria in West Melbourne. We had excellent representation by all religious faiths. There were beautiful messages of peace and unity and guests had an opportunity to share their grief.

In the month of Ramadan, we hosted two Ifthar events for the community at Mulgrave Community Centre. This was followed by 27th Night (Night of Power) prayers held at the Doncaster Centre. Eid Breakfast was held at the Springers Leisure Centre on 5th June. We invited members of Victoria Police to celebrate this joyous occasion with us to thank them for their dedication and service to the community. Eid Ul Fitr Dinner was held on 15th June at Mulgrave Community Centre hosting 200 guests.

We ended the year with a free event, a Community Safety Awareness Day which was open to all members of the public and held at the Glen Waverly Community Centre. There were two very informative sessions given by MFB and Victoria Police with excellent take home messages regarding personal safety and safety at home.

Grants

This year we received a total of \$8000 under the Monash Councils Community Strengthening Program and a further \$11,973.04 in an in-kind grant for the use of the Hall. Further to this, the Positive Ageing Subcommittee received a grant of \$600 for the 2018/2019 financial year.

USMAA was successful in attaining an in-kind grant for Monash Hall Hire totalling \$14,051.09 and a total of \$666.40 for the Positive Ageing committee for the year 2019/2020.

However, we were deemed ineligible for further funding under the Community Strengthening Program due to lack of events involving the greater Melbourne community.

Further to this the Victorian Multicultural Commission has pre-approved USMAA an amount of \$20,000 to be used for initiatives that strengthen participation, inclusion, or family violence services offered by multicultural and multi-faith organisations.



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Achievements

USMAA received a Certificate of Appreciation presented by Monash Council in recognition of the contribution we make to strengthening our community.

Conclusion

I would like to conclude by thanking the Management Committee and their families for all their hard work, dedication and support this year. I would also like to thank all members for their support and encouragement.

Our vision is to become a collaborative community hub that strengthens community participation and inclusion whilst allowing members and future generations an opportunity for personal and collective growth.

Yours sincerely,

Shahla Vilcassim
Secretary
USMAA