

iLABS

Where opportunity meets execution

M UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN

AJC - MMCC Shared Future

| *2013 Survey Findings*

Background

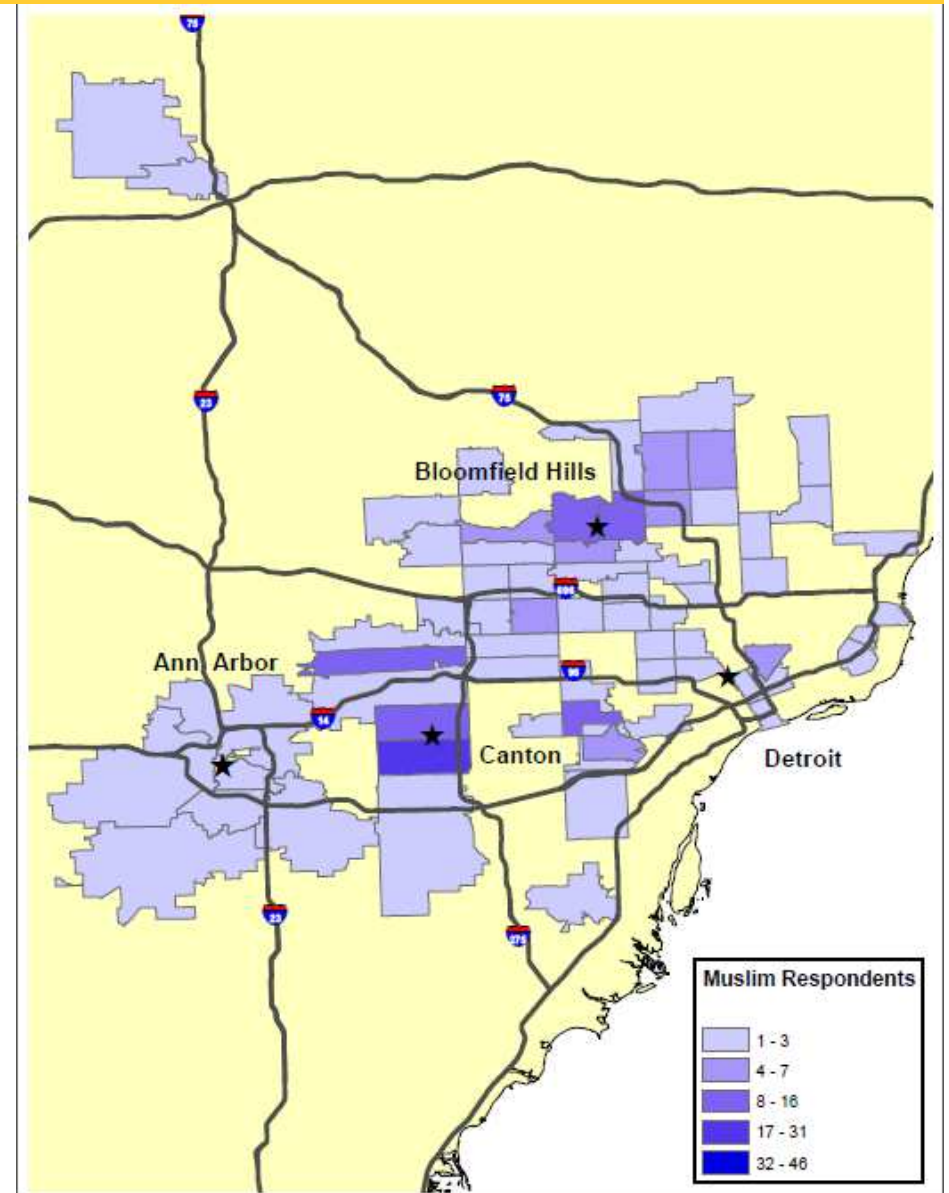
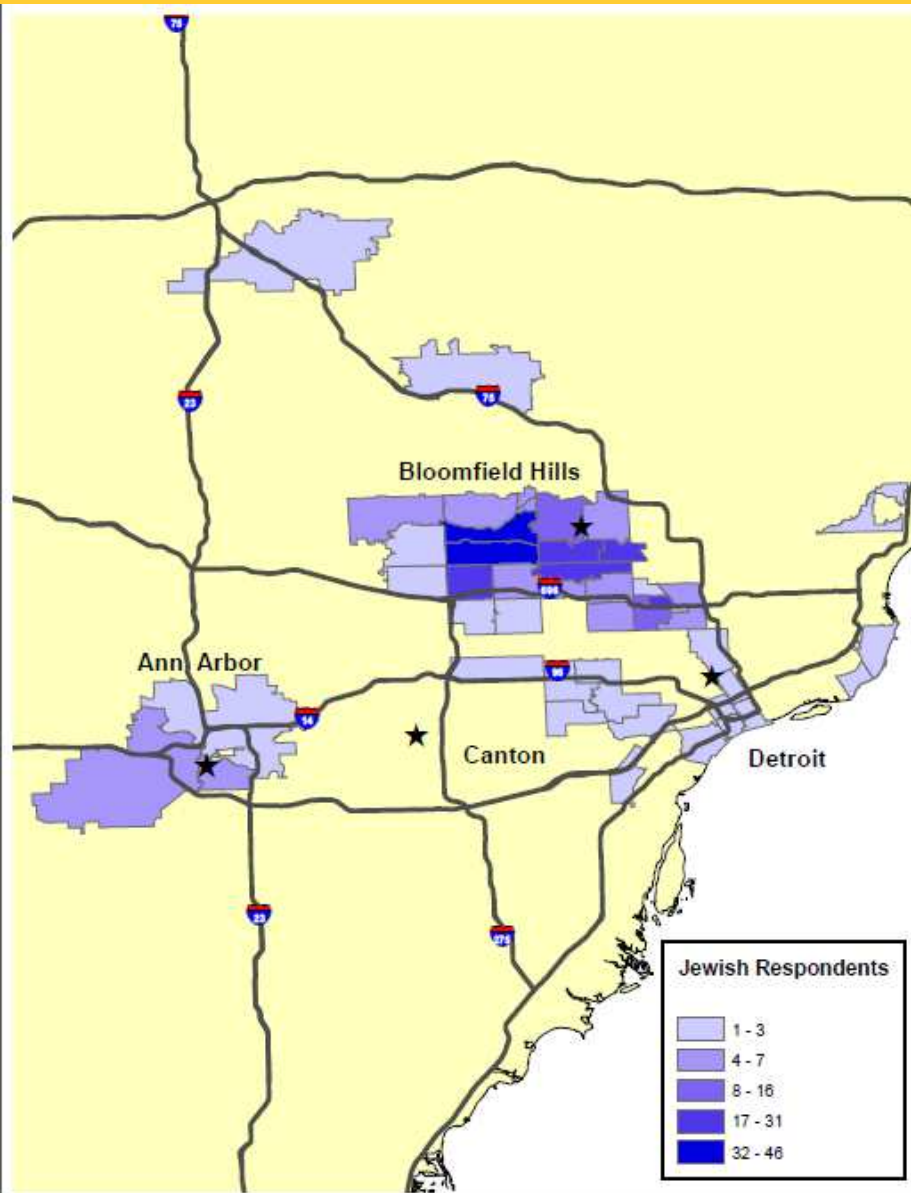
- Better understand potential connections between Southeast Michigan's Jewish and Muslim communities
- AJC and MMCC shared online survey link July-August 2013
- 600 Responses



Sample Demographics

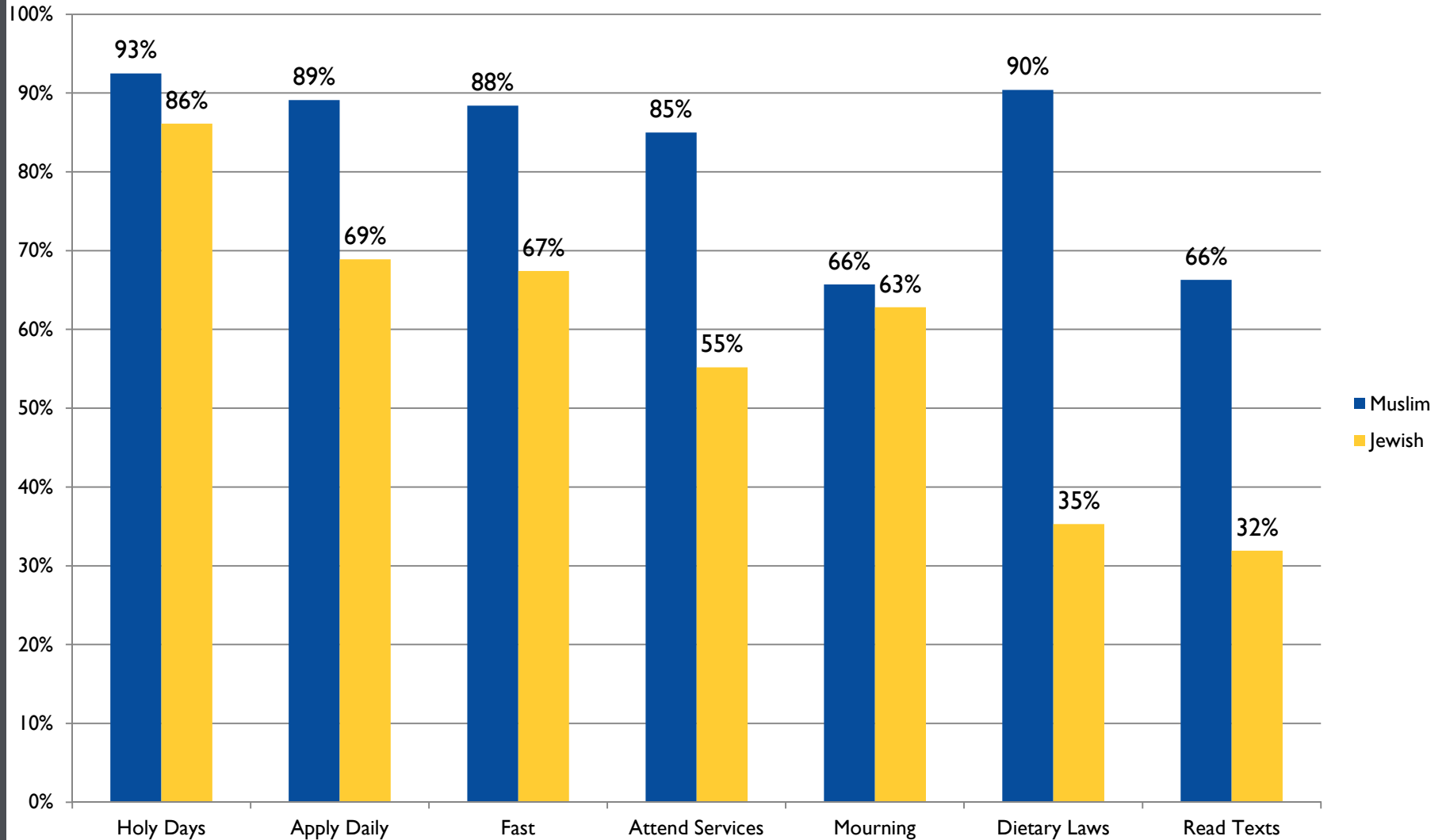
- 59% Jewish Community, 41% Muslim Community
- 54% Male, 46% Female
- 54% between 40-65 years of age
- 74% Born in US

Current Residence



Religious Observances

Religious Observances - By Community



Religion and Faith in Daily Life

When you have a serious personal problem, how often do you take religious advice or teaching into consideration?	Jewish Community	Muslim Community
Almost always	34%	55%
Usually	20%	28%
Sometimes	46%	14%
Never	21%	3%

83%

Which of the following best describes your practice of prayer or religious meditation?	Jewish Community	Muslim Community
Prayer is a regular part of my daily life	32%	90%
I usually pray in times of stress or need, but rarely at any other time	16%	5%
I pray only during formal ceremonies	42%	5%
I never pray	10%	0%

How much influence would you say that religion has on the way that you spend your time each day?	Jewish Community	Muslim Community
A large influence	36%	39%
A fair amount of influence	21%	42%
Some influence	27%	13%
A small influence	30%	5%
No influence	8%	2%

81%

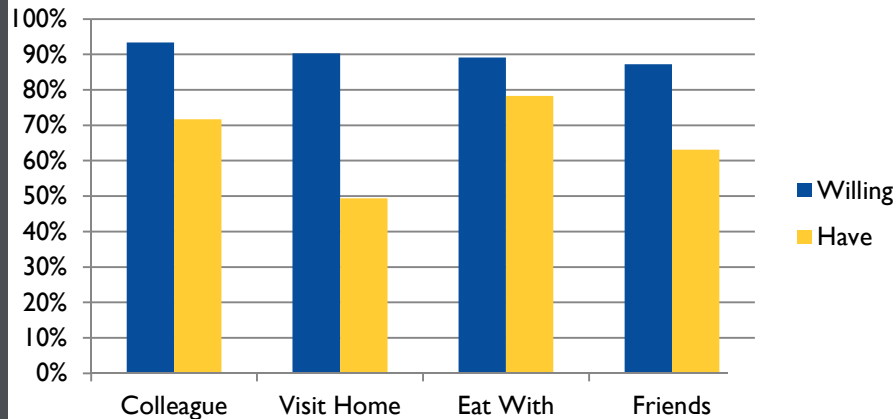
Activities and Willingness to Participate

I am willing to:		Jewish Rank	Muslim Rank
93%	Interact with a colleague at work from the other community	1	1 (tie)
	Visit the home of a person from the other community	3	3
	Be treated by a doctor from the other faith	5	1 (tie)
	Eat with a person from the other community	4	4
	Donate blood to a person from the other faith	2	5
I have:		Jewish Rank	Muslim Rank
88%	Shopped at an establishment owned by a person from the other community	1	1
	Eaten with a person from the other community	2	3
	Attended a religious service of a different faith	3	6
	Engaged in a discussion with a person from the other community about religion, culture, ideology, and global events	4	4
	Interacted with a colleague at work from the other community	5	2
	Jewish/Muslim friends	7	5

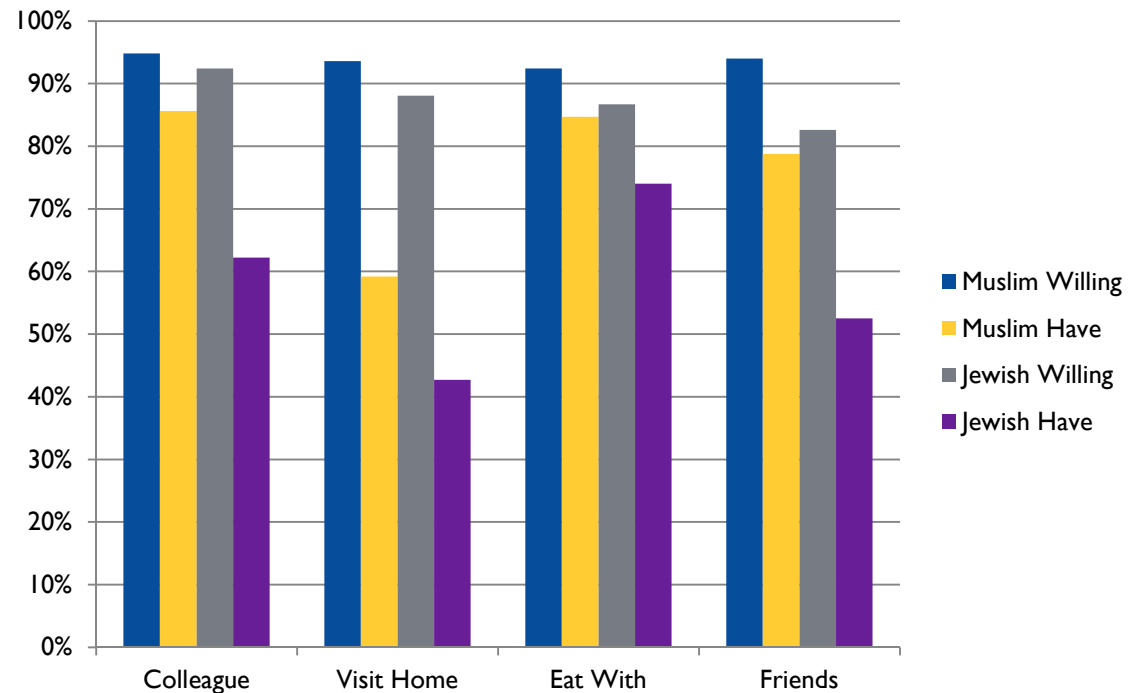
Muslim respondents have done 25% more of the 19 activities listed in the survey

Activities – Friends and Colleagues

Activities - Friends and Colleagues



Activities - Friends and Colleagues by Community

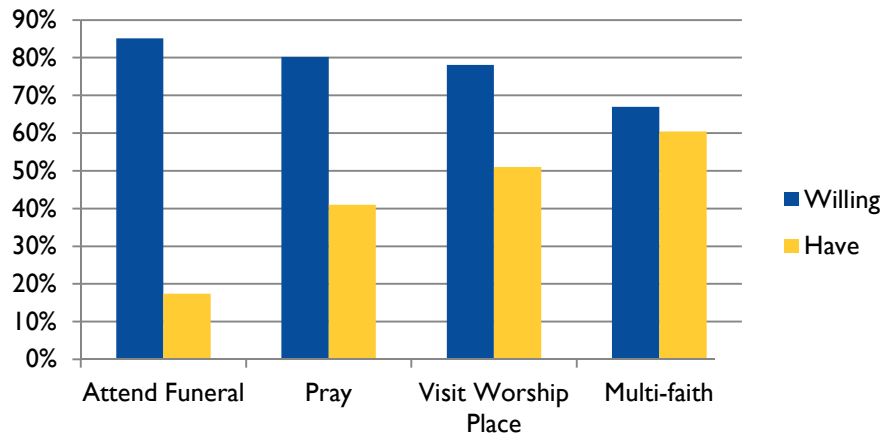


Raw differences

- Willing 3-11 points
- Have 11-26 points

Activities – Religion and Religious Expression

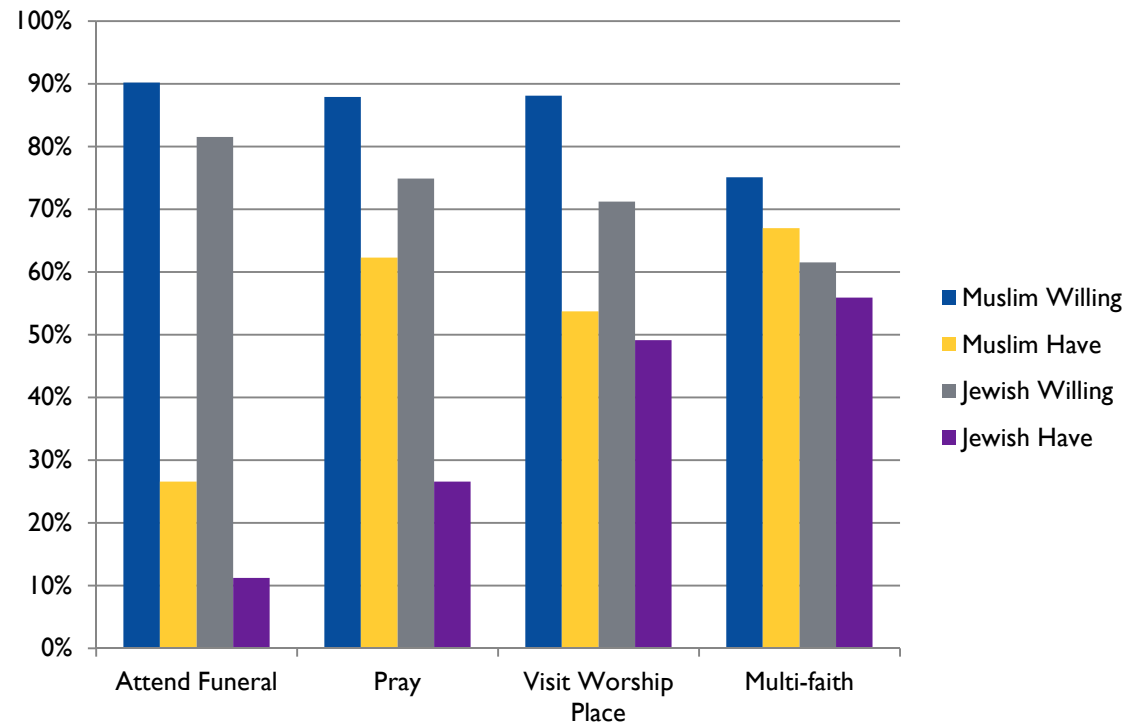
Activities - Religion and Religious Expression



Raw differences

- Willing 9-17 points
- Have 5-36 points

Activities - Religious Expression by Community



Activities – Experience and Willingness

For respondents with experience in an activity, there are **no differences between communities** in terms of willingness to consider participating in the activity again.

- Without experience in an activity, Muslim respondents are more likely to consider trying most activities.
 - Attending a multi-faith service
 - Attending a synagogue/mosque
 - Discussing religion, culture, ideology, and global events
 - Shopping
 - Being treated by a doctor

Shared Future – Multi-faith Programming

82%

Multi-faith Initiatives		Jewish	Muslim
I am interested in working on multi-faith initiatives related to:		Rank	Rank
Protecting women and children from violence		1	1
Education		2	3
Distributing food to the homeless		4	2
Arts and culture		3	9

72%

Multi-faith Events		Jewish	Muslim
Please indicate your interest in:		Rank	Rank
Discussing multi-faith issues over coffee		1	1
Discussing multi-faith issues over dinner		3	2
Spending two days visiting a Jewish heritage museum and an Islamic heritage museum		2	5
Participating in Meals on Wheels on Christmas day		4	6
Participating in a multi-faith leadership program		5	3
Participating in community interfaith/diversity groups		7	4

83%

Multi-faith Engagement		Jewish	Muslim
I am willing to participate in:		Rank	Rank
Activities with members of another faith (multi-faith activities)		1	1
Multi-faith community building activities		2	2
Multi-faith educational activities		4	3
Multi-faith volunteer work activities		3	4

Respondents' Views:

Three open-ended questions aimed to solicit respondents' views and suggestions on:

- 1) Ways to improve multi-faith interactions
- 2) Media and community resources used to understand own and others' faith
- 3) The purpose of their existence as shaped by faith

Respondents' Views:

1) Ways to improve multi-faith interactions

Suggestions	Percentage
Create more opportunities	20%
Develop understanding of each other's religion and culture	14%
Collaborate to dispel stereotypes	11%
Build awareness of similarities	9%
Collaborate in community service	6%

Respondents' Views:

2) Media and community resources used to understand Judaism and Islam

Sources	Percentage
Multiple-sources	45%
Internet	14%
Social interactions with a Muslim (Jew)	10%
Print media	4%
Religious texts	4%
Social media	1%

Respondents' Views:

3) G-d (Allah) put us on this earth in order for us to ...

Comments	Percentage
Live in harmony	29%
Make the world a better place	26%
Be good/do good deeds	20%
Worship and follow commandments	12%
Set a good example	3.5%
Grow, learn, and be happy	2.5%

Religiosity and Willingness to Engage

Regularly apply the teaching of faith in everyday life

I am willing to/ I am interested in: (except where italicized)
Engage in a discussion with a person from the other community about religion, culture, ideology, and global events
Pray for a person of the other faith
Attend a multi-faith religious service
Visit a mosque/synagogue
Be treated by a doctor of the other faith
<i>I do not object to having people of the other faith in my family.</i>
<i>I do not object to my children having close interpersonal relationships with a person from the other community</i>
<i>I am open to my children befriending another child from the other community</i>
Working on multi-faith initiatives related to protecting women and children from violence
Working on multi-faith initiatives related to distributing food to the homeless
Working on multi-faith initiatives related to poverty alleviation
Working on multi-faith initiatives related to immigration issues
Working on multi-faith initiatives related to refugee issues
Discussing multi-faith issues over coffee
Discussing multi-faith issues over dinner
Participating in WISDOM
Participating in World Sabbath
Attending Glazer Institute events
Participating in a discussion on Reuniting the Children of Abraham documentary
Participating in Worldviews Seminar
Participate in community building activities
Participate in volunteer work activities
Participate in educational activities

Religiosity and Willingness to Engage

Religion influences how to spend daily time

I am willing to/ I am interested in:

Engage in a discussion with a person from the other community about religion, culture, ideology, and global events

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to distributing food to the homeless

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to education

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to poverty alleviation

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to immigration issues

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to refugee issues

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to caring for the elderly

Working on multi-faith initiatives related to economic development

Discussing multi-faith issues over coffee

Discussing multi-faith issues over dinner

Spending two days visiting a Jewish heritage museum and an Islamic heritage museum

Participating in a multi-faith leadership program

Participating in delivering Meals on Wheels on Christmas day

Engaging in a year-long multi-faith project

Participating in the Interfaith Leadership Council of Metro Detroit

Participating in community interfaith/diversity groups

Participating in New Detroit's Immersion Program

Participating in Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion

Participating in WISDOM

Attending Glazer Institute events

Participating in a discussion on Reuniting the Children of Abraham documentary

Participating in Worldviews Seminar

Participate in community building activities

Participate in volunteer work activities

Participate in educational activities

Conclusions and Discussions

- Differences in role of religion every day and religiosity, but similarities in observing and practices
 - Irrespective of community, influence of religion drives interest in participation in activities
- Differences in the level of experience interacting with the other community
 - Previous experience is a driver for more engagement
 - Jewish community more apprehensive without experience
 - Casual engagement opportunities are first step
- Residence and location provide context for increased Muslim interaction

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