

## TAYBA FOUNDATION

EDUCATION- LIFESKILLS- REENTRY



**ANNUAL REPORT 2002 - 2008** 



Tayba Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving individuals and families impacted by incarceration. We believe in the power of human change through holistic education, guidance, and support. Our work is organized into three interrelated program areas: **Education, Life Skills, and Reentry** 

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## Of the 2.3 million prisoners in the US, over 200,000 identify as Muslim.

Ninety percent these Muslims are converts to the faith, and most of them became Muslim in prison, seeking to turn a new page in their lives. Yet for many of them, even getting access to a copy of the Qur'an is a challenge - let alone any further religious education or rehabilitation programs. Without such programs, some Muslims embrace sectarian or extremist views; others leave the religion altogether. Still others return to crime after release, having found no support from their local Muslim community.

Since 2002, Tayba Foundation has touched the lives of more than 9,000 incarcerated Muslims across the U.S by providing critically needed Islamic education, essential Life Skills training, and Reentry support. Many Tayba students have become leaders and change-makers within their communities, both inside and outside of prison. With every passing year, we strive to reach more men and women behind bars and to improve the quality of our work to create real change in the lives of those we serve. In 2002, Shaikh Rami Nsour taught one student prisoner from a home garage. His generous parents, Marianne Hogan Nsour and Salameh Nsour, paid for phone calls, mailing fees, and other expenses needed to communicate with his student and provide Islamic resources. As more Muslim prisoners demonstrated a thirst for, and dedication to, traditional Islamic knowledge and guidance, Shaikh Rami was encouraged. He chose to persevere, grow the program, and produce new material to better serve this community. During this time, Shaikh Rami was pursuing his Islamic studies overseas, limiting his ability to scale the concept into a fully operational organization. In 2008, the culmination of his vision finally came to life as the Tayba Foundation, is now a nationally and internationally recognized nonprofit organization. Tayba was incorporated as a 501(c)3 to continue Shaikh Rami's meaningful work, with the support of the Muslim community, in the following areas:

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Tayba Foundation

#### Teaching prisoners

- Teaching adults in free society\*
- Teaching children\*

\* These services were discontinued upon the recommendation of respected community members. There were many institutions specializing in teaching the general population, but a significant need for education in prisons remained.

### Students Served by Tayba 2002-2008

Academy Students served = 10

#### Life Skills

The program did not officially launch until 2018.

#### **Reentry Programs**

The program did not officially launch until 2018.

#### **Total Raised**



Start-up funding: \$3,000 loan

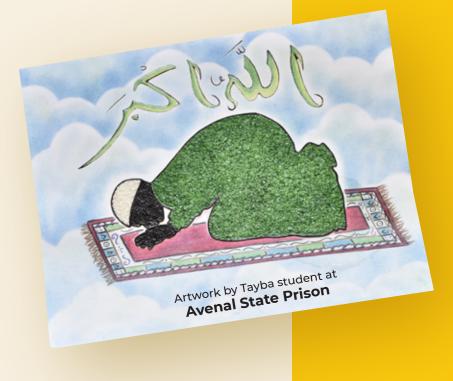
(to cover legal and registration fees and first mailer)



#### Raised **\$6,000**

in first Ramadan campaign

- Directed \$3,000 to repay start-up loan
- The rest was utilized in programming and early organizational development



Tayba Foundation launched with only a cell phone, a PO Box, a brochure, and the knowledge gained through teaching students in prior years.

- Primarily over-the-phone, Tayba students were taught courses such as the Imam al-Tahawi's "Beliefs of the Ahl al-Sunnah Wa al-Jama'a", the book of Imam Al-Akhdari on Maliki Fiqh, and a course on the Purification of the Heart, among others.
- Chose a name for the organization and developed the first logo and website.
- Conducted a fundraiser by mail for Ramadan 2008, bringing in approximately \$6,000 in donations.
- Hosted the first in-person fundraiser at the Fremont Hilton with a small number of guests
- Began the distribution of coin jars, which provided critical funding for the first few years of Tayba's growth.





# Thank you for remembering the forgotten believers and dreaming of new achievements in the year ahead.

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