

**Pakistani American  
Association of Greater Houston**

**Year 2011 -2012 Activities  
at the**

**Pakistani American  
Community Center**

1. Hussain Day
2. Community Involvement Day
3. Ladies Health Seminar
4. Senior Citizens Annual Dinner
5. Computer Classes
6. Urdu Learning Classes
7. Cooking Classes for Teenagers
8. Arabic Learning Classes
9. English Learning Classes
10. Pakistan's Cultural Day
11. Senior Citizens Monthly Lunches
12. Women Committee's Monthly Meetings
13. Youth Committee's Meetings
14. Youth Committee's "Rocket's Day"
15. Open to all ' Thanks Giving Lunch"
16. Open to all "Christmas Dinner"
17. Chand Raat - Meena Bazaar
18. Eid ul Fitr Prayers
19. Chand Raat - Mehndi Night
20. Eid ul Adha Prayers
21. Women's Committee's Eid e Milad un Nabi
22. PAGH Annual Dinner
23. PAGH Mushaira
24. Pakistan's Independence Day, Flag Raising
25. Independence Day Dinner

**Pakistani American  
Community Center**

**"Never Underestimate  
Heart of a Volunteer"**

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**Thank You  
For All Your Support**

**Serving  
The Community  
with  
Honor & Pride**



# **Pakistani American Association of Greater Houston The Journey**

In the late 1950s, Pakistani students ventured from their native land and arrived in Texas. While they enjoyed life in America, homesickness crept in as they longed for the things of home. In 1962, six students found that sharing the burden of adjustment with fellow Pakistanis eased their struggle, and together formed the Pakistani Students' Association (PSA) at the University of Houston.

## **Dedication**

These six students eventually graduated, but never forgot the ever-increasing number of new Pakistani students coming to study so far from home. In 1969, these students launched the Pakistani American Association of Greater Houston (PAGH), the first organization to merge the greater Houston community and Pakistani alumni with current University of Houston Pakistani students.

PAGH continued to grow. In 1983, PAGH incorporated its charter as a non-profit community organization with the State of Texas and formed a basic constitution.

## **Patriotism**

The organization continued to expand, from students to professors, engineers, doctors and business professionals who came together for a common cause: to serve the community with the honor and pride of Pakistan.

PAGH began the Pakistan Center project in the 1990s and obtained a fully-functioning office in 1993 - the flagship of PAGH.

Today, the 37,000 square-foot Pakistan Center represents the heart of over 100,000 Pakistani-Americans in the Greater Houston area.

# **Pakistani American Community Center**

PAGH is devoted to promoting, expanding and improving the youth of this society. PAGH further, acts as a supporting body for youth-led initiatives and activities such as attending Houston rockets game twice a year.



*Youth Committee*

The ladies at PAGH are the centerpiece of PAGH's establishment. They promote bonds of friendship and fellowship for women. In addition, they take an active part in the civic, social, and moral welfare of the community such as holding monthly meetings and weekly classes for younger kids and women who desire to learn English, Arts, and Computer.



*Women's Committee Dinner*

One of the most cherished committee in PAGH is our Golden Club. Community elderly from different cultures and backgrounds, come together once a month and celebrate life by singing, storytelling, informing others on health issues etc.

In addition, PAGH provides the Golden Club members free lunch and picnic trips .



*Golden Club, PAGH*

# **Pakistani American Community Center**

Since its inception in the 1960s, PAGH flourished, bringing hope and service to thousands of Pakistani-Americans and providing a home away from home. The dream would not be fully realized, however, until PAGH itself had a fully self-sustaining Pakistan Center. In 2005, the PAGH Executive Board and the Trustees resolved to build a multi-purpose community center to further meet the needs of the organization's members.

## **"A Vision, A Dream - A Reality Now"**

The group purchased a 37,000 square-foot former grocery store. After a long and difficult remodeling process, PAGH members now have an immaculate home on the corner of Bissonnet and Dairy Ashford.

With 11,000 square feet of retail outlets, the rental income covers the center's expenses, allowing for the remaining 16,000 square feet to include an event hall, PAGH Secretariat offices, community library, computer training center and game room, low-income family health clinic, women's club, senior citizens club and a prayer hall.

## **A Labor of Love**

The center has become a hub of social, cultural, educational and charitable activities promoting and protecting the rich Pakistani culture for future generations.

PAGH affectionately dubbed the center "Pakistan House," where they often gather to celebrate Pakistan's national events, host Pakistani visiting dignitaries and provide environments and facilities for children to learn their national language, and get to know their rich heritage.

The center has become much more than a building that houses an organization. It is a source of pride and unity, where dreams become reality.