

Samaha Islamic Center.
214 Holmes Street South
Shakopee, MN 55379

Introduction

Samaha Islamic Center is a nonprofit organization that has 501(c)3 and is registered in the state of Minnesota. At the center, the Muslim community members that live in Shakopee come together for worshipping in a small congregation under 50 people when we started. However, the increase of the Muslims in Shakopee is growing faster and the center is very important for Muslim communities to perform their ritual prayers on all seven days for five times daily.

Currently, under twenty users may come to use the center Monday to Thursday and about thirty-five to fifty users on Friday to Sunday. Also, during the month of Ramadan which is a holy month the use of the center increases by 30% during the night but as we mentioned about the community member are growing rapidly and we want to use the building at the maximum capacity of that is allowed. Talked to Tom and after I gave him the worship space measurements, he said it will take 300-330 range.

In order to provide services for more people we are obligated to request conditional permit and renovate the center. We are also working on installing fire sprinkler system which is one of the Shakopee city's rules and we have contracted a company to install fire-sprinkler for the safety of the public using the center in case of fire- accidents.

Prayer, or Salat, is one of the Five Pillars of Islam and it is compulsory on Muslims to perform the prayers five times a day — dawn, early afternoon, late

afternoon, after sunset and between sunset and midnight and it's considered good to pray in a congregation in the mosque; hence the closest mosques are in Eden Prairie, Burnsville and Minneapolis, meaning Shakopee Muslims must travel to congregate with others of their faith between 10 to 32 miles to find a mosque.

Despite the worships, the center is a place where students and other community members come for doing their homework after school regardless of their faith because the Samaha 's mission is all community is one community and have mutual goals to have peace and co-existence. We have partnership with Scot county, Allina, and Shakopee schools.

The center offers for the following services:

- Religious Services
- Youth Program (activities)
- Community Service
- Homework -help

We are very pleased to be granted the CUP so that the center becomes compliant.

Best Regards,

Samaha Islamic Center