



## MUSLIMS FOR PEACE AND STANDWITHDIGNITY.ORG HOSTED CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN IN TRENTON

Trenton, NJ — December 10, 2016, **Muslims for Peace, Inc.** and **Standwithdignity.org**, two Muslim non-profit organizations based in central New Jersey co-sponsored a Christmas Party for Head Start children receiving home visiting services in Trenton. The Children's Home Society of New Jersey ([chsfnj.org](http://chsfnj.org)) is a nonprofit statewide organization that helps at-risk infants, children, youth, and families achieve their potential. They protect abused or neglected infants and children, strengthen young children and families, and strive for stable, permanent, and loving homes.

The Muslim community in Central Jersey recognizes the need to give back to those who need it most, regardless of faith. Director of Charity Events for **Muslims for Peace** said, "We are organizing this event because it is a part of our Islamic faith to give back to our community. As it says in the Qur'an [Chapter 2, verse 215], 'They ask you as to what they should spend. Say: Whatever wealth you spend, it is for the parents and the near of kin and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer, and whatever good you do, God surely knows it.'" **Standwithdignity.org** and **Muslims for Peace** organized the Christmas Party for ~50 CHSofNJ Trenton children and their parents.

**Mustafa Abdi, Leader**, said "Charity begins at home. Our duty alongside helping our families is helping our neighbors and local communities. These children come from all religious backgrounds from Christian, Non-religious to Muslim and all races. There are an estimated 1 million people living in poverty in NJ and many are children who may not be our direct neighbors but if we take the time to travel a few miles we see how many are truly in need of food, shelter, clothing and a dignified life."

Activities for the children included arts and crafts, gift giving and other games, followed by a hot lunch-provided-at no cost by **standwithdignity.org**, **Muslims4peace.org** and **Kababery.com**. **Zachary Chester, West Ward Councilman/Council President** attended on behalf of Mayor Jackson's office and gave greetings to the children and parents.