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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(COLUMBUS, OH) – MY PROJECT USA TO TRAIN 200 YOUNG MUSLIM AMERICANS TO COMBAT VIOLENT EXTREMISM, HATE AND FEAR

MY Project USA is a non-profit organization that is focused on protecting and empowering Muslim American youth through grassroots engagement and provision of social and educational services. It is preparing to train two hundred American youth and young adults next month to combat extremist violent ideologies on social media. This training will be offered at the first annual community leadership conference entitled, “#MYProjectisUSA 2016.”

“We are very disturbed by the rise of various extremist ideologies and the consequential bloodshed in America,” says Zerqa Abid, the founder and president of the organization. “As a Muslim American organization, we make it incumbent upon ourselves to train our youth to combat the false but dangerous agenda of ISIS on social media. This conference is the first step in this regard,” she adds.

MY Project USA believes in the capacity building and grassroots organization to address any and all community issues. They hope to turn each one of the participants of the conference into an activist and a community leader in some capacity.

“If we are sincerely worried about the safety, wellbeing and future of our people and this country, we have got to roll up our sleeves and take this business in our hands,” Abid says. “At MY Project USA, we have rolled up ours and we will not rest until we train hundreds and thousands of youth to become productive, patriotic citizens of the United States of America.”

Abid calls upon all faith-based and community organizations to follow her lead and start organizing their youth to counter the violent extremist ideologies, like KKK and their alias, and the messages of hate and fear against various communities and people. “We must empower our future leaders with the skills to address all kinds of terrorism, racial and social injustices, gun violence and many other pressing issues in today’s America,” she says.

The youth leadership conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio, during the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. It will cover a variety of topics through lectures and workshops. In addition to the countering online extremist violence and the messages of hate and fear, in this two-days conference, the participants will also learn about addressing human trafficking, drugs, gangs, racial and social injustices; civic engagements; political mobilization of the community; refugee needs and services, environmental issues; and the techniques to create and disseminate powerful narratives.

All participants will be encouraged to participate in the community service project of their choice on the MLK day on January 18, 2016.



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MY Project USA is a national organization focused on combating extremist violence, human trafficking, drugs, gangs and many other issues through grassroots mobilization and training of youth and families. It is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. It owns two MY Deah's Stores in North Carolina and opening another in Columbus this month. These stores are named after Deah Barakat, the victim of Chapel Hill shooting in North Carolina past February.

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