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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**YWCA Hartford Region Invites Community to Conversation on #Islamophobia:
Who is spreading anti-Islam prejudice and what can be done?**

Hartford, CT- YWCA Hartford Region invites the community to join a Community Matters conversation on the topic of #Islamophobia. Community Matters conversations encourage our community to discuss timely and sometimes challenging topics in support of YWCA's mission to *eliminate racism and empower women*.

The event will feature Dr. M. Saud Anwar, Co-Chair of American Muslim Peace Initiative & South Windsor Town Council Member; Professor Ghassan El-Eid, Political Science Professor at Central Connecticut State University; Aida Mansoor, President of Muslim Coalition of Connecticut; Sarala Nagala, Assistant U.S. Attorney at U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut; and moderator Asker A. Saeed, Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Day Pitney LLP. The panelists will discuss how the link between the politics of some nations and a religion created what we have today and provide perspective on the current climate and share ideas on how to proceed in the future.

Community Matters will take place on Thursday, February 11th at 5:30 PM at YWCA Hartford Region. Community Matters is FREE and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. The snow date has been scheduled for Thursday, February 18th at 5:30 PM in case of inclement weather.

Registration for Community Matters is available online at www.ywc Hartford.org. For any additional questions about the event, please email ywcainfo@ywc Hartford.org or call (860) 525-1163 ext. 118.

The #Islamophobia Community Matters event is sponsored by Day Pitney.

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Established in 1867, YWCA Hartford Region is the third oldest affiliate of YWCA, a women's membership movement dedicated to **eliminating racism and empowering women**. YWCA Hartford Region provides programs and services in the greater Hartford Region including child care, supportive housing, teen leadership development, racial justice awareness, financial literacy and economic empowerment. For more information, visit www.ywc Hartford.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).