

**2011
PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZER
OF THE YEAR NOMINEE**



RACHID ELABED

Advocacy & Civic Engagement
Specialist - Arab Community
Center for Economic & Social
Services

WHAT THE NOMINATOR SAID:

"Rachid is a well-respected leader among other community leaders, members, and his colleagues. Because of this, he deserves the 'Organizer of the Year' Award."

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Rachid has been instrumental in organizing the Arab American community around key issues affecting them. Some of his work includes organizing around racial profiling of Arab and Muslims, advocating for comprehensive immigration reform, and registering thousands of new voters. Due to his efforts, the vote in areas where the campaign ran increased by an astonishing 26%! Rachid created a first of its kind program, ACCESS ACTS. The program gives participants the opportunity to participate in community service, advocate on self-identified issues, and encourage their fellow youth to turn out to the election polls, among other things! Rachid has also been instrumental in engaging new groups and training them to become organizing leaders.