



Rashida Tlaib

Former Michigan Legislator

Naitonal Network of Arab American Communites

Rashida Tlaib is a longtime resident of Detroit and the child of Palestinian immigrants. Rashida is a former Michigan State Representative where she served three terms and was appointed as the democratic vice chairwoman of the Appropriation Committee. While in the Michigan House, she has worked on more than 30 bills combatting poverty, increasing access to human services, protecting our public health and environment, and promoting public safety and consumer protection. She is an attorney and practiced immigration law before she began her policy advocacy career.

Rashida received her bachelor's from Wayne State University in 1998 and juris doctorate from Thomas Cooley Law School. Rashida worked at a number of nonprofit organizations, including the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) and the International Institute of Metro Detroit, where she advocated for better access to human services, education, immigrant and civil rights.

Although all her advocacy work is significant, Rashida's most important accomplishment has been establishing a neighborhood service center, which has more than twelve different programs offered to low-income families and those who need help the most.

Rashida joined the Sugar Law Center for Economic & Social Justice in 2015 as their community partnerships and development director.

Rashida made history by becoming the first female Muslim elected to the Michigan Legislature, and only second in the country. Rashida has been married to her husband, Fayez, for 17 years. Together they have two sons, Adam and Yousif.