

MAKESHA LAUN

Professionally, I am an analyst and problem-solver. Generally, I would describe myself as a secular humanist, citizen of the world, and life-long learner with a wide range of interests.

At the University of Louisville, I majored in French and minored in Chinese Studies. I was lucky enough to get to work for four weeks at the Montpellier Municipal Library as a participant in the Montpellier Sister Cities Work Exchange (2002) and also had an amazing three weeks in China (2001).

After graduating from the University of Louisville with a Masters degree in French in 2004, I landed a gig as a copy editor at a .com start-up called Narrowcast Group. I quickly transitioned to a tech ops role there and worked my way up to software BA and QA, which is what I did from 2009 until I left there and went to ZirMed (now Waystar) to do QA and build automated tests for their Analytics product in 2012. In 2015 I took the opportunity to move to a data specialist role where I began developing software and honed my data wrangling skills. Currently I am an application engineer at Waystar, building custom reports and custom business applications on the Engineering Operations team.

I was present at the community brainstorming meeting on May 1, 2016, when the idea of promoting interfaith harmony in Louisville was launched. Some of the religious leaders, educators and justice activists who were present at that meeting had future consultations which led to the birth of *The Salaam Network (TSN)* in summer 2016. I have been a Friend and Supporter of *TSN* and attended its programs whenever possible.