

# Power of Words Podcast Show Notes

## Episode 2: INAS YOUNIS

Join Sondra & Jeni as they talk with Inas Younis, journalist and Overland Park Councilmember, as she shares how an excerpt from [A Prologue to Love](#) by Taylor Caldwell impacted her life.

### Excerpt:

*“It is not possible for us to know each other EXCEPT as we manifest ourselves in distorted shadows to the eyes of others. We do NOT even know ourselves; therefore, why should we judge a neighbor? Who knows what pain is behind virtue and what fear behind vice? No one, in short, knows what makes a man, and ONLY God knows his thoughts, his joys, his bitternesses, his agony, the injustices committed against him and the injustices he commits... God is too inscrutable for our little understanding. After sad meditation it comes to me that all that lives, whether good or in error, mournful or joyous, obscure or of gilded reputation, painful or happy, is only a prologue to love beyond the grave, where all is understood and almost all forgiven”*

### Guest:

Inas Younis was born in Mosul, Iraq, and emigrated to the United States as a child. She is an independent journalist and commentator, is widely published, and serves on several boards. Inas is invested in the topics of immigration, community, leadership, and faith minority representation. She is running for Overland Park City Council's Ward 5 in Kansas (at the time of recording). Inas lives in Overland Park with her husband of 33 years and is the mother of three, plus their two cats.

### Hosts:

*Jeni Starr (she/her)* has been a health education specialist for over 20 years and currently serves as the Community Specialists Manager for the Kansas City Public Library where she leads a team of subject area specialists. She is passionate about health equity and weight inclusive wellness. When she isn't working she enjoys gardening, traveling, sewing, and spending time with her husband, stepkids, four cats, and a retired racing greyhound.

At the time of the season 1 recording, she was the Library's Health and Wellness Specialist but has transitioned into a new role.

*Sondra Wallace (she/her)* is a life-long Kansas Citian with an unwavering commitment to support, collaborate and engage our community in mental health education and prevention to increase the health and wellness for ALL.

She brings to our conversations with other dedicated Kansas Citians, 25+ years of experience with schools and non-profit organizations, sharing the message of hope, help & strength. Sondra's passion to encourage listeners to empower themselves through the power of words that have significant meaning to an individual.

At the time of the season 1 recordings, Sondra was the Director of Mental Health Programs at Jewish Family Services of Greater Kansas City. She recently transitioned to AdventHealth as the Director of

Community Benefit where she continues to share the message of hope, help & strength to increase the health and wellness for ALL.

RESOURCE LINKS:

[Jewish Family Services](#)

[Kansas City Public Library](#)

<https://www.jocogov.org/department/mental-health/accessing-services>

<https://medium.com/@Inasy>

### **Production/Credits**

The Power of Words is produced by the Kansas City Public Library and Jewish Family Services with support from Americorps.

**Theme music:** "Sunset Loop" by Sergei Chetvertnykh. Available for use under the CC BY 3.0 license ([creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/)), at [FreeSound](#).