

KARAM FOUNDATION 2016 ANNUAL REPORT





IN 2016,

Our generous supporters helped us raise \$3.2 million for our programs designed to provide long-term, deep-impact, community-driven aid through Innovative Education, Smart Aid and Sustainable Development that allows Syrians to build a better future. Syria is the world's largest humanitarian crisis. The scale of suffering is massive. But because of people like you, thousands of people have more hope for the future. Thank you for making an impact on 119,950 lives in 2016. Here's how and where your donations made a difference!

AT A GLANCE: OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

5 COUNTRIES

7,793 STUDENTS

23,990 FAMILIES

2,300 BABIES

7,905 CHILDREN

267 TEACHERS


8 SCHOOL BUSES

342 JOBS

19 SCHOOLS

31 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

7 AMBULANCES



119,950
LIVES IMPACTED

A CLOSER LOOK: INNOVATIVE EDUCATION



SCHOOL SUPPORT INSIDE SYRIA

We restored and supported 14 schools in Syria that were damaged by barrel bombs and airstrikes. These schools are attended by 4,778 students and 230 teachers and school staff.

REFUGEE SCHOOL SUPPORT

We provided long-term school support for 5 schools for Syrian refugees in Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

We sponsored 8 school buses for 244 Syrian refugee children in Turkish cities of Reyhanli and Istanbul.

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION MISSIONS

We ran a mission at a school for Syrian refugee orphans in Istanbul that holds 80 students, grades 1-6. Workshops included: dental hygiene, origami, architecture, Antigone play, trust games, and yoga breathing and stretching.

An art muralist from South Africa conducted an Art Mural Mission in Kirikhan, Turkey. A gorgeous mural on the outside walls of a Syrian refugee school was the product of a collaboration with Syrian and Turkish kids in the community who were given the opportunity to express their creativity and bring joy, color, and inspiration to the school and streets of Kirikhan that will last for many years.

HIGHER EDUCATION

We launched our Karam Scholars program which assists Syrian refugees who are pursuing higher education. We awarded 10 students in Turkey with micro-scholarships for 1 college semester and funded college prep courses for 2 students. In Jordan, we awarded 12 students with tuition scholarships for 1 semester. In the U.S., we awarded 9 students with micro-scholarships at our partner universities and college preparatory schools: Phillips Exeter Academy, St. Johnsbury Academy, OPC Berklee College, and Nuvu Studio.



Art Mural Mission in Kirikhan, Turkey

A CLOSER LOOK: SMART AID

SPONSOR A SYRIAN FAMILY

We expanded our program to sponsor 46 families in Turkey by providing families with a monthly cash-stipend on the condition that they send their kids to school. 143 kids were sponsored (126 in Reyhanli and 17 in Istanbul). 73 of the sponsored kids were in child labor prior to our intervention.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

We distributed food to 12,814 families in cities throughout Syria: Aleppo, Homs, Ghouta, Madaya, Maadamiya, Rif Idlib, South Idlib, Binnish, Wadi Barada, Rif Homs, as well as Koecali, Turkey and Amman, Jordan.

WINTER RELIEF

We provided heating materials to 2,787 families in Syrian cities of Aleppo, Madaya, Al-Waer (Homs), Maarat Al Noman (Idlib), Balyoun (Jabal Al Jawiya, Idlib), and Binnish.

We provided heaters + renovations for schools in the Syrian town of Kafarouma (Idlib) and an IDP camp in Khirbet el Jowz (Idlib).



#MILK4SYRIA

We have 3 distribution centers that serve 2,300 babies. The centers cover the communities in the following towns in Syria: Maarat Al Noman, Jabal, Al Zawiya, Talminis, Khan Sheikhoun, Deir al Gharbi, Al Qahira, Saraqeb, Al Teh, Kafr Sajneh, Heish, Binnish, Taftanaz, Taoum, Afes, Jisr El Shoghour; This includes the IDP families that have relocated to these areas.

We also provided an emergency delivery of milk to Syrian cities of Daraa and Moadamiya.



Mattress distribution to evacuees from Madaya and Zabadani

EMERGENCY AID

We worked with partners on the ground to deliver urgent responses to emergency humanitarian crises.

January Madaya Siege Crisis: We distributed emergency supply of food for 5,000 families

August Daraya Evacuation: We secured rent and food support for 22 families + 30 individuals

December Aleppo Crisis Pre-Evacuation: We supplied 355 families with food and water

December Aleppo Crisis Evacuation: We provided heaters, mattresses, blankets, food baskets, and heating fuel for 1,500 families.

White Helmets

We sponsored 7 ambulances for the White Helmets, a group of brave men and women volunteers who risk their lives to pull out victims of barrel bombs out of the rubble and destruction.

A CLOSER LOOK: SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

SCENTS OF SYRIA

We continued to support Ghar, the Syrian women's initiative who embroider, sew, and package Laurel soap made in Aleppo. The initiative supports the livelihood of 50 IDP women in Damascus and 25 Syrian refugee women in Turkey.

VEGETABLE GARDEN PROJECT

We funded a farm that secured food for 4,000 families living in Yarmouk, Syria and families who have fled to the surrounding areas of Yalda, Babilla, and Beit Sahm. Vegetables such as zucchini, eggplants, spinach leaves, and cucumbers were planted and harvested. Seven staff were hired to manage the project including an accountant, a project coordinator, three farmers, and two security guards and thus supporting seven additional families with sustainable livelihoods.

WOMEN'S ORGANIC PANTRY PROJECT

We supported a young woman in Syria who had a small business idea that would employ ten widows in Maarat Al Noman, Idlib. The women purchased organic vegetables and prepared, jarred and then sold them at local markets. The profits went towards paying for the women's salaries and their monthly operational expenses. Consumers of this project are local Syrian families that are at risk of food insecurity. Not only does this project support the livelihood of women in Syria, it also increases access to nutritious food for Syrians in need.



Handmade Ghar soap from Aleppo and hand embroidered pouch from Damascus



Handmade Black Seed soap from Aleppo



Vegetable garden in Yarmouk

BUILT IN 2016: KARAM HOUSE



LOCATED IN REYHANLI, TURKEY

Our newest Innovative Education initiative, Karam House, is a community innovation center where Syrian refugee youth turn their passions and ideas into realities. We designed Karam House to be place where they can build strong relationships with peers and mentors. It is a place where they can learn competitive skills in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathamatics that are essential to advancing their educations and futures. Most of all, Karam House is an inspiring, safe, and healing space for Syrian teenagers – who have lost so much through the trauma of displacement and war – to be teenagers.

Karam House is a place where teenagers become leaders. It's a place where young Syrian women and men can use to learn and grow.

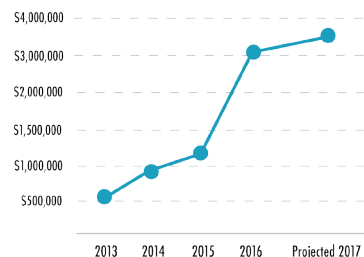
It is a space for youth to be creative and inspired – where refugee kids get to experience a world of possibility and opportunity.

By providing Syrians communities long-lasting resources, we are actively participating in creating an educated, positive and open-minded future for the next Syrian generations. Our goal is to help Syrian families and especially the youth overcome financial difficulties and become active and productive members of their community.

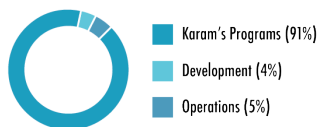
Karam House is shaping a new generation of young Syrian leaders – entrepreneurs, journalists, writers, technology experts, engineers, teachers, artists, and designers – equipped with the skills and confidence to recreate their world into one of endless innovation, possibility, and opportunity.

FINANCIALS + ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WE RAISED: \$3,156,659.51



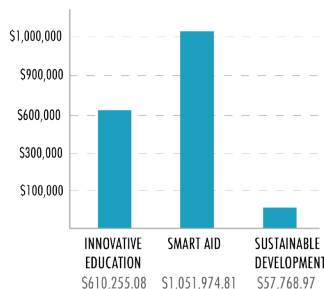
OUR TOTAL SPENDINGS: \$2,153,907.05



Overhead Rate: 9%

100% of our overhead is covered by dedicated private donations, sales, fundraising events, and capacity-building sponsors who are invested in our longterm and sustainable growth. These generous "angel investors" make it possible for us to direct 100% of public donations to thousands of Syrians children, youth, and families, fund our innovative projects, and build a better future for Syria.

OUR PROGRAM SPENDING: \$1,719,998.86



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- KARAM HOUSE OPENED
- OFFICE IN ISTANBUL OPENED
- LAUNCHED THE "KARAM SCHOLARS" PROGRAM
- DELIVERED RAPID RESPONSES TO EMERGENCY CAMPAIGNS
- 49 MEDIA MENTIONS BY 45 PUBLICATIONS
 - Including: Huffington Post, FORBES, New York Times, NBC, and GOOD Magazine.
- RECEIVED OUR TURKISH REGISTRATION
- EXPANDED THE "SPONSOR A SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILY" PROGRAM INTO ISTANBUL, TURKEY
- 106 SUPPORTERS FUNDRAISED FOR US AND RAISED \$300K
- PUBLISHED OUR FIRST REPORT
 - Titled: Displaced Generation: The Landscape of Refugee Education in Syria, Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon



LOOKING AHEAD: GOALS FOR 2017

#GOALS

- Reach 1,000 active members at Karam House: Reyhanli
- Prepare to open Karam House: Istanbul in January 2018
- Expand our “Sponsor a Syrian Refugee Family” program to include over 600 kids in Reyhanli and Istanbul
- Expand our “Karam Scholars” program to support 60 university and high school refugee students in Turkey, Jordan, and the United States
- Expand the Karam Team in Turkey to 25 Syrian refugee professionals to run our Innovative Education and Smart Aid programs on the ground
- Launch our new program to provide deep-impact, substantial grants to Syrian families in the U.S. with the goal to jumpstart their futures

Our work continues to increase as millions of Syrians continue to live their sixth year in the worst humanitarian crisis of our lifetime. We are determined to support Syrian families who deserve to live without fear, hunger, or feeling cold; Syrian kids who deserve an education and the right to pursue their dreams; and Syrian refugees who deserve to rebuild their lives with respect and dignity. We will never stop building, especially in the time of destruction, planting seeds of hope in the land of despair, and investing in the children – the future of Syria.



THE KARAM TEAM



BOARD

LINA SERGIE ATTAR
Co-Founder/CEO

OMAR SALEM
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MAYA KHATER
Secretary/Director of Events

RAZAN WAFAI
Director of Health and Wellness

AYA SAMMAN
Director of Strategic Partnerships

GHAZI JEIROUDI
Director of Sustainable Business

STAFF

In 2016, our operations grew both in size and locations. We opened 2 offices in Turkey located in Reyhanli and Istanbul, an office in northern Syria, and officially opened our headquarters in Lake Forest, IL.

10
UNITED STATES

2
ISTANBUL, TURKEY

8
REYHANLI, TURKEY

14
SYRIA

WWW.KARAMFOUNDATION.ORG

Karam Foundation is a
501(C)3 Non-Profit Organization

Federal Tax ID: 37-1548241

GIVING SINCE 2007