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Our Mission

Karam means **generosity** in Arabic.

We are creating a generation of future refugee leaders capable of transforming the future of their families and communities, wherever they are and wherever they may go.



Year in Rewind



JANUARY

All-team reunion/workshop in Turkiye



FEBRUARY

Filming of The Walk film in Reyhanli



MARCH

11th anniversary of the Syrian Revolution



APRIL

Ramadan campaign and activities underway



MAY

Karam Families workshops and training



JUNE

World Refugee Month activities



JULY

Visiting Mentor workshops
in Istanbul



AUGUST

Visiting Mentor workshops
in Reyhanli



SEPTEMBER

USA Board and Team Retreat
in Karam HQ



OCTOBER

75 new university scholarships
awarded



NOVEMBER

Launch of Belongings Podcast

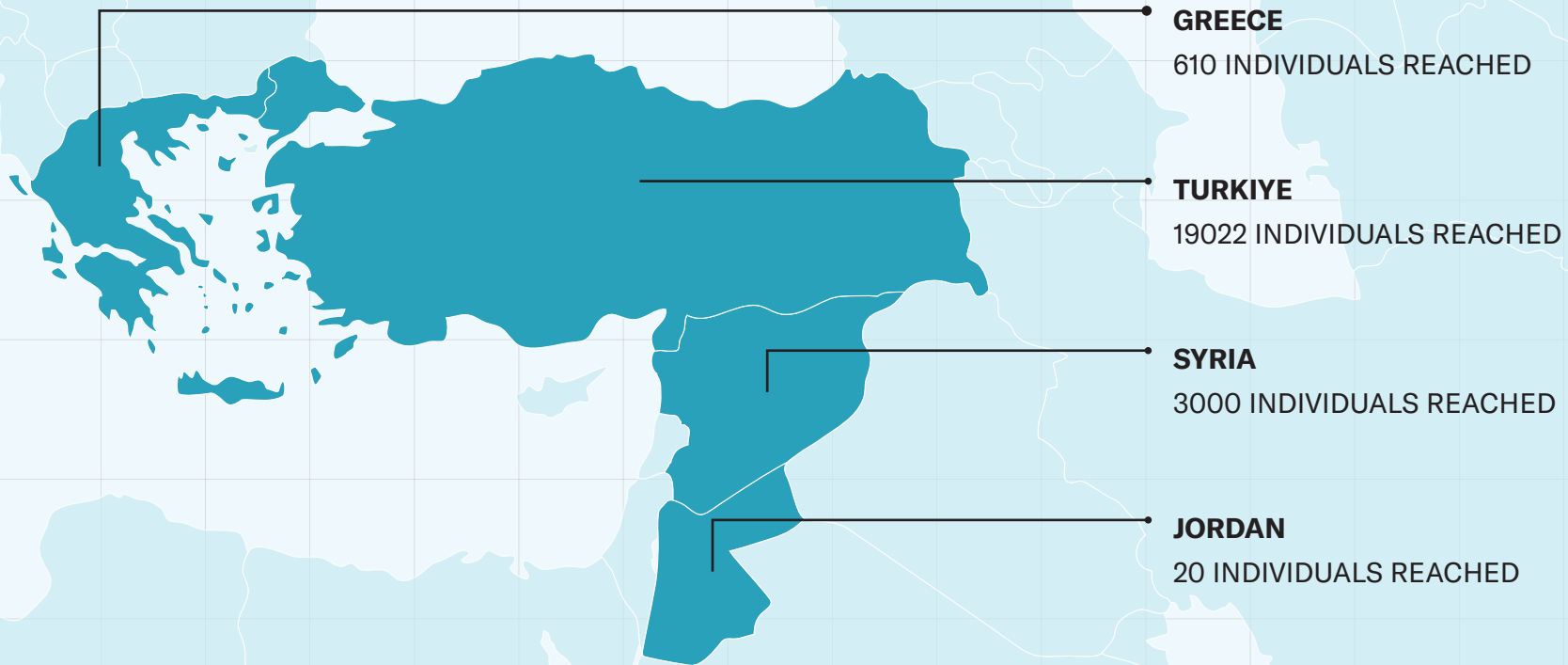


DECEMBER

Karam Camera screening
in NYC

Our Impact

BY COUNTRY



Our Impact

TURKIYE

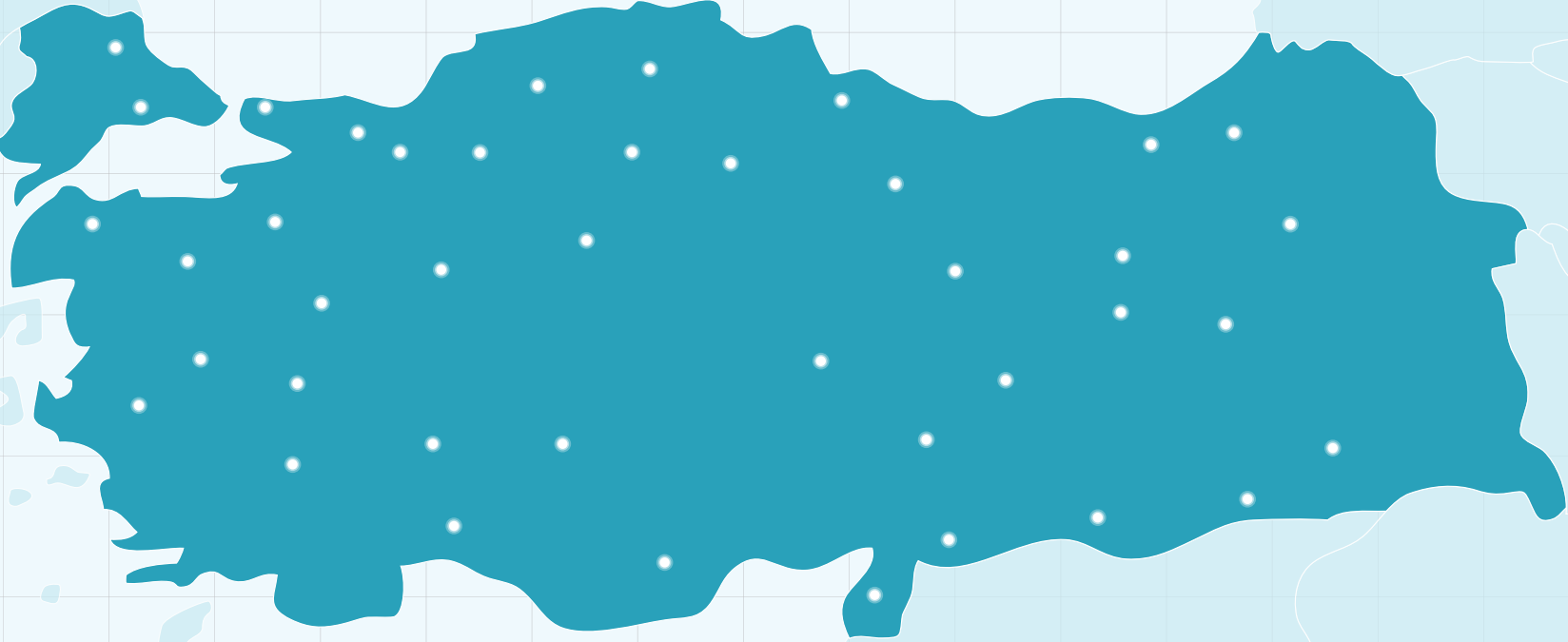
Antalya
Erzurum
Hatay
İstanbul
İzmir
Mardin
Urfa
Alanya
Elazığ

Bartın
Kütahya
Düzce
Erzincan
Tokat
Karabük
Tekirdağ
Gaziantep
Bursa

Malatya
Kahramanmaraş
Ankara
Bolu
Manisa
Kayseri
Çanakkale
Balıkesir
Zonguldak

Tunceli
Alanya
Kırıkkale
Konya
İzmit
Denizli
Sakarya
Eskişehir
Sivas

Rize
Samsun
Bingöl
Çorum
Uşak
Trabzon
Siirt
Mersin
Isparta



Karam Families

Sending Syrian refugee kids back to school and helping all family members become independent and resilient through monthly cash stipends, emergency cash loans, and awareness workshops.

Where are the families?

54 families
in Reyhanli

47 families
in Istanbul

48 families graduated
to self-sufficiency
status

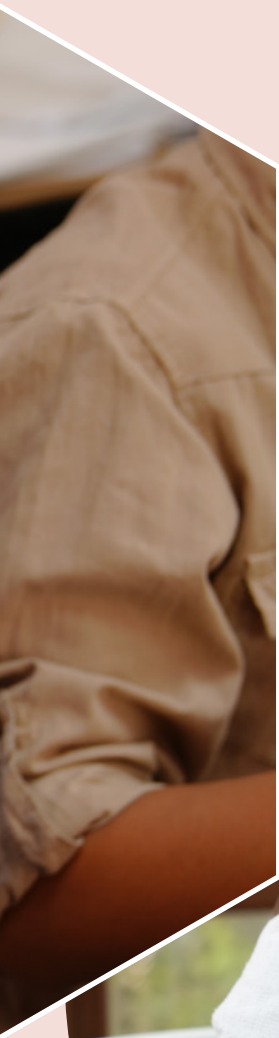
42 families joined
the program

Karam Families sent **7** boys back to school and protected **17** children who were at risk of child labor.

39 courses and seminars took place in 2022. Some favorites include:

- Understanding Turkish Labor Laws and Rights (*Legal and Finance*)
- Intercultural Communication (*Integration*)
- Turkish Language for Parents and Children (*Language*)
- Therapy through Art (*Mental Health*)
- Mindful and Positive Parenting (*Community*)





Meet Manal and Her Family

Manal is a single mother of five adolescent girls. The burden of being a single mother of five in a foreign country after fleeing a war was getting heavy on Manal. Meeting her daughters' basic needs was becoming almost impossible. Although difficult, she started having thoughts about marrying them off to give her daughters a chance at a better life. "If it were up to me, if I could afford it, I would never even think about marrying off my girls. But I work and work, and the money is still not enough."

After hearing about the Karam Families program, she immediately applied. The condition was that the girls are not to be married but instead remain in school and prioritize education. This was a dream come true for Manal and her daughters.

The family got accepted into the program and is on the path to leadership and self-sufficiency!

Innovative Education

Hands-on, in-person, and virtual studios designed for refugee teens exploring topics like technology, urbanism, architecture, social impact, education, fashion, health, journalism, and media.

1323 students enrolled

717 girls

606 boys

85 total studios in 2023

2380 total hours

68 graduates!

34 girls

34 boys





Meet Abdullah

“Abdullah started the Innovative Education program with basic knowledge, but his skills developed throughout his studios. Now he is proficient in design, programming, robotics, and research. He uses the machinery in the maker space effectively. His attention to detail and his consistent focus impresses me. He always completes what is asked of him, and his robotic arm project is a prime example of that.



What strikes me about Abdullah is that he loves learning about everything, and he works with the same effort and energy in all his studios, no matter the subject matter or task at hand.”

- Nour R, Innovative Education Mentor

Karam Scholars

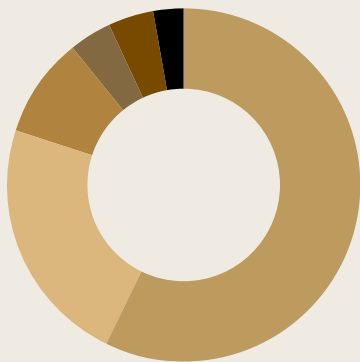
Guiding Syrian refugee students on their journey to leadership through higher education scholarships, hands-on workshops, and volunteer opportunities.

31 Students graduated in 2022

146 Total scholars in the program

75 New scholarships awarded

72% female cohort



FIELD BREAKDOWN:

- **57.3%** medical sciences
- **22.7%** engineering and technology
- **9.3%** social sciences
- **4%** creative arts
- **4%** math and science
- **2.7%** business



Meet Bayan!

Leaving home at 10 years old, Bayan doesn't have much memory of her house in Idlib. All she remembers is packing her bags with her five siblings and parents, and heading to Reyhanli, Turkiye.

Their first stop was a refugee camp she can't remember the name of. It could be because her brain refuses a memory so painful, or she was too young to recall. Moving from one school to another was very difficult, and making friends was almost impossible because of the fear that at any given moment she could be moving somewhere else. "It was difficult then," she says, "but now I am thankful that I met all of these different people."

After leaving the refugee camp in Reyhanli, Bayan and her family stayed with her uncle until they found their own place. To her, Turkiye is her second home, "At this point of my life, I've lived in Turkiye more than I've lived in Syria."

In 2017, Bayan joined the Innovative Education program at Karam House. She said having Karam House in Reyhanli was a miracle and a life-changing experience. Through Karam, Bayan met new people and learned skills that helped her during her present and her future. "Karam is a big part of my life. Through Karam House, I met so many people that changed the way I think and introduced me to so many new cultures. This was the first time I held a camera in my hand, and ever since then, I knew that photography was one of my passions. Karam House in particular is an important place for Syrians to improve their talents and get to know themselves better so that they don't get lost...so that they learn about the right path."

Bayan graduated from Karam House in 2019, but that wasn't the end of her journey. She applied for Karam's scholarship and was awarded it to study Business Administration. Because Karam opened so many doors for Bayan to expand her skills, she put those skills to work to support herself and her family.

Among the many things that Bayan does, she holds photography sessions for friends and family. "Not a lot of people come to me for photos because I don't have a camera, I use my phone. But I do end up with great results even with just a phone camera. There is so much that you can do with phones nowadays."

Bayan also translates articles, books, and blog posts from Turkish to Arabic and Arabic to Turkish. "My biggest accomplishment in translation and something I am very proud of is translating a chapter of a book of prophet Muhammad's Hadiths (Sayings) from Turkish to Arabic. Another thing that Bayan does is that she works in graphic design, something she learned from her father and through YouTube, in addition to volunteering in The Syrian Students League, where she runs the Media Branch. Her goal this year is to become the president of the Media Branch.

"Karam made me feel that I belong somewhere. Despite the great people and community around me, I don't feel that I belong to Turkiye. But I also don't feel that I belong to Syria either because I left so young. I am stuck in between. But when I enter Karam House, I know this is where I'm supposed to be."

Our Community



OUR TEAM

47 team members spread across four countries and six states.

51% Female

64% Refugees

74% of Syrian origin

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lina Sergie Attar, *CEO/Founder*

Anna Nolan, *Director*

Rasha Mansouri, *Chair*

John O'Farrell, *Director*

Mamak Shahbazi, *Vice Chair*

Omar Salem, *Director*

Razan Massarani, *Treasurer*

Sana Mustafa, *Director*

Aya Samman, *Secretary*

Sarah Rahman, *Director*

Sharad Samy, *Director*

EMERITUS BOARD

Mohamad Ojjeh

Maya Khater

Ghazi Jeiroudi

Our Donors

346

NEW DONORS!

1,137

TOTAL DONORS

284

JOURNEY MEMBERS

“I’m proud to support **this important work.**”

“Karam is my **go-to organization** for donations.”

“**It makes me feel good** to give a donation to a worthy cause like Karam.”

“It is our privilege **to contribute to your good work.**”

“**We hold Karam dear** and worry so much about the Syrian people still suffering inside and outside the country.”

“Keep up the **good work!**”

Our Partners

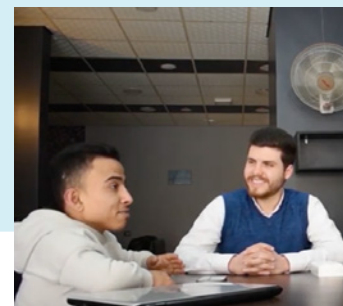
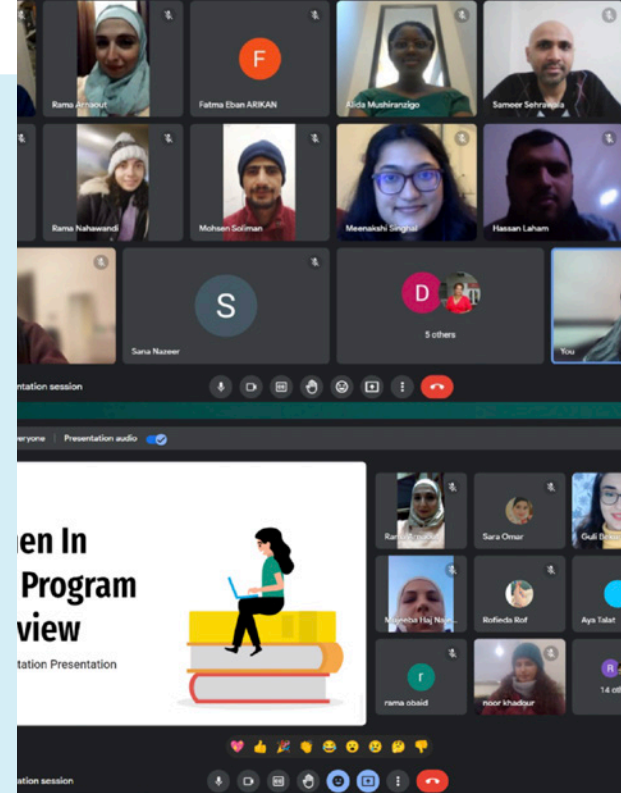
PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

PAPER AIRPLANES

is an organization that functions with the strength and efficiency of a dedicated team of volunteers. Its primary objective is to facilitate language acquisition for refugees globally, providing invaluable support to individuals in need. Through peer-to-peer interactions and virtual learning opportunities, Paper Airplanes connects youth across the globe to learn English, empowers women in the Middle East with technical skills to advance their education and career, and advises individuals on next steps they can take in their careers and education. Through our collaborative partnership, we've empowered 981 refugees on their journey to self-sufficiency.

REACHING ACROSS BORDERS

is an organization on the ground supporting the mental health of Syrian refugees in the Beqaa Valley in Lebanon. Our financial partnership allows us to provide protection services that will develop the emotional resilience of refugee children and their families so that they can realize their full potential and make positive contributions to their communities.





2022 Annual Report



Special thanks to our hard-working and inspiring partners

HBO ORIGINAL
SIMPLE AS WATER
بسيط كالماء

PEACE BY
CHOCOLATE

Waterwell

REACHING ACROSS BORDERS
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

PAPER
AIRPLANES

WITNESSES TO WAR
THE CHILDREN OF SYRIA

MOLHAMTEAM
INSPIRE YOUR HUMANITY

ONE
JOURNEY

MAGIC
snack bites DATES

THE
WALK

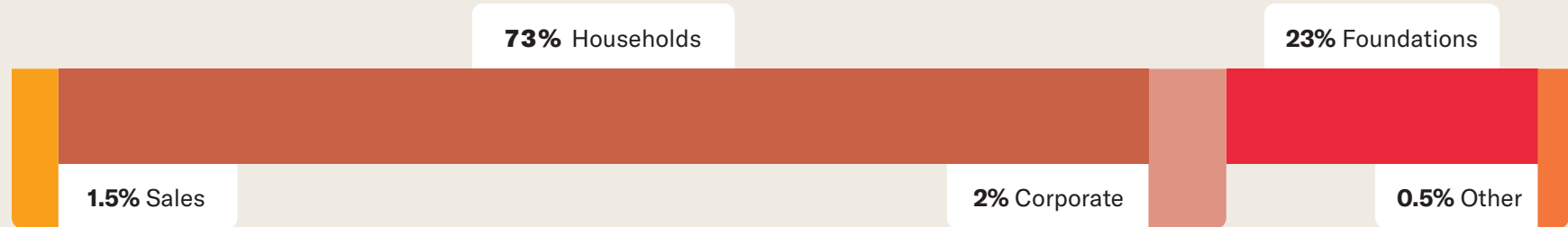
DISTRICT
CINEMA

FR
FINDING REFUGE

MAYDAN

MAYAVAKFI

Financials



\$295
AVERAGE FIRST TIME GIFT

AVERAGE
284
MONTHLY RECURRING GIVERS

\$67
AVERAGE GIFT SIZE

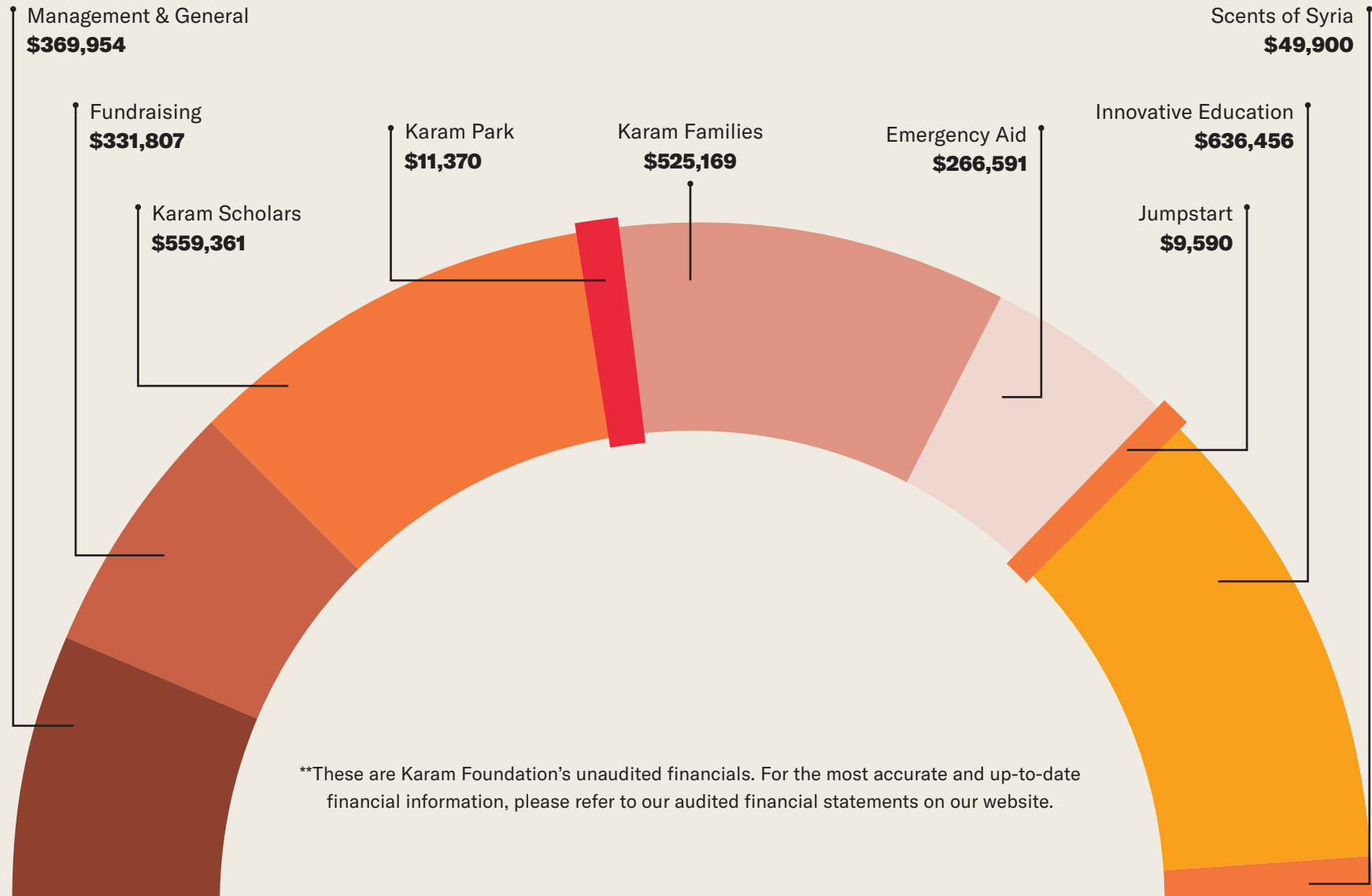
\$2,483,773
TOTAL RAISED

\$2,760,202*
TOTAL SPENT

**2022 presented unique challenges, including economic uncertainties and unforeseen circumstances, contributing to a slower fundraising year. Despite this decline in fundraising, it is important to note that we have been proactive in building and maintaining financial reserves to ensure the continuity of our programs. These reserves are established to provide financial stability, allowing us to bridge the gap between funds raised and spending costs during periods of financial volatility.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated supporters, donors, volunteers, and stakeholders who continue to place their trust in Karam. Your unwavering commitment enables us to navigate challenges, adapt to changing circumstances, and make a positive impact in the communities we serve.

FINANCIALS BREAKDOWN**



**These are Karam Foundation's unaudited financials. For the most accurate and up-to-date financial information, please refer to our audited financial statements on our website.

Thank you

In conclusion, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed to our annual report and supported our mission of building a better future for refugees. Your unwavering dedication and radical generosity have made a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals and families. Together, we have provided education, opportunity, and a sense of hope to those who have endured immense hardships. Your support has not only helped them rebuild their lives but has also fostered a global community that values compassion, understanding, and solidarity.

We are truly humbled by your commitment and remain inspired to continue our work, guided by the belief that every refugee deserves a chance to thrive.

Thank you for joining us on this journey.





www.karamfoundation.org

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

Federal Tax ID: 37-1548241

GIVING SINCE 2007