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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

GREECE
610 INDIVIDUALS REACHED

TURKIYE
19022 INDIVIDUALS REACHED

SYRIA
3000 INDIVIDUALS REACHED

JORDAN
20 INDIVIDUALS REACHED
Our Impact

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

31 Students graduated in 2022
75 New scholarships awarded
146 Total scholars in the program
72% female cohort
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
Rasha Mansouri, Chair
Mamak Shahbazi, Vice Chair
Razan Massarani, Treasurer
Aya Samman, Secretary
Anna Nolan, Director
John O’Farrell, Director
Omar Salem, Director
Sana Mustafa, Director
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!”
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.
Special thanks to our hard-working and inspiring partners

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<th>SIMPLE AS WATER</th>
<th>PEACE BY CHOCOLATE</th>
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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.
**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.
Karam Foundation is a 501(C)3 Non-Profit Organization
Federal Tax ID: 37-1548241
GIVING SINCE 2007