

Annual Report 2021



UMMA

Urban Muslim Minority Alliance



Our mission is to empower and unite all people with resources and opportunities to obtain self-sufficiency by providing access to basic needs, education, career services and affordable housing.



Letter from the Executive Director & Board President



Hamaas Ibrahim
Board President



Robert Montgomery
Executive Director



Greetings of Peace,

As we reflect on the year, COVID-19 is the theme as we review and report. Our shared experiences from the pandemic make us stronger as we all survived these unprecedented times. Some experienced the loss of loved ones, and some sustained mental health challenges. But we all found our inner strength to carry on as we continue to navigate through our new world and new ways of life.

We send a warm Thank You to our supporters. Your unwavering loyalty and encouragement helped us continue to build on our mission to empower and unite all people with resources and opportunities to obtain self-sufficiency by providing access to basic needs, education, career services and affordable housing. Because of you, we are experiencing a 3-year budget surplus which has given us the ability to quickly adapt to unforeseen circumstances. It also put us in a strong financial position that allowed us to develop a much-needed affordable housing program, while strengthening our other programs and services.

- Our food pantry served over 4,000 families with over 100,000 meals
- Our completely virtual gala featured NBA star Stephen Jackson and raised over \$90k.
- We helped 100 Rohingya Refugee families with basic needs
- We purchased our second home in our affordable housing program

None of our success could be possible without the hard work and dedication of our wonderful staff, board, and volunteers. As we are looking towards brighter days ahead, they are all vital for our programming, services, and initiatives to continue.

We have embarked on a very beneficial model at UMMA and with the generosity and devotion of our supporters and stakeholders we are hoping for another stellar year with real-time results.

Best Regards,

Board of Directors.



Hamaas Ibrahim
President



Ashfaq Mohiuddin
Founder



Waqas Sarwar
Treasurer



Mohammed Basith
Secretary



Ayesha Ahmed
Development



Wasif Khan, LLM
Legal Counsel



Irfan Misbah
Finance

Staff.



Robert Montgomery
Executive Director



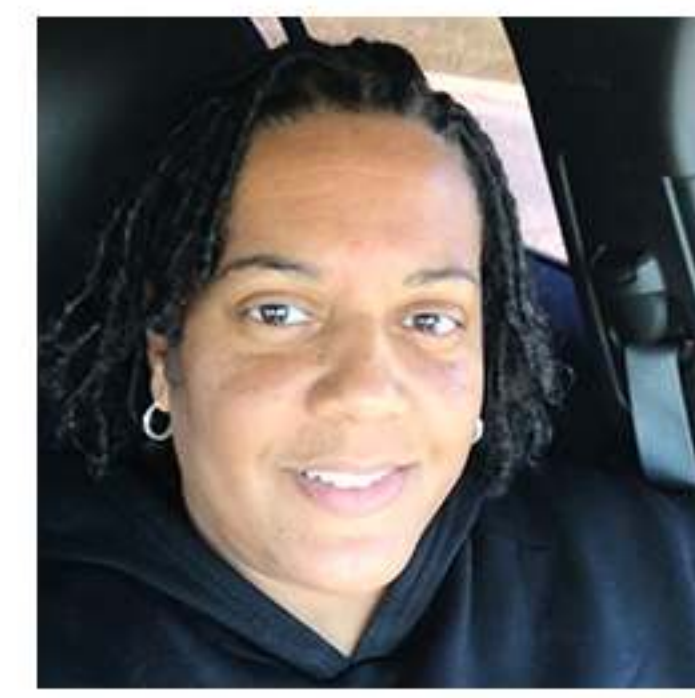
Tameeca Russell
Director of Operations
and Programs



Omar Jimenez
Program Manager



Vanessa Lara
Administrative Assistant



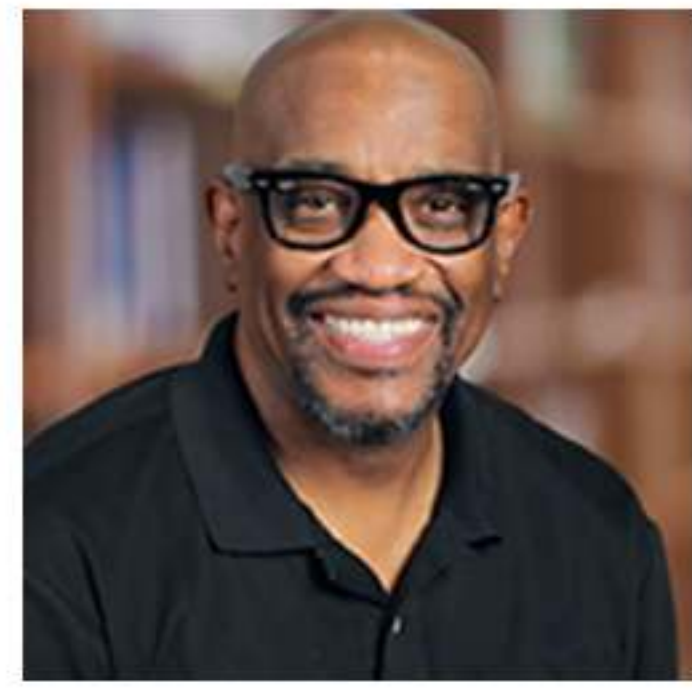
Candace E Blanton
GED Instructor



Jaquelin Mendez
Program Assistant



Mary B Turley
GED Instructor



Michael B Russell
IT Consultant & Instructor



Raquel Valenzuela
Spanish/ ESL Instructor



Reveca Bello
Custodian

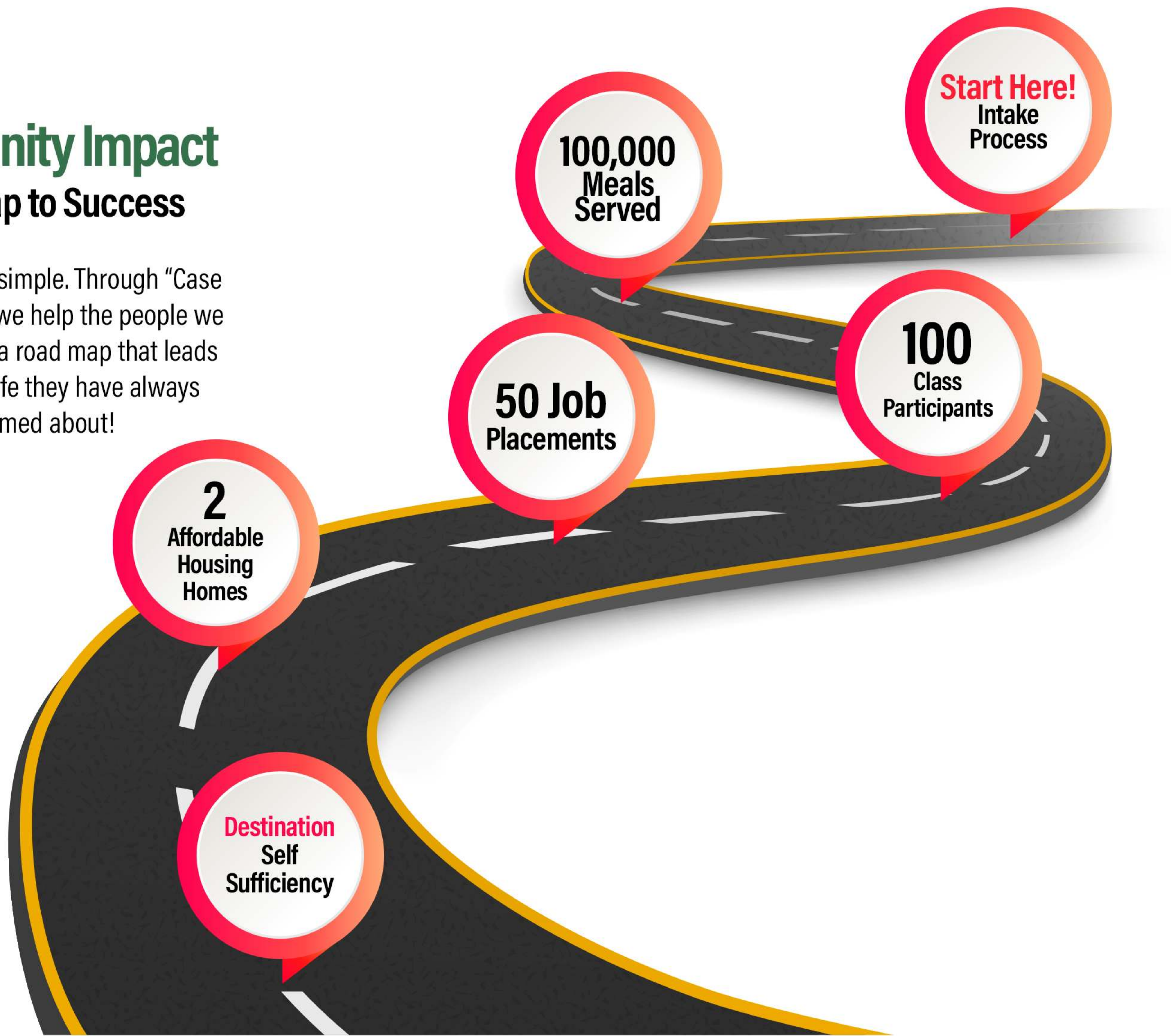
History.

The UMMA Center opened its doors in June 2004 in a facility located in the center of downtown Waukegan. It was and still is, one of the few educational centers of its kind in the area, serving low-income individuals of every race, ethnicity, and religion who seek education as a way to improve their lives. In just two short years, the UMMA center expanded to offer weekly computer courses, twice-weekly GED training courses, monthly financial management seminars, daily tutoring, and a full-time food pantry.

UMMA is a Case Management organization that takes our neighbors on a journey that leads to financial security and self-sufficiency. When someone visits UMMA for the first time, they start at the intake stage where we collect basic information and identify immediate needs. We service those needs through our education classes, food pantry, and job readiness efforts. Our Case Management process helps the people we serve to map a plan towards self-sufficiency which usually includes job placement and housing. But to help them along that journey, we provide immediate needs like food and toiletries, and we help them find the education and training that will serve as steppingstones.

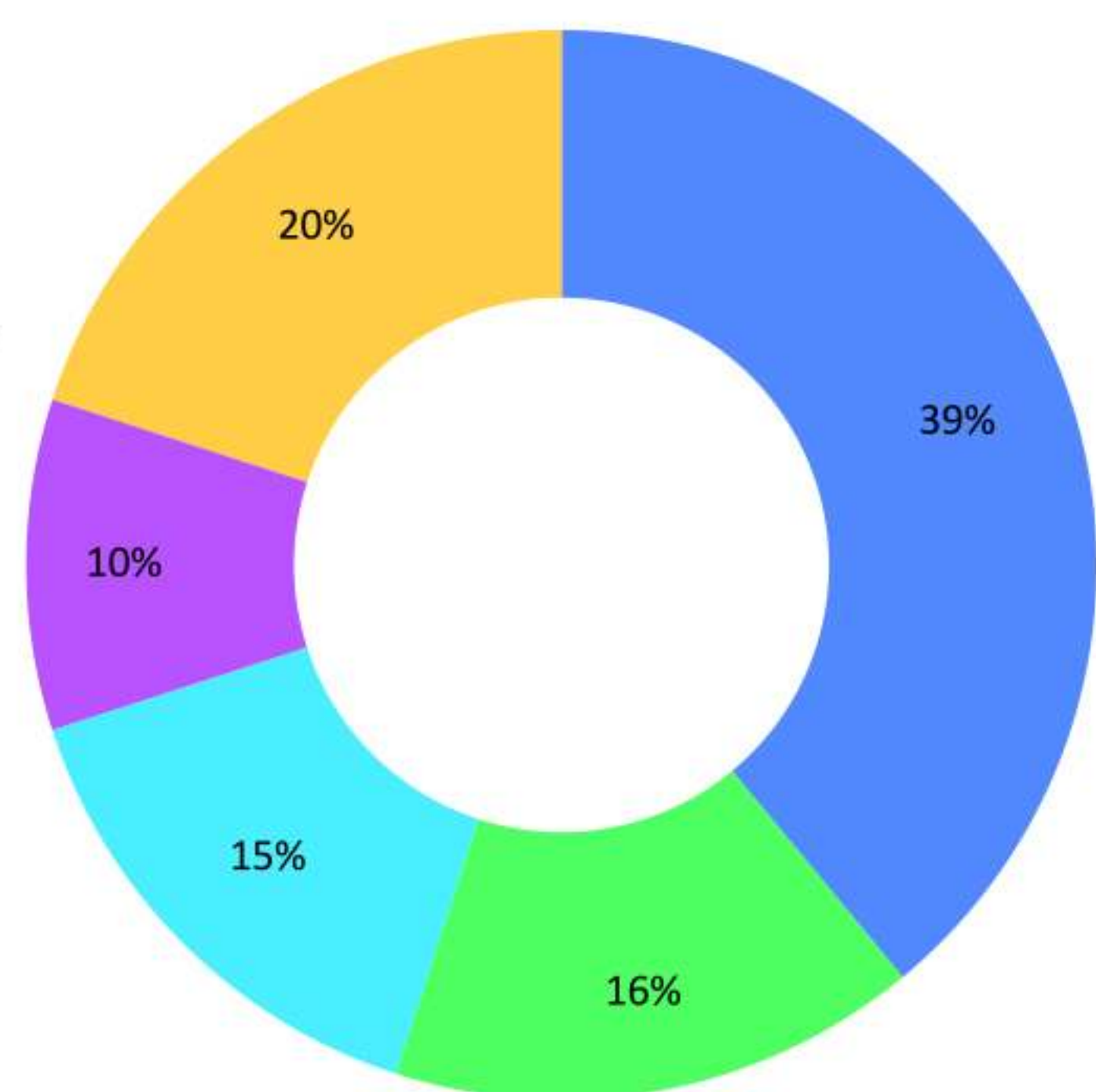
Community Impact Roadmap to Success

The process is simple. Through "Case Management," we help the people we serve develop a road map that leads them to the life they have always dreamed about!



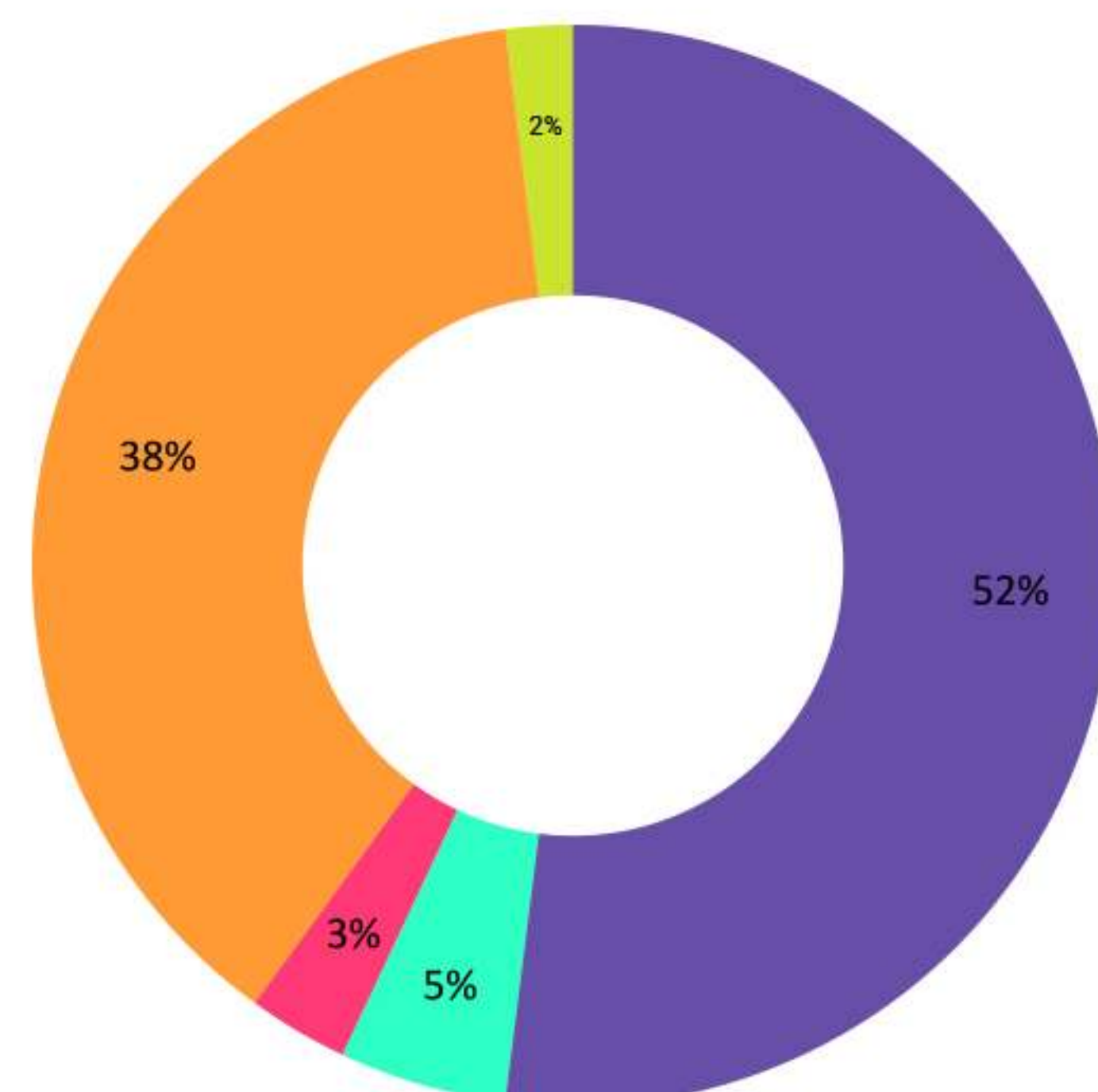
Financial Data

- Contributions
- Grants
- Events
- Program Revenue
- Investment Income



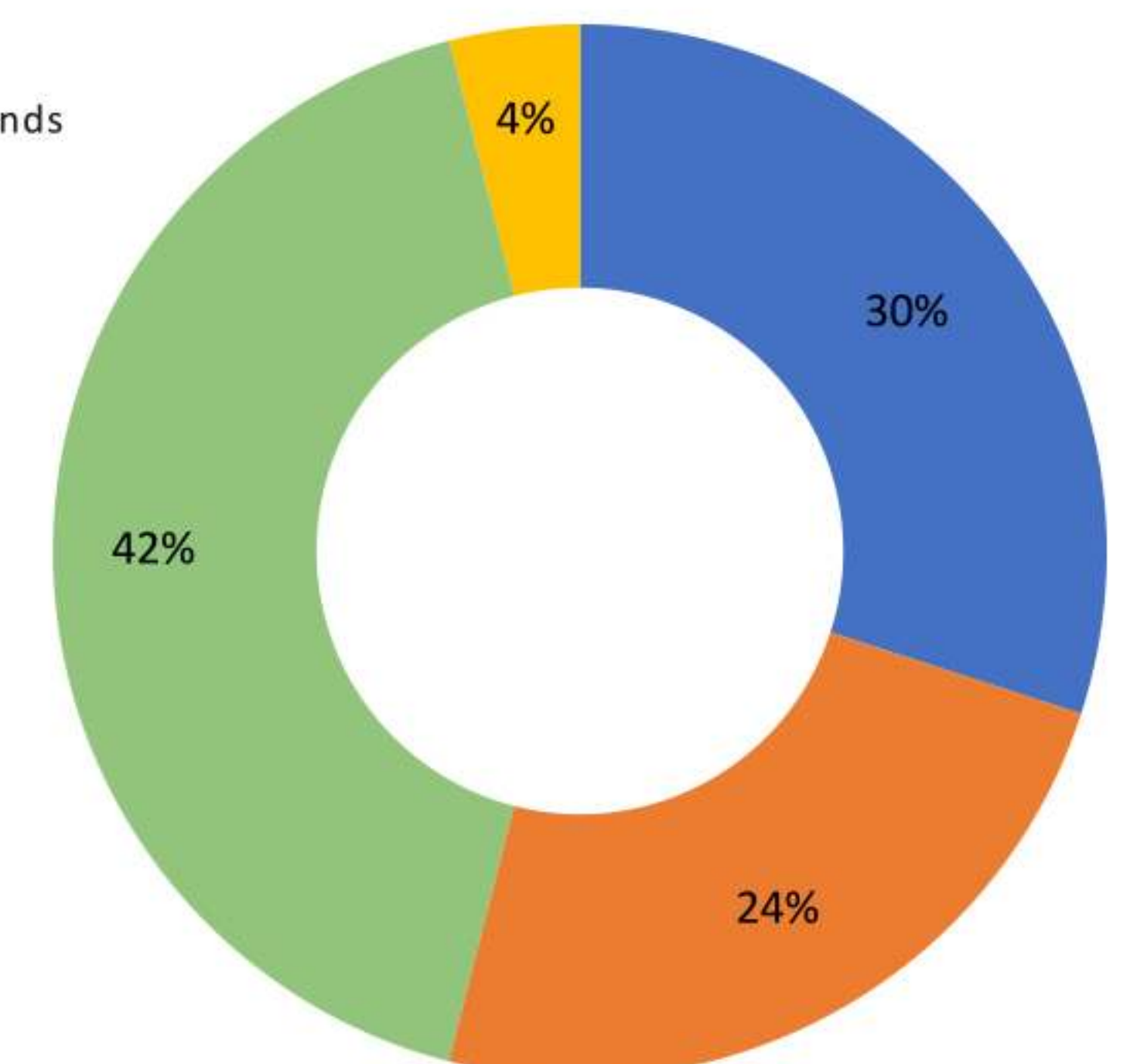
Revenue \$566,000

- Personnel
- Occupancy
- Utilities
- Program Expenses
- Office Expenses



Expenses \$552,000

- Real Estate
- Equity Traded Funds
- Mutual Funds
- Cash



Endowment \$1,765,000

Ramadan & Rohingya Refugees

During Ramadan, we helped many of our brothers and sisters from Myanmar who not only lost their homes, but their stories, memories, and heirlooms. Our supporters helped us provide hope and encouragement to 100 Muslim refugee families. Each family received a lovingly packed care package full of things that make such a difference when building a new life in a new country, including cash money. UMMA partnered with the RCC Rohingya Culture Center to ensure each family properly received their gift.



Virtual Gala

Because of the restrictions that Covid-19 placed on social gatherings, our 2021 gala was conducted in a virtual environment for the second year in a row. The event was a tremendous success. Through the generosity of our donors and sponsors we brought in more than \$90,000 for the benefit of our programs and services. Our keynote speaker was fourteen-year NBA player, and 2003 World Champion, Stephen Jackson. He gave a compelling speech about how his faith and basketball career has helped him become a community activist and motivational speaker.

Podcast

UMMA created a virtual platform on which we can showcase our programs and services to larger audiences, while creating a rapport with local community leaders. We launched our pilot late in 2020 and ended 2021 with our 26th episode.



Women's Conference 2021



Shakkiah Curtis



Lenora & Kim Woods



Dr. Michele Vaughn

Women's Conference

In observance of Women's History Month, we held our first ever women's conference. The event celebrated these young ladies for all their accomplishments. A special thanks for sharing their personal stories of how they have been challenged, criticized, rejected, judged and simply not feeling equipped to lead with a purpose. Thank you for empowering other women on their journey. They believe in the 3 C's of Life...Choices, Chances and Change. One must make a choice to take chances, or you will never change!

Programs

Education Empowerment is our adult education program. Typically, we help anyone who is willing to attend classes in one of our two computer labs. But due to COVID-19 distancing restrictions, all our classes are offered in a virtual environment. Our classes are geared towards helping our clients become more self-sufficient and job ready: GED, Microsoft Office, English as a Second Language, Spanish, and Financial Literacy.

Through new partnerships and collaborations, we are looking to expand this program to serve 200 of our neighbors.

CareerLink is UMMA's job placement and career development program. We help candidates prepare for employment, through soft skills training, resume writing and mock interviews. We work with local employers to help candidates find employment, and we provide mentoring and support services to candidates to ensure continued success in their positions.

We are looking to expand this program to help 50 refugees and neighbors find employment.



Basic Needs is our food pantry where we provide much more than food. We distribute food, toiletries, paper products and COVID-19 preventative items to anyone who comes to the center during our hours of operation. In addition, we provide the same items to any of our clients who are not able to physically visit the center because of sickness or disability.

We plan to add a delivery service to this program that will help us serve 200 of our neighbors every week.

UMMA UPlift is our affordable Housing program. We plan to invest about \$500K over the next 3 to 5 years and develop 5 homes in the Waukegan area that would help families to experience one of the most basic qualities of the American dream, while we continuously help them along their path to a better quality of life.

Our goal is to invest \$2 Million into the community within a 5 year period to provide much needed affordable housing.



Recurring Donor Program



What **impact** would your
donation have to our
community

- Provide 15 families with a week's worth of groceries
- Help retrain a displaced worker
- Help a single mom get her GED
- Help a family find respectable housing



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