



UMMA

Urban Muslim Minority Alliance

Annual Report 2022



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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

Dear friends,

As we reflect on 2022, STRENGTHENING is the theme as we review and report. We spent the year implementing strategies that helped us develop our core programs into community staples that are proving to add immediate value that improves the overall quality of life for the people we serve.

- Our High School Diploma program (formerly GED) held a graduation at our annual gala for the first time since COVID.
- Our food pantry grew from 150 weekly distribution of mostly nonperishable food items to helping over 500 families every week with mostly fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, and dairy products.
- Our affordable housing program purchased and rehabbed our 3rd home.
- Our workforce development program helped 27 people find respectable employment.
- Our new Afghan Refugee Rental Assistance program helped 14 families stay in their homes while they work on becoming self-sufficient.

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 4-year budget surplus which has put us in a strong financial position that allowed us to develop a much-needed rental assistance program, while strengthening our other programs and services.

2,000 families served by our food pantry with **450,000+** meals

\$160k+ raised by our completely virtual gala featured NFL star Hamza Abdullah

14 Afghanistan Refugee families with rental assistance and transportation

3rd home purchased 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 the future, you 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



Mohammed Basith
Secretary



Irfan Misbah
Finance

Staff



Robert Montgomery
Executive Director



Tameca Russell
Director of Operations and Programs



Omar Jimenez
Program Manager



Tynasha Stevens
Outreach Coordinator



Candace E Blanton
GED Instructor



Jaquelin Mendez
Food Pantry Supervisor



Maria Alvarez
Delivery Driver



Michael B Russell
IT Consultant & Instructor:
Computer Classes



Haney Cook
Office Administrator



Raquel Valenzuela
Teacher



Sara Roman
Program Assistant



Reveca Bello
Custodian



Ben Veal
Basic Computer Instructor

UMMA is a Case Management organization that takes our neighbors on a journey that leads to financial security and needs through education classes, food pantry, job readiness, 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 and affordable housing. 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.

Vision



UMMA envisions a world where all people have the opportunity to live a life free from poverty.

History



UMMA 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 nineteen years, UMMA has expanded to offer a myriad of wrap around services that help many of our fellow community members become more self-sufficient in their pursuit of the American Dream.

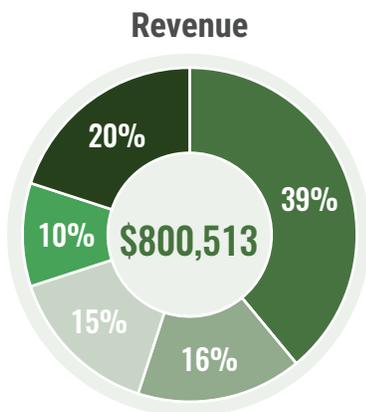
Community Impact

Roadmap to Success

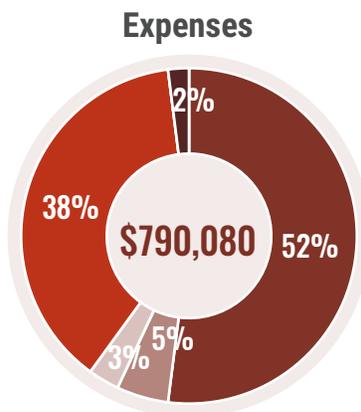


The process is simple. Through "Case Management," we help the people we serve develop a road map that leads them to the life they have always dreamed about!

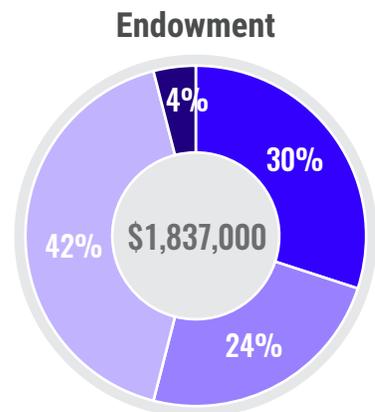
Financial Data



- Contribuciones
- Grants
- Events
- Program Revenue
- Investment Income



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



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



Ramadan & Rohingya Refugees

During Ramadan, we helped many of our brothers and sisters from Afghanistan who not only lost their homes, but their stories, memories, and family heirlooms. Many families were abruptly relocated to the United States because of our military pulling out of the longest conflict we have been involved within our entire history. We are not sure of the details of the governmental support that is afforded to each family, but we are aware that they receive 3 months of housing support. Once that support is exhausted, each family is left to their own abilities to pay their rent. At this point, we step in and provide rental assistance to help families while they continue to work towards self-sufficiency. In 2022, we paid 47 cumulative months of rent for 12 Afghanistan families.



Podcast

We continued our virtual platform where we showcase our programs and services to larger audiences, while creating a rapport with local community leaders. In 2022 we hosted distinguished guests like Mayor Ann Taylor and former NFL star Hamza Abdullah



Gala

The 2022 UMMA Gala was a tremendous success!!! Former NFL player, Hamza Abdullah, graced the stage as our keynote speaker. He gave a compelling speech about how his faith and football career has helped him become a community activist and motivational speaker. Our Master of Ceremony, Ubaydullah Evans, took us on a journey that highlighted the work we did with refugees, our vision for future endeavors and a graduation ceremony. The event was held at the beautiful Chicago History Museum, and as usual, our generous donors and sponsors helped us bring in more than \$160,000 for the benefit of our programs and services.



Women's Conference

We enjoyed our virtual Women's Empowerment Event: AUTHENTICALLY YOU...without apology, without excuses, without masks to cover the truth of who you are!! Our keynote, Dana Davenport, is passionate about living life intentionally. She is the producer and host of local television and radio talk show Dana Being Dana and co-founder and director of the Homecoming Challenge, an alumni giving campaign and nonprofit initiative.

UMMA's goal was to encourage, to connect, and to inspire women to live their best lives. What does an authentic woman look like? An authentic woman self-reflects, demonstrates good character, expresses their true thoughts, and doesn't try to make someone like them.

Programs



Educational Empowerment

is our adult education program. Offering educational classes allows students to be equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to build a job readiness. The goal is for our students to see challenges as opportunities for growth and development, rather than obstacles. We offer the following classes/workshops: Financial Literacy, High School Diploma, Basic Computers, Microsoft Office, ESL (English as a Second Language) and Spanish.

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

CareerLink

is our 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 distribute fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, dairy products, and nonperishable food items to the community on a daily basis. We distribute food at our facility as well as through our delivery service, which mainly serves Veterans and those 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. So far, we purchased and rehabbed 3 homes in the Waukegan area that 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 next project will be a multi-unit apartment building.

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

ONE BRICK AT A TIME

Downtown Waukegan is a certified Food Desert!
Become a part of building the SOLUTION!!!

Help us continue to serve our community:

Our food pantry provides over 150 Tons of food to the community every year (300,000 pounds)

Our food pantry provides over 280,000 meals every year

We are the HEALTHY CHOICE in the area for many of our neighbors

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Meats and dairy products
- Breads and non-perishable food

Buy a **BRICK** and show your support!!!

YOUR NAME

\$100 Today

or

\$10 per Month

Scan Here:



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www.ummacenters.org