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## VISION

A CCESS strives to enable and empower individuals, families and communities to lead informed, productive and culturally sensitive lives. As a nonprofit model of excellence, we honor our Arab American heritage through community-building and service to all those in need, of every heritage. ACCESS is a strong advocate for cultural and social entrepreneurship imbued with the values of community service, healthy lifestyles, education and philanthropy.

# Contents



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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS





Hassan Jaber Executive Director

Wadad Abed President

### PASSION TO SERVE. PASSION TO SUCCEED. PASSION FOR FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE. PASSION TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

If passion" describes the daily work by ACCESS staff members who are determined to stand and work as a team in their efforts to create successful, happy and productive communities.

It is that ferocity and passion that has given us great achievements this year. With ACCESS as a stronger institution, we can do more to assist, improve and empower others; and work stronger as advocates on the local and national levels for Arab American communities and all whom we serve.

We made significant improvements in building our capacity to accommodate the growing needs of the community. This year,

ACCESS greatly improved in the areas of technology, human resources, and development.

In addition to our nearly 100 traditional programs that cover the whole gamut of social, economic, health and educational programs, we also launched new innovative initiatives including ACCESS Growth Center and Welcome Mat Detroit.

Welcome Mat Detroit, in partnership with Global Detroit, is a major initiative led by ACCESS and funded through the W.K. Kellogg Foundation that helps immigrants and refugees thrive in their new land.

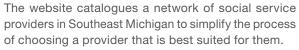












From there, those with an entrepreneurial spirit visit ACCESS Growth Center, designed to help immigrants and refugees start or grow a new business. This initiative represents new thinking in tackling Michigan's persistent unemployment problem, and ushers in new models of service delivery.

In our Youth & Education Department, ACCESS held educational and cultural programs year-round for students and families of all ages. We partnered with industry leaders to make certain children of all incomes and backgrounds have access to important high-tech education. We saw tremendous results in our programs aimed to help Detroit, Melvindale, Hamtramck and Dearborn's most vulnerable youths – who risked failure or school dropout – succeed in their studies and embrace extracurricular learning.

The ACCESS Center for Working Families helps families in the areas of job placement, social support services, and asset building so they can achieve financial security.

While the Arab American National Museum (AANM)

saw great change as its founding director Dr. Anan Ameri retired, Devon Akmon was appointed to bring his creativity and innovation to the helm. The museum also gained accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) – only six percent of U.S. museums hold this prestigious recognition.

The voice of Arab Americans has grown nationally thanks to the National Network of Arab American Communities (NNAAC) speaking out against illegal surveillance and racial profiling, and working for immigration reform so families can stay together. Equally important is NNAAC's leadership initiatives to build institutional capacity of Arab American communities nationwide.

What continues to make ACCESS unique is that staff members continue to strive toward a wraparound model of service and to collaborate for quality health and education programs, career training, advocacy, social services, philanthropic cultivation, and leading arts and cultural programs.

In our 42 years of passionately serving a community that has blossomed across the nation, the ACCESS mission and spirit has remained steadfast, to empower others with the tools to do the same, to embrace our innate spirit of giving and to enjoy the pursuit of happiness.







ACCESS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wadad Abed, President David Allen, Vice President Yasser Al Soofi, Treasurer Edward Bagale, English Secretary Amal Berry-Brown, Arabic Secretary Aoun Jaber, At-Large William W. Swor, At-Large

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Devon Akmon Arab American National Museum Director

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Brigitte Fawaz-Anouti Social Services Director (Main Office) and Special Projects

Najwa Michelle Hadous, CWDP, GCDF Employment & Training Director

Adnan Hammad, Ph.D. Community Health & Research Center Senior Director

Lina Hourani-Harajli Business Operations Director

Sonia Harb, MSW ACCESS Growth Center Senior Director

Mosein (Moe) S. Hussein Human Resources Director

Lisa Caroline Maas Communications & Marketing Director

Wisam Qasem Fakhoury Finance Director

Anisa Sahoubah Youth & Education Director

Nadia Tonova National Network for Arab American Communities Director





## SOCIAL SERVICES

S ervice for all! This is what the Social Services Department model represents in all three locations – two in Dearborn and one in Hamtramck. There is great cultural and language diversity in the department's staff and clients including: Arabic, Spanish, Bengali, Chaldean, French, English, and more – all receiving the services they are seeking. ACCESS provides clients with advocacy, information and referrals, senior services, translations, immigration and legal services. Our goal remains strong – to assist, improve and empower individuals so they can gain long-term financial stability and independence.



To prevent homelessness, hunger, and utility shutoff, we provide emergency services when individuals may only need short-term assistance. With our help, individuals learn to navigate through complex systems for filing unemployment claims, and applying for Social Security, public entitlement benefits, or citizenship.



ACCESS hosts swearing-in ceremonies annually, welcoming hundreds of new citizens who are living the American Dream. In partnership with Wayne County Department of Human Services (DHS),

we host a co-location at our One Stop Employment and Human Services Center in Dearborn that includes a full unit of DHS staff, many of whom are bilingual. Through our Center for Working Families program, funded by United Way for Southeastern Michigan and Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC), we provide bundled services to include coaching in the areas of income support, workforce development and financial literacy.



#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (SAC Senior Advisory Committee) City of Dearborn City of Dearborn Heights Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) Department of Labor & Economic Growth (DLEG) Detroit Area Agency on Aging 1A (DAAA) Elder Law Heat And Warmth Fund (THAW) Legal Aid and Defender Association (LADA) The Senior Alliance Area Agency on Aging I.C. Social Security Administration United Way for Southeastern Michigan Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) McGregor Fund University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and Dearborn Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency Wayne State University (Law School) Wayne State University (School of Social Work & School of Medicine)



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### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

# Saving A Home Is Sweet

A arquetta Smith was proud of herself. The 26-yearold was living on her own, had finished school and found a good job as a recreational therapist. All it took was a little slow-down at work to minimize her paychecks and put her two months behind paying rent. Her landlord was getting ready to evict her. She also started getting behind on other bills, having to choose which bills she was able to pay.

To avoid homelessness, Smith looked for help and finally found ACCESS' Social Services Department. "I tried to get help at several other agencies and just kept getting denied," she said.

At ACCESS, it was simple – she made a call, came in for an interview, was accepted and received enough financial assistance to pay half a month's rent. With that push, she was able to begin saving enough money in her paychecks to catch up on her bills and stay in her home.

"That really helped," she said. "It meant a lot. No one wants to be homeless. It gave me that confidence that there are people out there willing to help you. Everyone at ACCESS was great. Everyone was polite, very understanding and willing to help."

Her caseworker, Nawal Jabbar, was even able to further assist Smith by getting her a food voucher to help her through the tough time.

"She was very sweet," Smith said. "She even called and checked up on me a few times afterwards."



# **COMMUNITY HEALTH & RESEARCH**

The first and largest in the nation, ACCESS Community Health & Research Center (CHRC) is a fully integrated community health one-stop service center comprised of medical, public health and research, mental health and environmental programs. Our goal is to provide culturally sensitive health screenings, education, prevention and treatment, while serving as health researchers and educators for the Arab American community. We also serve the community at large. Our locations in Dearborn and Sterling Heights are strategically placed to help those most in need.



Our philosophy maintains that promoting good health while encouraging diseaseprevention activities are effective for ensuring the well-being of the community. We also work to educate communities to break taboos about health issues that many cultures do not want to discuss.

We cover all areas of health from immunizations, stress and nutrition programs, cancer screenings and radiology to hookah and drug prevention education. We also have a domestic violence



prevention program and a counseling center for those who suffer from mental illness. Research that focuses on the health needs, risks and disparities of Arab populations locally and worldwide is crucial to our mission. The center also serves as a training site for residents, nurses and public health professionals in collaboration with the University of Michigan School of Public Health and Wayne State University Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing.



#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

American Heart Association American Diabetes Association American Lung Association American Cancer Society Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Michigan Cancer Cons Michigan Certification Board for Addiction Professionals Michigan Department of Community Health National Arab American Medical Association Primary Care Health Association Southeast Michigan Community Alliance Tobacco Free Michigan Michigan Multicultural Network U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

#### ACADEMIC PARTNERS

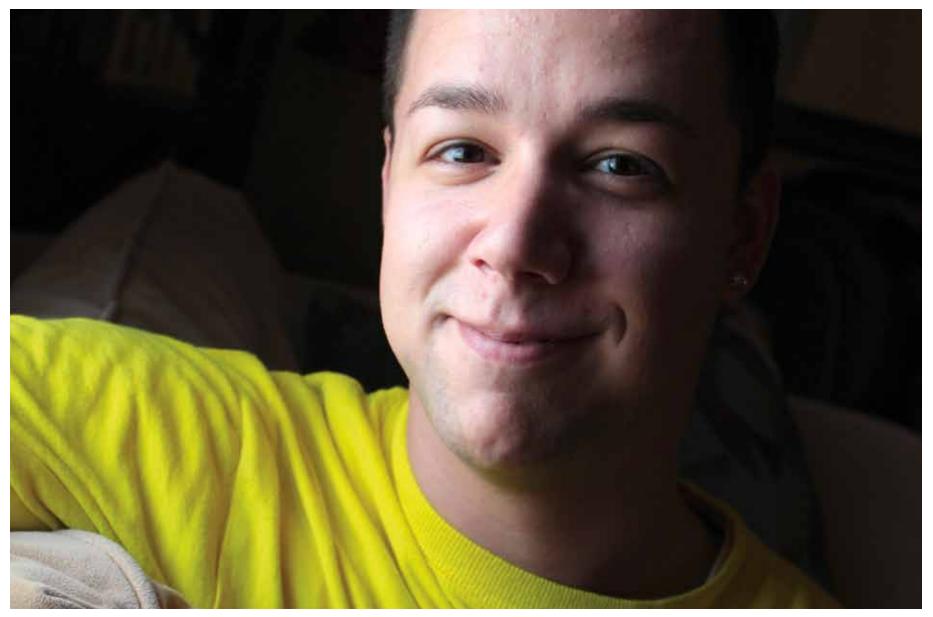
INTERNATIONAL American University of Beirut, Lebanon American University in Cairo, Egypt Birzeit University, Palestine University of Aleppo, Syria University of Alexandria, Egypt University of Amman, Jordan University of Basrah, Iraq University of Casablanca, Morocco University of Sanaa, Yemen University of Yarmouk, Jordan World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

#### LOCAL

Eastern Michigan University Madonna University Michigan State University Oakland University University of Michigan University of Detroit Mercy Wayne State University

MEDICAL PARTNERS Detroit Medical Center Henry Ford Health System Karmanos Cancer Institute Oakwood Healthcare Private physicians and dentists

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### **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

# Providing Support and Hope

Il it takes is one time. Unfortunately for Joseph Saunders, 25, that one time of having unprotected sex recently led to a positive HIV diagnosis. It has been a difficult lesson to digest, but with ACCESS' help, Saunders is trying to make the most positive situation out of this negative positive.

Saunders was diagnosed through the ACCESS HIV program earlier this year. He had initially gone to another local agency to get tested, but didn't have a good experience. While waiting for his results, a friend referred him to ACCESS where he met David Ponsart, the ACCESS Infectious Disease Prevention Program supervisor. "He treated me like a lifelong friend," Saunders said. Ponsart reran the tests Saunders had had taken at the previous agency, as well as additional tests. A few days later, Ponsart gently delivered the news.

"I was just shocked," Saunders said.

Ponsart helped Saunders set up his doctors appointments to get his treatment started. He even went

with Saunders to his first appointment because he didn't know what to expect. Saunders is participating in a case study and said by his second week of treatment, the AIDS was undetectable. Still, he takes pills every day and has blood work drawn once a month. He also attends a support group that gives him hope and inspiration.

"I feel great," Saunders said. "Some days I feel like crud, but I told myself from the first day that I wasn't going to let it define who I am; it's just something I have. I'm not going to let it get me down. So far, so good."

Saunders volunteers at ACCESS and gives back whenever he can. He recently was the team captain representing ACCESS at AIDS Walk Detroit.

"One day, I know someone just like me is going to walk through those doors," he said. "At ACCESS, it's like a family. It feels like they take you in and they give you the support you need to deal with this ... that's probably why I've never broken down about this."



# **EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING**

O ne of a handful of certified Michigan Works One-Stop Employment centers, the ACCESS Employment & Training Center continues to grow with a wide array of programming, meeting the various needs of the diverse metropolitan Detroit community. Our goal is to assist clients in developing careers and living with financial independence, and we look forward to watching clients' lives become fuller and more productive as they do so. We see their confidence elevate as clients graduate from needing and receiving financial assistance to becoming employed and independent.

14

Recently arrived immigrants, new citizens, individuals without job skills, those who have lost their careers and need new training, formerly incarcerated individuals seeking an honest path, single parents, mothers, fathers and young adults – those looking to improve their lives: These individuals come to our multilingual, highly trained staff members, known for their ability to place job seekers with employers who will suit them best. Our solid reputation of providing the tools for life and job skills, career counseling,



referrals, job search assistance and job placement is well established throughout the Detroit metropolitan area.

Equally as important to our relationships with jobseekers, we strive to build strong relationships with employers across the region. We administer screening, testing



and assessments to ensure employers meet well-qualified candidates sent from our department. Additional services include worksite support, on- or off-site employer/employee mediation, diversity training and consulting.

Twice each year, the ACCESS Dearborn One-Stop Service Center sponsors a major job fair that attracts nearly 50 employers and hundreds of jobseekers. We take pride in linking the right people with the right jobs, and believe our success is measured by the success of our clients.



#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Charter One **Dearborn Public Schools** Detroit Employment Solutions Corporations (DESC) Focus: HOPE Lutheran Social Services of Michigan Local Colleges, Universities and **Vocational Training Institutions** Local and National Businesses Michigan Community Alliance Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) Michigan State University Michigan Rehabilitation Services Michigan Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs MTECH – Henry Ford Community College MTECH - Macomb Community College Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, Eastern Michigan University PNC Bank Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA) Southwest Solutions Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice U.S. Department of Justice



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### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Moving in a Positive Direction

W hen Robert Strickland came home to Detroit after spending six and a half years in prison for selling drugs, he swore he would follow a clean path. His goal: find new friends, stay positive and focus on finding a good job.

He was a good guy after all. Strickland had a good upbringing and received a four-year scholarship to Michigan State University to play football and basketball. After two years, he started hanging out with the wrong crowd and got into trouble. Now, it was time to get back to that straight path. But after months of submitting application after application, employers constantly rejected him because of the felony on his record. He once again turned to drugs. Two months later he was locked up. Fortunately, that's how he found ACCESS.

Strickland, now 30, contacted ACCESS after reading a flyer at the county jail about the Earn and Learn program, the goal of which is getting recently incarcerated males, as well as those chronically unemployed, from Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park, back into the workforce. He took the bus to Hamtramck every day for ACCESS' work readiness training. Then, he headed to the Detroit Institute of Technology to get his certification in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), all through the Earn and Learn program.

The staff at ACCESS placed him in a job with a local air conditioning company where he now has steady work. "I found ACCESS and it changed my life," Strickland said. "I love learning new things, and I love heating and cooling."

Strickland plans on going back to school to get his commercial driver's license. He gives back to the community when he can. He enjoys working with young kids in the neighborhood and tries to help lead them in the right direction. Strickland also visits ACCESS on a regular basis and tries to motivate the current Earn and Learn participants to keep moving forward in a positive direction.

"A lot of people don't have the initiative," he said. "ACCESS definitely changed my perspective on life; it opened up a lot of doors. I thought I'd never get a job ... I've always been a good role model, a good guy, I just made a bad choice. ACCESS saved me."



# **GROWTH CENTER**

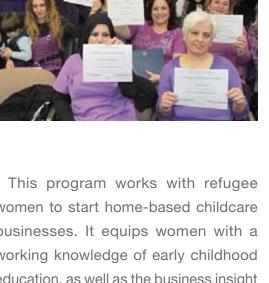
A CCESS Growth Center is the newest department at ACCESS, dedicated to community and economic development. Its signature program, the Immigrant Entrepreneur Development Program, involves supporting entrepreneurs who want to start and grow businesses, helping them connect to the myriad of entrepreneurial resources that are available throughout southeast Michigan. Target clientele are those who are disconnected from traditional resources, and those who lack the knowledge or resources to make the most of what is available. During the first year of operation, the department

18



served 93 entrepreneurs, and connected with numerous partners in the delivery of services.

Funding from the New Economy Initiative, the Kellogg Foundation, Fifth Third Bank, and the federal government empower the department's staff to undertake additional innovative ventures such as the Home Based Child Care Program.



women to start home-based childcare businesses. It equips women with a working knowledge of early childhood education, as well as the business insight needed to navigate state licensure and business startup. ACCESS Growth

Center also leads Welcome Mat Detroit, an innovative initiative that welcomes immigrants, offering them a directory of resources that can make a stressful transition easier. This initiative also networks immigrant service providers with the goal of coordinating and enhancing the delivery of services.

Individuals, their families, and the communities in which they live feel the positive impact of the initiatives of ACCESS Growth Center.



#### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Bizdom **Business Support Network** Center for Empowerment and Economic Development (CEED) D:Hive DC3 Detroit Economic Growth Corp. (DEGC) Detroit Development Fund Eastern Market Corporation First Children's Finance Food I ab Front Door Google Insvaht Kiva Michigan Women's Foundation Michigan State University Extension Center New Detroit Patronicity ProsperUS Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC) Tech Shop Tech Town – SWOT Program The Front Door – Wayne State University of Michigan-Dearborn School of Business











### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Refugee Entrepreneur Finds Safety and Happiness

A lik came to Michigan in September 2012 as an Iraqi refugee in fear for his life. The lives of his family members had been gravely threatened, and they came to the United States for safety and freedom. Malik and his family wanted a new start and had no idea what to expect. Malik wanted to continue pursuing his passion for baking and cooking. He had trained as a chef in Cyprus, and had worked as a chef for a political figure in Iraq for nearly 20 years. But, unfortunately, he couldn't find employment in the Detroit area.

Luckily, Malik discovered ACCESS' Employment and Training Department, and staff members began the process of helping Malik find a job. After a few visits, Malik found the help he needed through ACCESS Growth Center, a department which aims to help aspiring entrepreneurs and small business leaders expand their businesses to better serve their communities. Staff members at the center have been working diligently with Malik to help him follow his true passion – becoming an entrepreneur and opening Chef Malik's Restaurant in Detroit. He attended three training sessions every week, helping him learn how to successfully run a small business. Staff members helped him find a location for his new restaurant and bakery. They also connected him with Patronicity, a crowd-funding online campaign where anyone who wanted to support Chef Malik financially in his endeavor could do so.

Malik's restaurant and pastry shop will soon be hosting its grand opening, and he and his family are finally getting comfortable in Dearborn as they prepare to work together at the new family business. "I need to work to be happy," he said. Malik is located in the Warrendale area and is surrounded by many Iraqi immigrants who, like others in the community, are very supportive of his initiative. "We are very happy here," he said. "We like the people and we feel safer compared to Iraq; there is much less stress."

ACCESS has guided the aspiring chef every step of the way through his endeavor, and will continue to support Malik through whatever challenges he may face next. "They've helped me too much!" he said.



## **YOUTH & EDUCATION**

nvesting in your children's future is our mission. We give students a strong foundation so that future generations can live better than we do today. Members of the ACCESS Youth & Education Department share the vision that all children and young people in metro Detroit will have the opportunity for education, and develop the necessary skills to become tomorrow's leaders. We help individuals, young and old, develop skills to compete in a global economy, contribute to their neighborhoods and pass on solid study habits and the desire for personal growth to their family members. Programs are offered year round. Whether it is tutoring children who are at risk of failure, teaching English as Second Language to adults, providing students with cultural enrichment programs, offering fitness and sports classes, or partnering with major funders to help students improve their technological skills, ACCESS produces well-rounded students. Often, we link programs with the Arab American National Museum (AANIM), as well as ACCESS' Community Health



and Employment & Training departments. Our family literacy programs, such as citizenship courses, caregiver training, and parenting education, help parents to

become full partners in the education of their children, improving the educational opportunities for families overall. Through our programming, we help youth find summer jobs, expose them to various career opportunities, and more. Dialogue between students of different cultures, and other similar programs, help to empower youth to develop, explore, and utilize their skills to become happy, healthy, well-rounded critical thinkers and leaders who will make a positive impact in their communities and beyond. ACCESS provides a space for learning for preschool and elementary school-aged children, as we help them to prepare for a successful educational career in the future.

There is a saying at ACCESS that "once you are part of the family, you never really leave." We see that daily, as children who grew up in our programs come back as volunteers and mentors.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Advanced Technology Academy City of Dearborn Dearborn Public Schools **Detroit Public Schools** Detroit Zoo Girls Scouts of Metro Detroit **Gleaners Community Food Bank of** Southeastern Michigan **Global Educational Excellence** Henry Ford Community College Michigan Department of Education Michigan State University Extension Program Michigan State University 4-H Program Proliteracy Reading Works Alliance Starfish Family Services United Way of Southeast Michigan University of Michigan U.S. Department of Agriculture Wayne County Head Start Wayne State University YWCA









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### **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

## Speaking the Same Language

When Mariem Habiboullah visits the doctor, she can speak to her directly. She can tell the doctor about her symptoms and about how she's feeling, and no longer has to have someone speak for her. When she wants to travel, Haiboullah can now purchase her own ticket, and when she is grocery shopping, she can read labels and ingredients so she knows what she is buying. And even better, she can read books with her 8-year-old son and help him with his homework.

This might seem ordinary to most people, but to Habiboullah, who immigrated to the United States in 2006 from Mauritania, Africa, learning English has been life changing. For her first five years in the U.S., Habiboullah spoke very little English, only really knowing words such as "hi," "please" and "thank you."

Now, she is conversational in English, thanks to the English as a Second Language courses she has taken through ACCESS' Youth & Education Department. Prior to finding ACCESS, she had taken similar courses at a local church, but since she couldn't understand what the teacher was saying, she didn't learn anything.

"The teacher didn't want to help," Habiboullah said. But that wasn't the case at ACCESS. "Elizabeth sent emails checking up on me. She gave me homework, and spelling tests, and if I didn't understand something, I would ask and she would help me. I could tell she cared about me. Every student in the class, she cared about." Habiboullah also took the Cooking Matters nutrition class through the department where she learned about living a healthier lifestyle and better nutrition. There, she picked up skills such as counting calories, reading food labels and making better food choices. Her daughter, Khadija Ahmedou, 12, also has greatly benefitted from the Youth & Education staff. Last year, Khadija was having trouble in sixth-grade math, social studies, language arts and science.

"I wasn't focused on it. I'd get frustrated easily," she said. "There were too many distractions in the room. There were too many kids in the class and the teachers only really gave extra help to the lower performing students." Her mother suggested she go to ACCESS for help. Khadija began receiving tutoring assistance halfway through the last school year and also participated in summer learning activities through ACCESS' 21st Century Program. The programs focus on academics, but also mix in art, culture, health and fitness, and, of course, fun.

"It helps to keep me interested in my school work," Khadija said. "When the tutors talk about the importance of education, it makes me want to get focused and plan my future. Without ACCESS, I would have been a low student. I feel like I have more confidence. When I was behind, it made me feel stupid, but ACCESS helped and gave me self esteem."



## **ARAB AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM**



The Arab American National Museum (AANM) – just eight years of age – has not only survived the challenging early years as a startup nonprofit, but thrived, doing so amid the most dire economic conditions in generations. Now, with its exhibitions touring the United States, a hard-earned seal of approval from the American museum industry, and a visionary new leader, there is renewed excitement, undeniable momentum and even greater impact to come.

Among the accomplishments of the past year were the forging of significant relationships between

the museum and Arab American community leaders in key U.S. cities, and the presentation of AANM exhibitions outside Michigan. Newly formed Friends of the AANM groups – in Jacksonville, Fla.; Houston, Texas; and Los Angeles and Irvine, Calif. – actively supported successful local presentations of the AANM exhibition *Patriots* &



Peacemakers: Arab Americans in Service to Our Country. Patriots & Peacemakers continues to travel, having spent summer 2013 on display at the Brown vs. Board

of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, Kan.



Several years of cultivation, collaboration and research within New York's Arab American community came to fruition with the stellar exhibition *Little Syria, NY: An Immigrant Community's Life & Legacy.* It ran at the AANM from winter 2012 through spring 2013. In May 2013, it was exhibited at a venue in the New York City neighborhood for which it was named, earning a warm audience reception and national media attention. *Little Syria, NY* then moved to the Antiochian





Village Heritage Museum in Bolivar, Penn., for summer 2013. A combined 50,000 people have viewed these two traveling exhibitions, a figure nearly that of the 52,000 visitors (about half of them students and educators) who physically visit the AANM each year. Another 215,000 people attend offsite events or interact electronically.

Collaboration has long been an AANM hallmark. In addition to partnering with exhibitions and programs, the museum is the lead producer of the Concert of Colors, a free, diversity music festival hosted each summer,

## Arab American National Museum

marshaling the resources of Detroit's largest, most influential cultural institutions for this five-day, multi-venue annual event, now entering its 22nd year.

In October 2012, a major endowment gift from the Knight Foundation allowed the AANM to begin plans for reviving the music festival's Forum on Community Race & Culture and reconvening the Cultural Exchange Network, a group of grassroots cultural organizations that had long supported the festival.

In fall 2012, the museum established the Arab American Arts Collective, comprised of representatives of nine Arab American arts organizations from across the U.S., to begin discussions aimed at facilitating high-quality presentations collectively. And in spring 2013, for the first time, a national dialogue on mainstreaming Arab American arts convened, with representatives from the AANM united mainstream







arts presenters and the Arab American arts representatives.

In July 2013, the museum earned accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), a "Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval" granted to just six percent of America's 17,500 cultural institutions. The process of earning AAM accreditation was launched in 2007 and required hundreds of hours of staff time, voluminous original reporting and reams of supporting documentation. The recognition solidifies AANM's reputation, inspiring confidence among foundations, corporations, and additional funders, as well as individual donors and fellow cultural institutions. The AANM bid a fond farewell in May 2013 to its beloved founding director, Dr. Anan Ameri, who retired this spring. After an extensive national search, the museum found its new leader within its own ranks – Devon Akmon, who joined the AANM in 2005 as curator of community history and became its deputy director in 2009. Since assuming the directorship on July 1, 2013, Akmon has been hard at work forging a refreshed strategic vision for the AANM as it enters this new era.



Smithsonian Institution Affiliations Program



 Concert of Colors annual diversity music festival

 ne its
 DIWAN5: A Forum for the Arts

Tarab Together classical Arab music sing-alongs 1001 Laughs at the Museum comedy shows and festival

Film screenings and annual Arab Film Festival

Arab American Book Awards

**EXHIBITIONS** 

Service to Our Country

by Dr. Jack Shaheen

PROGRAMS

**ONGOING PUBLIC** 

Global Fridays world music concerts

& Legacy

Patriots & Peacemakers: Arab Americans in

Little Syria, NY: An Immigrant Community's Life

John Halaka: Landscapes of Desire solo show DIWAN5: The Exhibition group show 12th SURA Student Exhibition photo show

A is for Arab: Stereotypes in U.S. Popular Culture

SURA Arts Academy Youth Photography Program

Free Craft Sundays for Ages 6-12 Educator Open House and Workshops Cultural Competency Training

Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (top)

- An Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution (middle)
- Founding member, Immigration and Civil Rights Network

   International Coalition of Sites of Conscience (bottom)





## NATIONAL NETWORK FOR ARAB AMERICAN COMMUNITIES



The National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC), a national project of ACCESS, is a growing network of independent Arab American community-based organizations around the country. Established in 2004, NNAAC currently has 23 members in 11 states. The strength of these member organizations is rooted in the grassroots constituencies they serve through a range of programs, outreach, and advocacy. NNAAC's primary mission is the development of Arab American community-based nonprofit organizations that understand, meet the



needs and represent the concerns of Arab Americans at the local level, and that collectively address these issues on the national level. Highlights from the past year include hosting an indepth fundraising training institute; in partnership with ACCESS' Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP), regranting more than \$90,000 to NNAAC





members to build their capacity; delivering more than 5,000 postcards to members of Congress in support of comprehensive immigration reform; gathering nearly 30 Arab American leaders in Washington,

D.C. for a week of advocacy; and leading the 9th Annual National Arab American Service Day that mobilized nearly 2,000 volunteers in community service in more than a dozen cities.



To support its mission, NNAAC has four main programs: Capacity Building, Advocacy & Civic Engagement (ACE), Youth Fellowship, and Community Service.





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### **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

## Organizing Youth Community Participation

M uhammad Sankari is committed to his outreach work and the empowerment of youth in the Chicago area. He serves as a Youth Organizer at the Arab American Action Network (AAAN) in Chicago. Sankari and his colleague, Nesreen Hasan, want the youth they work with to become civically engaged individuals. They have organized rallies against racial profiling, collected signatures in support of comprehensive immigration reform, and utilized the arts as a medium for change in the community.

Sankari's position was funded through a collaborative grantmaking effort by the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC) and the Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP), both projects of ACCESS, along with the Ford Foundation. In January, these groups granted three NNAAC member organizations additional funding to increase their advocacy and civic engagement work. The grants allowed the AAAN, the Arab American Association of New York (AAANY) and the Arab Cultural & Community Center (ACCC) of San Francisco to hire field organizers who engage in community organizing and registering new voters. These new staff positions have allowed the organizations to greatly increase their impact in their local communities.

"With support from NNAAC, we've been able to mobilize hundreds of Arab Americans in the greater Chicago area around racial profiling, register new voters, and empower dozens of new youth leaders," said Hatem Abudayyeh, executive director of AAAN. "We're happy to partner with NNAAC to ensure more Arab Americans are engaged on the issues most important to them, and this grant has given us the opportunity to secure the skills and talents of two great, youth staff members who are truly moving our advocacy and grassroots organizing work forward."

## **CENTER FOR ARAB AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY**

O ne million dollars. That is the grantmaking milestone that the Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP) reached this year! This one-of-a-kind national program assists Arab Americans in building legacies. The mission is for the community to remember their Arab roots of giving, while embracing the American Dream of success – and strengthening their voice by telling a powerful story of Arab American contributions to society. Founded in 2006, CAAP is a national philanthropic institution that serves the Arab American community. Based on a Community Foundation model, CAAP

4 🛛 🛞 ACCESS / 2013 Annual Report

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develops, supports and enhances a culture of Arab American giving through education, asset building and grantmaking. Its Community Grantmaking Fund provides muchneeded grants for smaller Arab American nonprofit groups in the areas of culture, arts, music, health, social justice, advocacy, and social services. Through CAAP's philanthropic services, such as donor-advised funds, individuals



recommend grants to organizations of their choice, while having access to the expertise of CAAP staff to discuss their giving strategy. CAAP helps Arab

Americans leverage their giving in support of the issues, causes and organizations they are most passionate about.



CAAP also engages Arab American youth in philanthropy through its Teen Grantmaking Initiative (TGI) program, which has distributed \$10,000 to worthy causes in the metro Detroit area over the past two years. Program staff members are expanding TGI nationally, beginning with a New York chapter this year.





#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

C.S. Mott Foundation Council of Michigan Foundations D5 Coalition Ford Foundation Microsoft Youthspark W.K. Kellogg Foundation



#### $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$



## **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

# Finding Hope Through Soccer

C hildren of refugee families often feel extremely isolated and even unmotivated, as they are not yet comfortable in their new environment and may not speak the same language as everyone else. Mark Kabban, however, has discovered there is one language everyone can understand: soccer. Youth & Leaders Living Actively (YALLA) is an organization which uses soccer as the common ground to bring the refugee youth of San Diego together, helping them to rebuild their lives through education, leadership and eco-therapy programs, and offering them opportunities for a brighter future.

This year, YALLA received a grant from the Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP), a project of ACCESS, to help fund its new education director position. "Right now we're in the period where we're trying to strengthen our academic program," said Kabban, founder and executive director of YALLA. "This funding will allow us to have academic soccer programs designed to help youth live healthy, happy lives, graduate from high school and pursue higher education."

"We use soccer as the hook," said Kabban, who was 9 when he immigrated to the U.S. from Lebanon. Youth enrolled in YALLA's soccer program have access to receiving help with homework, learning English, and gaining leadership opportunities. By giving them this kind of structure, guidance, and support, Kabban says he "wants these kids to feel like they're choosing what's going to happen next for them." Many of them choose to apply to college. "I'm proud of my kids every day," he said.



# 2013 STATISTICAL REPORT



DESCRIPTION	NUMBER OF CONTACTS	
Number of Contacts in Core Services*	437,133	
Number of Contacts in Youth & Education Services <sup>†</sup>	554,192	
<b>TOTAL NUMBER</b> of Contacts in Core and Youth & Education Services	991,325	
Number of Contacts at the Arab American National Museum (AANM) <sup>††</sup>	266,878	
TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTACTS	1,258,203	

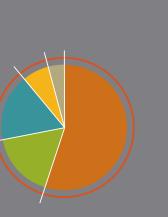
## $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

\*Definition of contact: One visit per client. Core services include Social Services; Community Health & Research Center; Employment & Training; ACCESS Growth Center.

<sup>†</sup>Definition of contact: One hour of educational services per student.

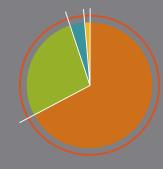
<sup>††</sup>Definition of contact: One museum visit or attendance of cultural and/or educational event.

## CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS



### **CLIENTS BY RACE**

Arab American • 55% African American • 17% White • 17% Hispanic American • 7% Asian American & Other • 4%



#### CLIENTS BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Under \$20,000 • 67% \$20,000-\$49,000 • 28% Over \$50,000 • 4% Unknown • 1%



**CLIENTS BY GENDER** 

Male • 41% Female = 59%



### **CLIENTS BY EMPLOYMENT**

Unemployed • 53% Not in Labor Force • 25% Employed • 20% Unknown • 2%



### **CLIENTS BY AGE**

19 and under • 42% 20 to 39 • 34% 40 to 59 • 22% 60 and older • 2%

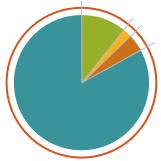


# TREASURER'S REPORT

SCHEDULE OF REVENUE FOR YEAR ENDED SEPT. 30, 2013 (Unaudited)

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Grants & Contributions	15,638,015	1,274,127	119,151	17,031,293
Program Fees	903,945	-	-	903,945
Rental & Other	1,541,727	-	-	1,541,727
Endowment Distribution	158,936	-	-	158,936
Change in Value of Endowment Fund	-	-	142,433	142,433
TOTAL	18,242,623	1,274,127	261,584	19,778,334
Release from Restriction	1,201,763			

## EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2013



Administrative Expenses • \$2,069,022 (11%) Fundraising Expenses • \$351,866 (2%) Depreciation Expenses • \$782,954 (4%) Program Expenses • \$16,234,120 (83%)



Maha Freij Deputy Executive Director & Chief Finacial Officer



Yasser Al Soofi Treasurer, ACCESS Board

## **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

AS OF SEPT. 30, 2013 (UNAUDITED)

#### ASSETS

Cash–Unrestricted	. 3,488,134
Temporary Restricted	. 1,556,229
Grants and Accounts Receivable	. 1,533,069
Prepaid Expenses	381,492
Inventory-AANM Gift Shop and Library	75,781
AANM Endowment Fund	. 2,194,280
CAAP Endowed Funds	247,292
Land and Buildings	28,948,071
Office Furniture, Equipment and Auto	1,968,119
Less Allowance for Depreciation	. (7,149,784)
TOTAL ASSETS	33,242,683

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable
Deferred Income
Notes Payable–Short Term
Notes Payable–Long Term
TOTAL LIABILITIES

#### **NET ASSETS**

Unrestricted	8,261,916
Temporarily Restricted	1,556,229
Permanently Restricted	2,441,572
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,259,717
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	3,242,683

#### ARAB AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM (AANM) ENDOWMENT FUND

The AANM Endowment Fund consists of five funds – two are invested with the Comerica Charitable Services Group and three are maintained by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM). As of Sept. 30, 2013, the market value of the fund reported as an asset on the ACCESS balance sheet consists of the following:

Funds maintained at CFSEM \$1,0	96,756
Funds invested at Comerica Charitable Services Group \$1,	097,524
TOTAL	94,280

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM) has also accepted gifts from unrelated donors for the benefit of ACCESS. These assets are not reported on the balance sheet since CFSEM maintains variance power with respect to the assets contributed to them for our benefit. The total value of these assets as of Sept. 30, 2013 is \$ 2,415,136.

## OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO OUR 2012-2013 DONORS (Oct. 1, 2012 - Sept. 30, 2013)

#### \$1,000,000+

Michigan Department of Education Detroit Employment Solution Corporation Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency Southeast Michigan Community Alliance

#### \$500,000-\$999,999

Ford Foundation Michigan Department of Community Health Michigan Department of Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement Southwest Housing Solutions United Way for Southeastern Michigan Wayne County Health Department

#### \$100,000-\$499,999

AT&T

Bank of America Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute Building Foundations Chevron Institute of Museum and Library Services John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Kresge Foundation Lutheran Social Services of Michigan Macomb County Health Department Michigan Primary Care Association Michigan State University New Economy Initiative Open Society Institute Proteus Fund Public Interest Project Ronald McDonald House Charities Saudi Aramco Skillman Foundation Social Innovation Fund US Department of Agriculture US Department of Commerce US Department Housing and Urban Development W.K. Kellogg Foundation

#### \$50,000-\$99,999

American Cancer Society Avon Foundation Breast Care Fund City of Dearborn **Comerica Charitable Foundation** Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan Doris Duke Charitable Foundation DTE Energy Ford Motor Company McGregor Fund Meijer Michigan Coalition to End **Domestic & Sexual Violence** Susan G. Komen for the Cure Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency \$25.000-\$49.999 C.S. Mott Foundation

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#### \$10,000-\$24,999

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### \$2500-\$4,999

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Access California Services 2180 W. Crescent Ave., Suite C Anaheim, CA 92801 714-917-0440 www.accesscal.org

Arab Film Festival 300 Brannan St., Suite 508 San Francisco, CA 94107 415-564-1100 www.arabfilmfestival.org

Levantine Cultural Center 5998 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035 310-657-5511 www.levantinecenter.org

Somali Community Services 586 N. First Street, Suite 212 San Jose, CA 95112 408-361-8173 www.somamcossi.org

#### **FLORIDA**

The Arab-American Community Center 4540 W. Colonial Dr., Suite A Orlando, FL 32808 www.aaccflorida.org

#### GEORGIA

Alif Institute P.O. Box 29067 Atlanta, GA 30359 770-936-8770 www.alifinstitute.org

#### ILLINOIS

Arab American Action Network 3148 W. 63rd Street Chicago, IL 60629 (773) 436-6060 www.aaan.org

Arab American Family Services 9044 South Octavia Bridgeview, IL 60455 (708) 599-2237 www.arabamericanfamilyservices.org

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Center for Arabic Culture 191 Highland Avenue, 6B Somerville, MA 02143 877-222-9740 www.cacboston.org

#### MICHIGAN

ACCESS (Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services) 2651 Saulino Court Dearborn, MI 48121 313-843-2844 www.accesscommunity.org www.nnaac.org

Arab American Heritage Council 416 North Saginaw Street, Suite 220 Flint, MI 48502 810-235-2722 www.aahcflint.com American Syrian Arab Cultural Association P0 Box 1425 Troy, MI 48099 248-988-1166 www.asaca-usa.org

#### MINNESOTA

Somali Action Alliance Education Fund 2525 East franklin Ave., Suite 100 Minneapolis, MN 55406 612-455-2185 www.somaliactionalliance.org

#### NEW YORK

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The Arab American Family Support Center 150 Court Street, 3rd Floor Brooklyn, NY 11201-6244 718-643-8000 www.aafscny.org

The American MidEast Leadership Network 25-82 Steinway St., Suite 2R Astoria, NY 11103 347-924-9674 www.AMLN.org

Arab American Association of New York 7111-5th Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11209 718-745-3523 www.arabamericanny.org ACCESS of Western New York 697 Ridge Rd., Suite 205 Lackawanna, NY 14218 716-332-5901 www.accesswny.org

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