

ANNUAL REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

Established in 2002, the Amal Center for Women provides support and assistance in a culturally competent manner to women and families in difficulty in the hopes of fostering their wellbeing and development.

Our center offers psychosocial services to Arabic, Urdu, French and English-speaking clients that respond to the diverse needs of the women and families. We also conduct community outreach to raise awareness on the issues of domestic abuse, mental health and family wellbeing in ethnocultural communities. The Amal Center accepts cases related to conjugal violence, marital conflict, divorce, parent-child conflict, parent-adolescent conflict, youth protection, depression, mental health, immigration, integration, orientation and beyond, serving the holistic needs of our clients.

The Amal Center responds to the specialized needs of the Muslim woman, who may face obstacles to accessing institutional services due to language barriers, immigration status, being a visible minority, lacking information, and culturally-based distrust.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD



From L-R: Humera Khan, Nermine Barbouch, Tasha Anglin, Nafija Rahman
Not pictured: Sarah Benkirane, Aseema Kabir, Francesca Valenti

Since the beginning of Covid-19, we've witnessed women and families face more obstacles to receiving and accessing care, with increased isolation, negative health impacts, and economic barriers brought about by the pandemic. The Amal Center for Women has adapted to offering our many services remotely, free of charge, but this was not without its challenges and difficulties. Nevertheless, our intervention team, composed of social workers and caseworkers, worked tirelessly to adapt to changing realities, and began delivering their services remotely. Our dedicated staff and volunteers hosted numerous virtual events and launched multiple projects, bringing together, strengthening, and supporting our extended communities. Because of the hard work and perseverance of our teams, and the kindness of our donors, we have successfully continued our activities in 2020. We remain hopeful and committed to our center, especially at a time when community and care are most needed, and our services are most crucial.

OUR TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Humera Khan

President

Nermine Barbouch

Triage director & spokesperson

Tasha Anglin

Treasurer

Francesca Valenti

Secretary

Nafija Rahman

Community outreach

Sarah Benkirane

Operations officer

Aseema Kabir

Communications specialist

STAFF

Christine Menendez

Center coordinator

Sarrah Falfoul

Social worker

Zeytouna Suleiman

Caseworker

Ghada Mohamed

Caseworker

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Our most notable activities that took place in 2020:



"Community Change Starts with Me" workshops

Funded by Islamic Relief Canada, we launched 8 educational, community-building workshops focused on well-being, mental health, and supporting ourselves and our families during Covid-19.



Ramadan food baskets

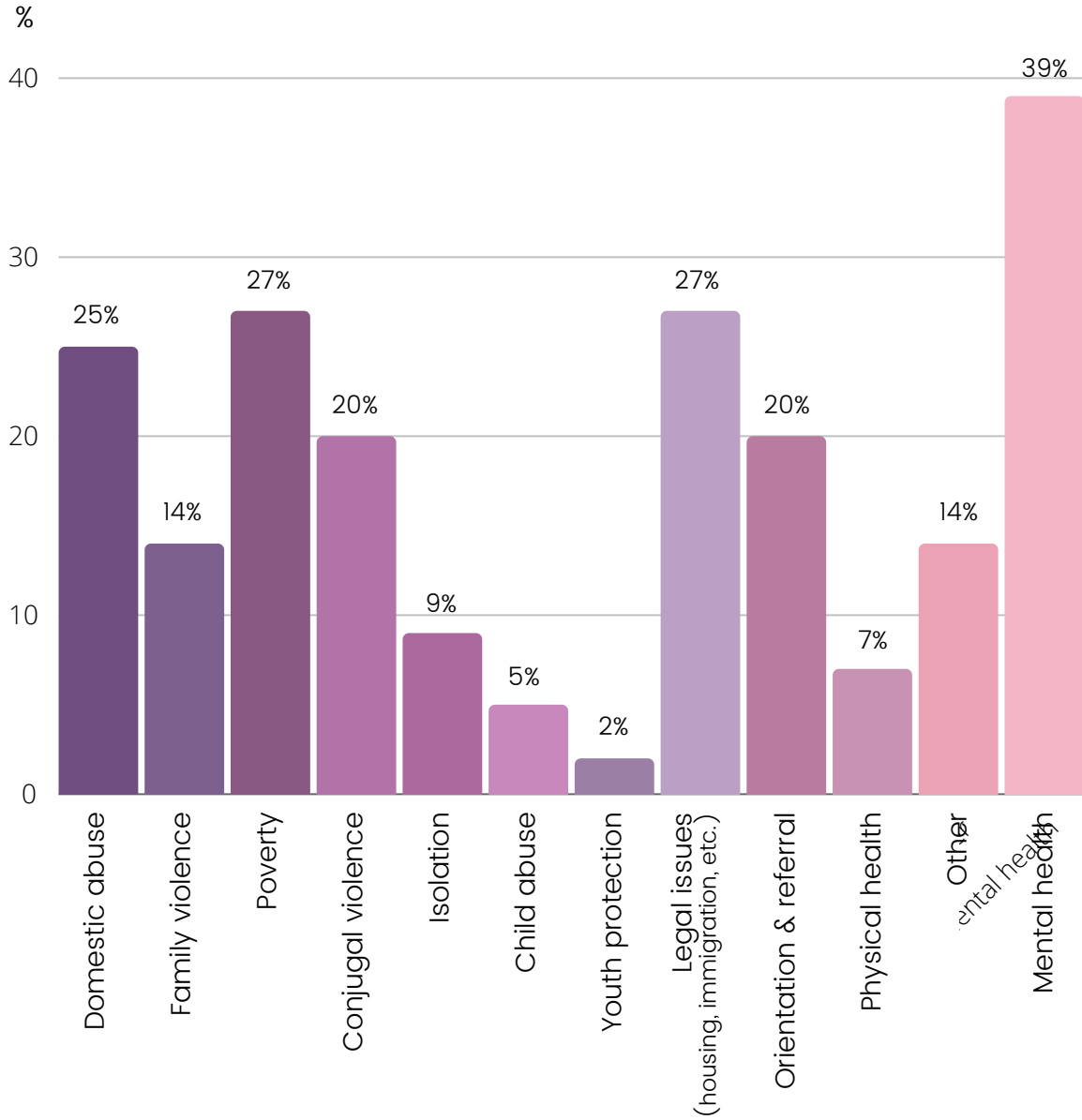
During Ramadan of 2020, we coordinated the distribution of food and gifts to our clients from many partner organizations, including local government, student groups and Muslim organizations.



Toolkit to strengthen listeners

With SHIFT Concordia, we developed a toolkit aimed to support our informal support networks of "Listeners" by developing their capacities, building their skills, and expanding their resources.

OUR DIVERSE INTERVENTIONS



CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



They were the only safe place for me, they supported me and listened to me without judgement. They informed me of my choices, and referred me to proper services such as women's shelters when needed. They helped me turn my life around and end the cycle of violence in my family.

”

“

Going to the Amal Center has had a great impact on my wellbeing which also, of course, had a positive impact on my other family members. After seeing many specialists over the years, I was blessed to be able to really connect with one of your social workers, and it changed my life.



FINANCIALS

Donations summary

As shown in our income breakdown, the Amal Center has depended on two main sources of income to sustain its operations over the years:

1. Government funding (grants) and
2. Private donations.

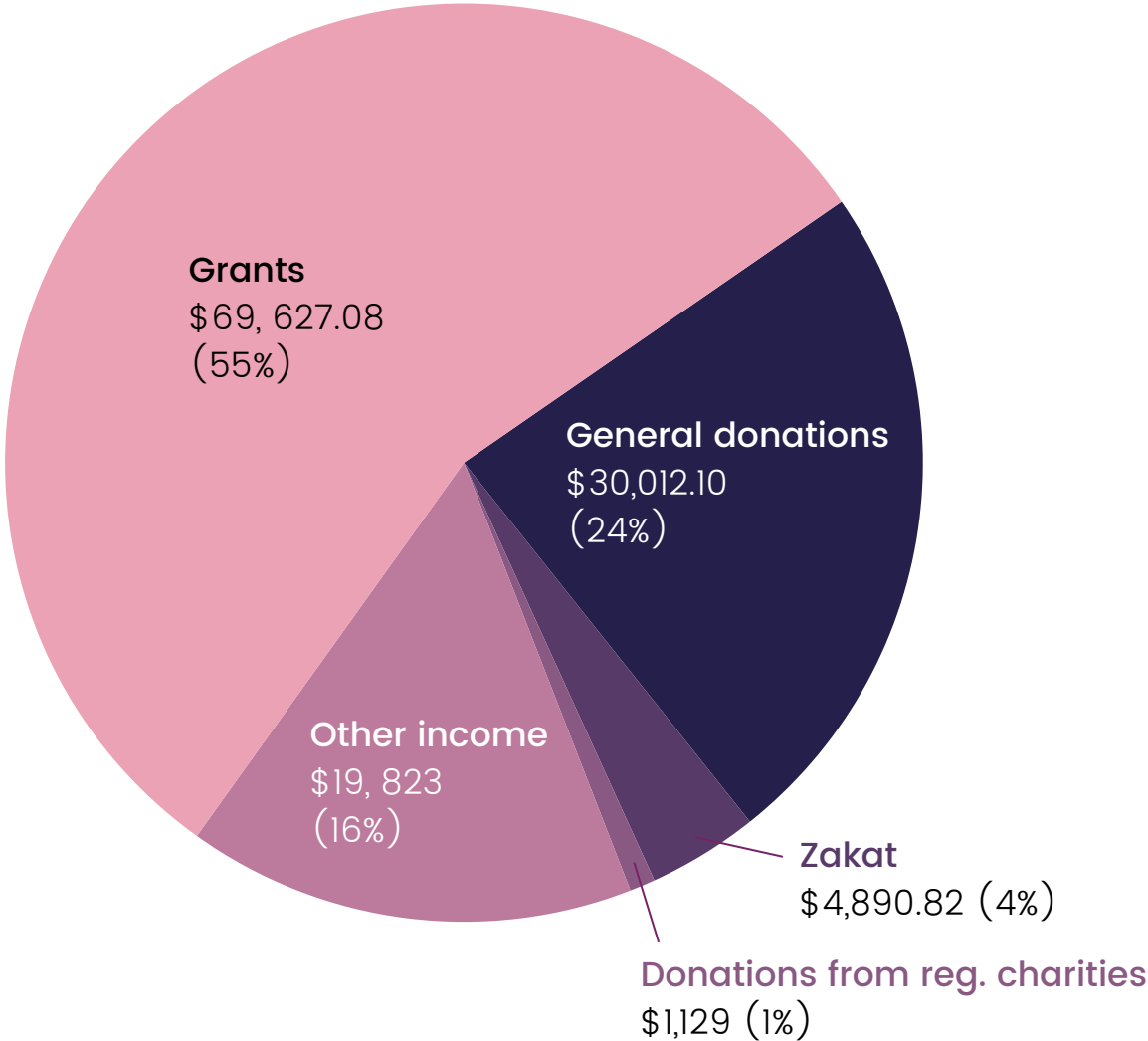
Income highlights

We received generous donations via the following donors and platforms:

- **Le Comité des organismes sociaux de Saint-Laurent (COSSL)**
- **SHIFT Concordia**
- **Breakfast Clubs of Canada**
- **Centraide**
- **OBNL - Montreal**
- **Canada Summer Jobs (Federal government)**
- **Islamic Relief Canada**
- **LaunchGood Campaign**
- **PRIIME Grant**

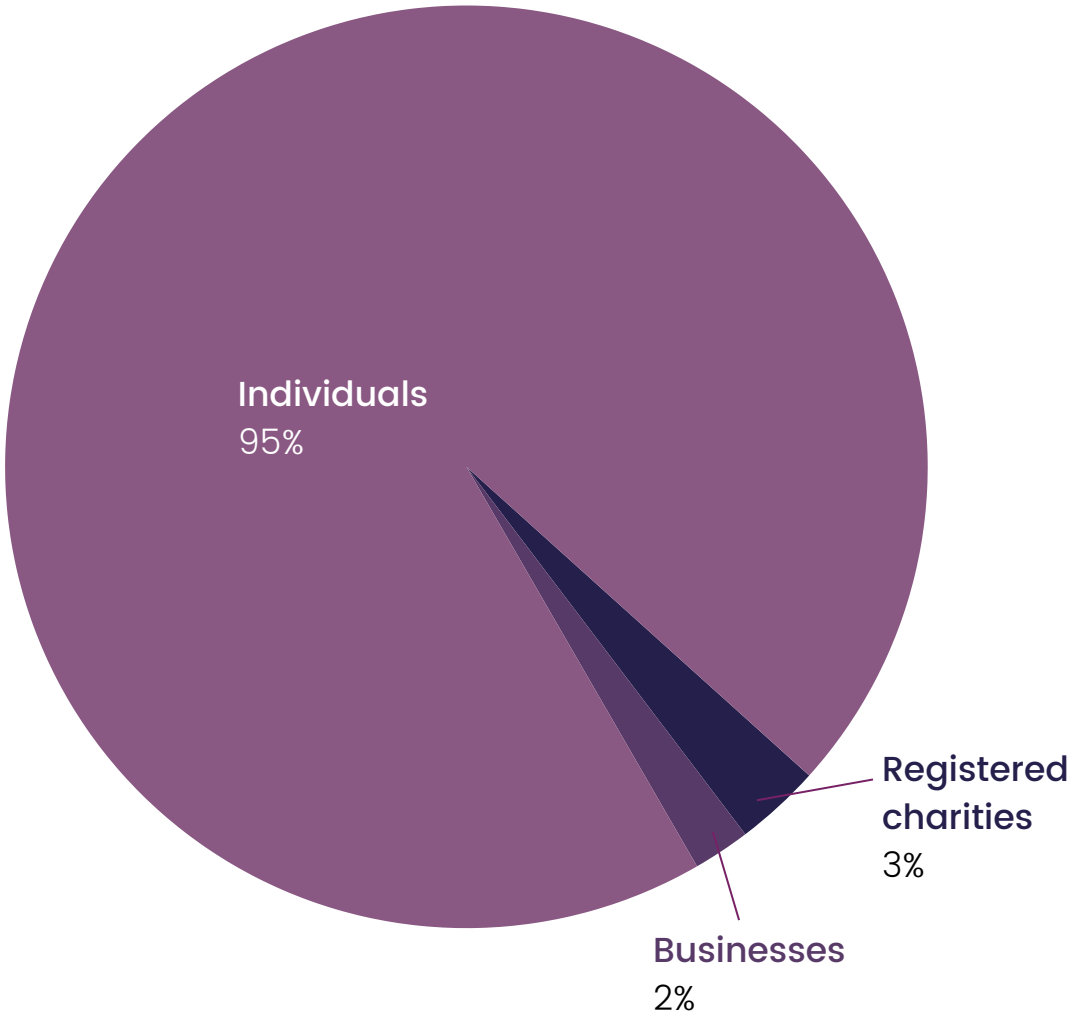
FINANCIALS

Total income for 2020: \$125,482.00



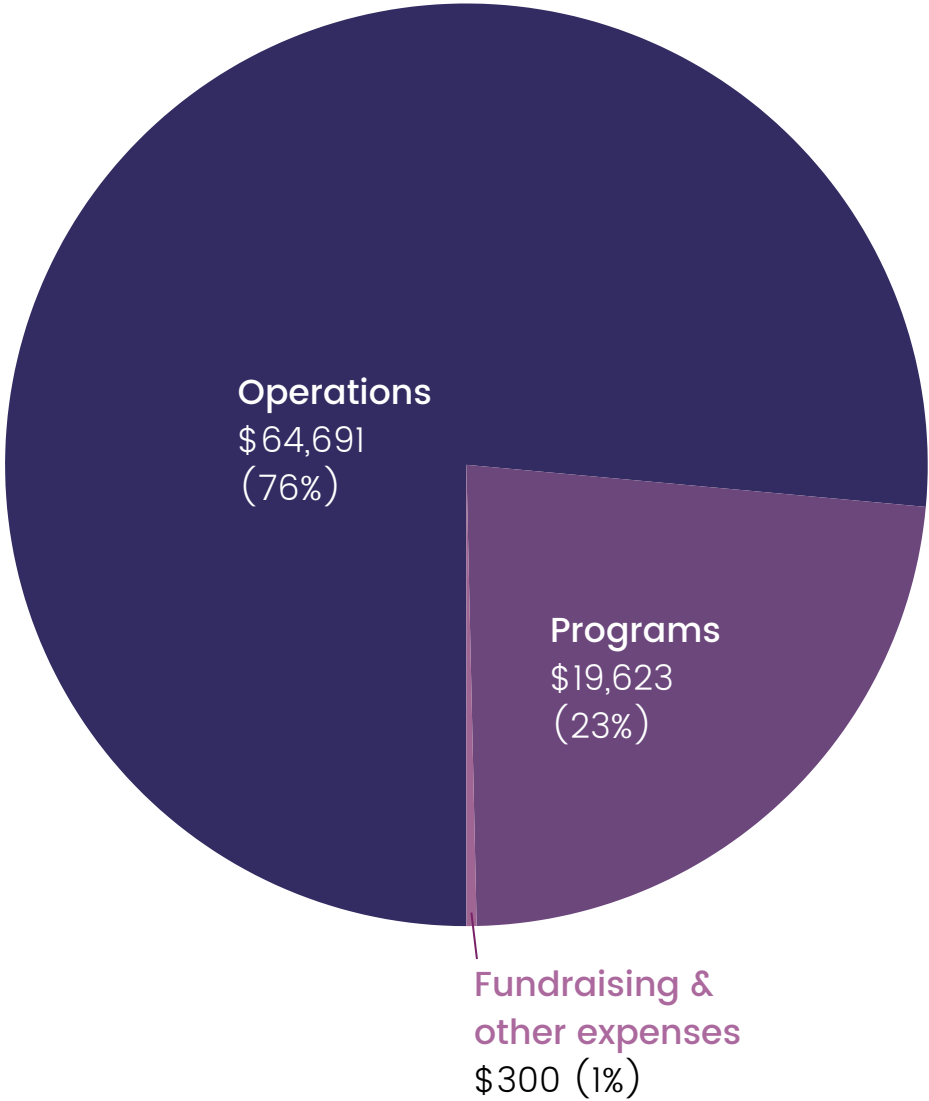
FINANCIALS

Overview of 2020 donation portfolio:



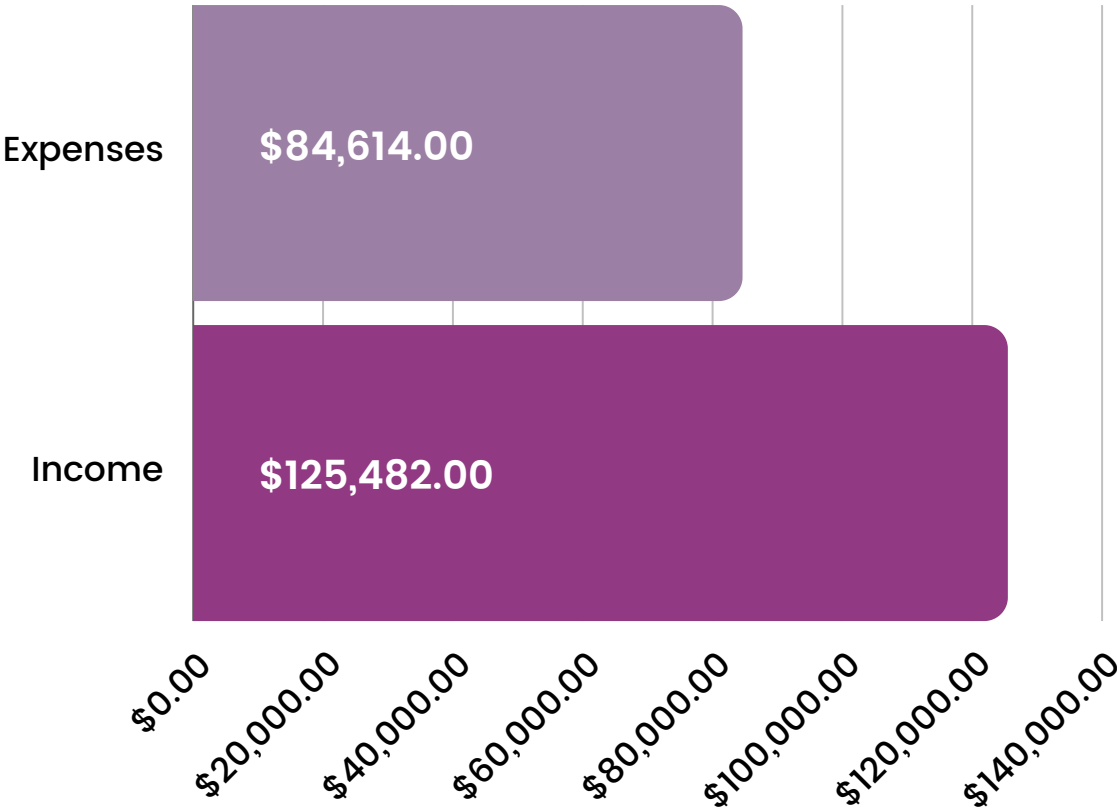
FINANCIALS

Total expenditures for 2020: \$84,614.00



FINANCIALS

Overview of the Amal Center's income & expenditures
Excess of \$40,868



CONCLUSION

We are deeply indebted to the commitment of our volunteers who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to help keep the Amal Center running! And to our extended communities, we would like to say thank you for your continued support over the years, and especially now, as we continue to navigate the precarious landscape of the pandemic.

We invite you all to join us in supporting our center by:

1

Donating today

Every dollar goes towards providing services to our marginalized clientele and contributes to the center's sustainability. To donate, click [here](#).

2

Sharing our work

Inspired by our impact? Share our news of our services and work by word of mouth and in your social networks!

3

Becoming an Amal champion

Bring positive change by giving your time! Contribute your expertise, skills and passion by joining our team or fundraising for us.


Thank you!



*A helping hand, a gentle word, a ray of hope:
Together we can break the silence.*

CONTACT US

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