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About this Report

In an effort to save funds, this year we produced our annual report in-house and with pro bono support for the cover, without hiring a designer. While not as graphically polished, we hope that you will find the content—and Tahirih’s efforts to protect immigrant women and girls fleeing violence—informative and inspiring.
Dear Friends:

The scale of violence against women today is so pervasive that we can no longer deny that we are facing the seminal humanitarian crisis of our time. Sadly, in many places around the world girls are still born into an environment where they are devalued and persecuted solely because of their gender. One out of every three women has faced abuse or sexual violence in her lifetime.

Despite the odds, heroic women and girls fight with courage to escape the violence they have suffered—often leaving their families, scorned by their communities, and unaware of what their fate may be as they flee in search of safety.

If they are brave enough, and lucky enough, to reach the United States, immigrant women and girls fleeing violence face additional obstacles that magnify the difficulty of finding safety—language barriers, a confusing and seemingly callous or indifferent bureaucracy, cultural stigmas on reporting abuse, and lack of work authorization. These women and girls have complex cases that require cutting-edge legal expertise, and without the Tahirih Justice Center to advocate on their behalf, many would have no hope of finding a place where they can be safe.

**With your support, Tahirih has assisted nearly 10,000 women and children** fleeing violence since 1997. Now, at a time when many nonprofits are struggling to survive, Tahirih faces possibly the greatest challenge it has ever faced—to grow in spite of the economy and not neglect those who need us more than ever.

Amidst the financial challenges of 2008, Tahirih has made deliberate efforts to stretch every dollar to serve more women and girls, tightening our belts and cutting costs where possible. Although we did not anticipate the financial crisis, prior to and throughout 2008, we fortuitously invested in improving our capacity in order to yield higher impact results. In 2008, donated services amounted to $6.5 million, four times Tahirih’s cash receipts of $1.6 million. Tahirih is proud to multiply every $1 donated into $5 of value for our clients.

We know you want to have the greatest possible impact on ending violence against women and girls. We at Tahirih share that goal. We hope that you will find this annual report a testament to how you make it possible for women and girls to obtain freedom from violence and new lives full of hope.

With gratitude,

Layli Miller-Muro, Executive Director  Frank Kendall, Chair, Board of Directors
Our Mission

The Tahirih Justice Center protects
immigrant women and girls seeking justice
in the United States from gender-based violence.

Violence against women and girls is the most widespread violation of human rights—globally and locally. It devastates individual lives, corrodes communities, and cripples human progress.

Today, millions of women and girls live in fear, pain, hunger, and sickness simply because they were born female. Around the world, at least one woman in every three has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime.¹ The serious consequences of violence against women result in ongoing health problems that have been linked to the effects of living in a war zone.²

The Tahirih Justice Center is a Bahá’í-inspired organization founded on the belief that the achievement of full equality between women and men is necessary for society to progress. Every day, we work to address violence against women and girls as a critical step in making equality possible.

Tahirih fights against gender-based violence by protecting and advocating for women and girls fleeing human rights abuses such as forced marriage, female genital mutilation, torture, rape, domestic violence, so-called “honor” crimes, human trafficking, and life-threatening widow rituals. When courageous women and girls escape abuse and demand justice, it is our privilege to support their efforts to achieve protection under United States law.

Our logo, an illustration of a bird with equal wings, symbolizes a foundational principle of the Tahirih Justice Center derived from a quote in Bahá’í writings:

_The world of humanity has two wings—one is women and the other men. Not until both wings are equally developed can the bird fly._

Our History

Tahirih was founded following the case of 17-year-old Fauziya Kassindja, who fled Togo in fear of female genital mutilation and a forced polygamous marriage.

Layli Miller-Muro established the Tahirih Justice Center in 1997, following her involvement as a student attorney in the high-profile case that set national precedent and revolutionized asylum law in the United States. After arriving in the United States and spending more than 17 months in detention, Ms. Kassindja was granted asylum in 1996 by the Board of Immigration Appeals—the highest US immigration court. This decision opened the door to gender-based persecution as grounds for asylum in the United States.

Using 100% of her portion of the proceeds from a book she and Ms. Kassindja co-authored about the case, Ms. Miller-Muro established the Tahirih Justice Center to offer legal assistance to other immigrant women and girls seeking asylum or protection from gender-based violence.

Our Name

Tahirih (TAH-beb-ray) was a prominent figure in Middle Eastern history—an exemplar of women’s strength in mid-19th century Persia during a time and place when most women were kept illiterate and hidden from the public sphere. In 1848, as a symbolic pronouncement that a new day was dawning for the status of women, Tahirih became the first woman in recorded Middle Eastern history to publicly remove her veil before an assemblage of men. At the age of 32, she was executed for her beliefs and activities. Her last recorded words were, “You can kill me as soon as you like, but you will never stop the emancipation of women.”

FACT | In the next decade, more than 100 million girls worldwide will marry before their 18th birthday. Some will be as young as eight or nine; many will marry against their will.
Our Programs

A Holistic Approach

Tahirih’s innovative and comprehensive approach leverages pro bono resources to provide a combination of legal services, advocacy, and public education programs. Through this coordinated effort, Tahirih seeks to ensure the protection and safety of its clients, as well as their long-term well-being, by raising their voices in the public policy arena, informing the public of the unique challenges immigrant survivors of violence face, and, ultimately, creating lasting legal and social change.

Services

Tahirih protects women and girls through pro bono legal services in immigration and family law, as well as holistic social and medical service referrals.

Tahirih provides free legal representation in immigration and family law matters, as well as holistic social and medical service referrals to ensure that our clients can truly access justice and become self-sufficient members of our community. To maximize the number of women and girls we serve, Tahirih partners with law firms and maintains a network of over 700 attorneys who donate their time to represent our clients.

Since opening our doors in 1997, through direct services and referrals, Tahirih has assisted nearly 10,000 women and children fleeing abuse. Even as we handle a high volume of complex cases, Tahirih maintains a 99 percent success rate—a measure of our dedication to excellence and to our clients, as well as to the compelling nature of our clients’ stories. Tahirih provides direct services and referrals in the following areas:

- **Immigration Law Services**: Tahirih provides legal representation for women and girls seeking refugee status in the United States because of gender-based violence as well as for survivors of domestic violence, trafficking, and other violent crimes seeking protection in the United States.

- **Family Law Services**: Tahirih provides legal representation to help clients receive temporary and permanent orders of protection, divorce, custody, and visitation.

- **Social and Medical Service Referrals**: Tahirih helps its clients holistically address their non-legal needs, by helping them find shelter, counseling, food, clothing, and urgent medical care.
**Advocacy**

Tahirih amplifies women’s voices and shares their experiences with policymakers to ensure systemic change and long-term protection.

Through an approach to advocacy that is rooted in our direct services experiences, Tahirih seeks to amplify the voices of the women and girls it serves in critical public policy debates at the federal, state, and local levels on issues that directly impact them. Tahirih’s intimate understanding of the abuse suffered by our clients provides unique insights that enable us to design and execute effective campaigns for systemic change and the long-term protection of women and girls.

While most organizations focus on either direct services or public policy advocacy, Tahirih is unusual in its commitment to engage in both, providing a critical bridge between local direct services agencies and national advocacy organizations. Tahirih is a leader in a range of public policy debates concerning violence against immigrant women and girls, including preventing abuse and exploitation through the international marriage broker industry (so-called “mail-order bride” agencies), protecting the rights of immigrant survivors of crime, and promoting access to asylum for women and girls fleeing gender-based persecution.

**Education**

Tahirih engages in outreach and training to educate law enforcement, service agencies, and the public on the unique needs of immigrant women and girls.

Tahirih actively engages in outreach activities to ensure that the public and those working on issues of gender-based violence are aware of the unique challenges and obstacles faced by our clients. Tahirih trains attorneys, police officers, judges, prosecutors, legislators, social and medical service providers, and others who serve immigrant women and girls about the issues facing immigrant women and girls fleeing violence and the legal remedies available to them. We also work closely with the media, speak at universities and law schools around the country, and raise awareness at community religious institutions such as mosques, churches, and temples.

**FACT**  
*There are an estimated 100 million to 140 million women and girls who have been subjected to female genital mutilation. Currently, about three million girls, the majority under 15 years of age, undergo the procedure every year.*

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Our Impact in 2008

Through Direct Services, Tahirih:

**Assisted 901 women and children through direct services and referrals**

**Litigated 558** separate legal matters as part of **345** new and continued immigration and family law cases. Specifically, Tahirih:

- Won asylum for a client whose case was considered “unwinnable” by other attorneys who refused to represent her because recent legal precedent prohibited protection on the basis of a fear of female genital mutilation to her daughters
- Won a stay of removal to prevent deportation in a complex case involving a mother whose daughter was repeatedly raped, sodomized, and molested by her stepfather
- Won a client’s release from detention who was wrongfully jailed for nine months and separated from her four-year-old daughter because of false charges that were brought by her abuser and his family
- Received asylum for a woman who fled 25 years of sexual, physical, and emotional torture by her husband, and threats to her and her family after she filed for a divorce

**Provided** holistic social and medical service referrals to **132** clients. Specifically, Tahirih:

- Secured food, shelter, and medical services
- Coordinated with law enforcement agencies to assist victims

Through Policy Advocacy, Tahirih:

**Engaged** in national and local public policy advocacy to ensure long-term protection of women and girls. Specifically, Tahirih:

- Pressed for implementation of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act to prevent abuse and exploitation of foreign brides
- Promoted statewide legislation to ensure that immigrant victims feel safe reporting crimes by rallying a diverse bipartisan coalition of over 35 agencies
- Held a briefing for Congress on gender-based asylum
- Advanced precedent-setting cases and developed cutting-edge legal issues through amicus briefs, comments on government regulations, and other coalition efforts

Through Education and Outreach, Tahirih:

**Provided** over 80 trainings, speeches, or presentations to educate police officers, judges, prosecutors, legislators, service providers, advocates, universities, law schools, and religious institutions.

**Raised** public awareness of gender-based violence and the unique challenges facing immigrant women through Tahirih’s own publications and by appearing in over 15 media outlets, such as *Fox News* and the *Washington Post*.
Going National

Serving Houston, Texas

Over the years, Tahirih has received heart-wrenching phone calls from immigrant women and girls throughout the United States who are fleeing violence and desperate for legal representation that they cannot find locally. Some have even moved to the Washington, DC area to receive our services. In response, Tahirih made the strategic decision to expand nationally.

In 2009, we opened our first field office in Houston, Texas, with the hiring of a Houston Director. After the Houston office becomes well-established, we will refine our expansion model and open additional field offices in locations around the country. Through a national presence we hope to provide legal services to more immigrant women and girls fleeing gender-based violence and increase the impact of their voices in important public policy debates.

Over a decade of serving the Washington, DC community, Tahirih has refined a model for providing high-quality services that is efficient, holistic, and replicable. Our partnerships with pro bono attorneys and other professionals, who donate their time and expertise to protect our clients, more than quadruple our impact. Moreover, our model for service delivery protects the lives of the women and girls we serve and, despite the complex cases we litigate, we have maintained a 99 percent success rate.

Tahirih also decided to grow nationally in order to make a greater impact on federal laws and policies affecting immigrant women and girls fleeing violence. Our advocacy has always been valuabably informed by the grass-roots experiences of the women and girls we serve, and our national expansion will strengthen that perspective and allow us to speak to lawmakers with an understanding of national trends. We will continue to be involved in appellate litigation to establish legal precedent on issues affecting our clients.

During 2007 and 2008, Tahirih took deliberate and concrete steps to determine how national expansion would unfold. Tahirih’s Board and senior management were involved in an intensive process of preparing internal infrastructure for growth and researching best practices for replication. Guiding our city selection process were several factors including immigration trends, the location of our pro bono partner law firms, the availability of complimentary services for clients, the presence of like-minded organizations, and the support of local foundations, corporations, and individual donors. To ensure that our growth is informed by the lessons of other organizations, Tahirih Board members and senior staff conducted interviews with 10 nonprofit and for-profit organizations that have undergone successful expansion.

While we understand that a process of growth is never easy, nor entirely predictable, we are confident that through our thoughtful reflection and planning, we will be able to protect the lives of immigrant women and girls fleeing violence on a national scale.

FACT | Every year, in 65 countries combined, more than 250,000 cases of rape or attempted rape are recorded by police.5
Resources and Value

Improving Organizational Capacity to Stretch Resources

During 2007 and 2008, guided by a strategic blueprint for national expansion, Tahirih made significant improvements in its technology infrastructure, organizational design, policies, and physical space. These investments are vital to Tahirih’s capacity for organizational growth and long-term stability, and ultimately, its ability to better serve immigrant women and girls fleeing violence.

Some of the most noteworthy system improvements include the following:

- **Legal Services:** Tahirih transitioned to a web-based case management system powered by PS Technologies Inc. The software, which unifies clients' immigration, family law, and social and medical service referral information in the same system, has dramatically enhanced Tahirih’s ability to manage cases, track clients' overall needs, and efficiently identify trends. In addition, Tahirih has created an e-forum for its network of over 700 pro bono attorneys to streamline information sharing.

- **Financial Management:** With revenue exceeding $8.2 million in 2008, including in-kind donated services, Tahirih reached an organizational milestone and recognized the need for greater sophistication of its financial management systems. As a result, Tahirih restructured its accounting and financial systems to improve the information available for management decision-making, allowing for increased analysis, projections, and tracking.

- **Online Presence and Communications:** Tahirih produced a new, professionally designed website that amplifies Tahirih’s ability to champion the protection of immigrant women and girls fleeing violence and provides valuable information to the public. Alongside the new website, Tahirih streamlined the structure and image of online communications to better describe Tahirih’s work.

Though we did not then anticipate the current economic crisis, we count ourselves incredibly fortunate that we are now more efficiently able to meet today’s challenges and better serve our clients due to these infrastructural improvements.
The Value of Your Investment in Tahirih

While Americans nationwide are tightening their belts to make ends meet, the demand for charitable services escalates. Now, more than ever, the need for nonprofits to stretch every dollar’s impact to serve more disadvantaged people with fewer resources is paramount. Essentially, nonprofits must do more with less.

Tahirih makes a deliberate effort to ensure that the investments of its supporters yield high impact results—both for the women and girls we serve directly and for those who will receive long-term protection from enduring systemic change we affect through public policy advocacy. We invest donations wisely by: 1) strategically developing holistic programs, 2) leveraging donated professional services, and 3) increasing efficiency over time.

Multiplying Every $1 Donated into $5 of Value by Leveraging Professional Volunteers

Donated professional services are a vital resource for Tahirih and allow us to maximize the number of women and girls for whom we can provide high-quality legal representation. In fact, Tahirih partners with over 700 volunteer attorneys from the nation’s top law firms on over 75% of its incoming cases. In 2008, donated services amounted to $6.5 million, representing four times Tahirih’s cash receipts of $1.6 million, and significantly increasing the impact of our work.

Reducing Cost and Increasing Efficiency

Tahirih has worked over time to efficiently manage our programs and maximize our resources. Due, in large part, to the expanded use of pro bono services, Tahirih has significantly decreased the average cost per matter litigated to protect women and children from violence since 2004.

These efforts and your support enable us to impact the lives of more women and girls.

FACT | Every year, 5,000 women and girls throughout the world are murdered by members of their own family in the name of honor.6
2008 Highlights and Events

Awards & Recognition

The Tahirih Justice Center and its staff have been recognized for their commitment to women and girls in need, innovative approach to providing services, visionary leadership, and efficient management. Examples of honors and awards received in 2008 are listed below:

- Jeanne Smoot, Director of Public Policy, received the 2008 “Agent of Change Award” from the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.
- Layli Miller-Muro, Executive Director, received the Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman 2008 “Excellence in Chief Executive Leadership (EXCEL) Award” from the Center for Nonprofit Advancement.
- The Tahirih Justice Center was selected as one of the best local charities by The Washingtonian magazine and featured as one of “64 Ways to Do Good” in the December issue’s cover story.

In the Media

Since its inception, Tahirih has engaged numerous media sources to increase awareness of the abuse our clients face. Below are some of the news outlets where Tahirih appeared in 2008.

- The Hill, September 25, 2008, “Don’t Rainn on his Anti-Political Parade.”
- Domestic Violence Reporter and Sexual Assault Reporter, August 2008, “An Overview of Female Genital Mutilation as a Basis for Refugee Status.”
Special Events

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

On March 11, 2008, together with Honorary Co-Hosts Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA) and Congressman Frank Wolf (R-VA), Tahirih held a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill on gender-based asylum. The event marked Tahirih’s Ten Year Anniversary and offered a moment for a critical retrospective on the development of US gender-based asylum law over the past ten years. Speakers included Her Royal Highness Princess Dana Firas and Bo Cooper, former General Counsel of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

II TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BENEFIT

Tahirih’s annual fundraising benefit is our single largest income-generating event of the year, as well as an important platform for spreading awareness about the plight of women and girls in need. The 11th Annual Fundraising Benefit was held on September 27, 2008, and included over 400 attendees. Rainn Wilson, star of the hit TV series *The Office* on NBC, served as the evening’s master of ceremonies, and Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan chaired the Benefit Committee for the third year in a row. Other past distinguished participants include Congressman James Moran, then-Senator Joseph R. Biden, Senator Sam Brownback, humans rights activist Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, Hauwa Ibrahim and Oscar-nominated actress Debra Winger.

Tahirih’s Wings

Created in 2008, Tahirih’s Wings is a group of courageous women—Tahirih Justice Center clients and their families—who provide support for each other, speak out against the violence they have suffered, and support the Tahirih Justice Center. The members of Tahirih’s Wings have suffered abuses not only as a result of the violence they have fled, but also as a result of the US immigration system they have had to navigate. Having found justice and now feeling safe, members of Tahirih’s Wings seek to help other women and girls like themselves. The name, “Tahirih’s Wings,” was chosen as a symbol of how the strength they find in each other can uplift those in need and support the work of the Tahirih Justice Center.

FACT | Internationally, 700,000 to two million women are trafficked across borders annually. The volume of trafficking grew by almost 50 percent from 1995 to 2000.7
## 2008 Contributors

### Foundations and Governments
- AARP Foundation
- Allstate Hardin Foundation
- The American Gift Fund
- The Baxter International Foundation
- Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation
- Morton K. & Jane Blaustein Foundation
- Bridgeway Charitable Foundation
- The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
- City of Alexandria, Department of Health and Human Services
- The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region
- Consumer Health Foundation
- Equal Justice Works
- The Herb Block Foundation
- Office on Violence Against Women, Legal Assistance for Domestic Violence
- Diversey Charitable Giving Program
- Edward Byrne Memorial Discretionary Grants Program
- Office of Violence Against Women, Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program
- William & Jane Schloss Family Foundation
- George L. Shields Foundation, Inc
- The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving
- Jehovah’s Witnesses

### Corporations and Organizations
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
- Allstate Giving Campaign
- Aktria Group, Inc.
- American University Washington College of Law
- American University Washington College of Law, Women’s Law Association
- Arent Fox LLP
- Arnold & Porter LLP
- Bahá’í LSA of Clackamas Co.
- Baker & Hostetler LLP
- Baker Botts LLP
- Barnes & Thornburg LLP
- Blank Rome LLP
- British Pine Emportum
- Cable Television Laboratories, Inc.
- Cebalalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP
- Calvert Asset Management
- Chadbourne & Parke LLP
- The Chadderdon Group
- Chevron
- Clergy Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
- Clifford Chance US LLP
- Cohen, Milstein, Sellers & Toll
- Cooley Godward Kronish LLP
- Covington & Burling LLP
- Crowell & Moring LLP
- Crystal City Business Improvement District, Inc.
- Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
- Dechert LLP
- Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP
- DLA Piper LLP
- Dow Lohnes PLLC
- Easton Cardiovascular Associates, P.C.
- Eileen Fisher
- Emerawc Internal Medicine and Diagnostics, P.S.
- The Este Lauder Companies, Inc.
- Exelon
- Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Fogerson, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP
- Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP
- The George Washington University
- Gilson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
- Goldman Sachs & Co.
- GoodSearch
- Goodwin Procter LLP
- Highland Village Bahá’í Fund
- Hogan & Hartson LLP
- Holland & Hart LLP
- Holland & Knight LLP
- Howrey LLP
- Human & Civil Rights Organizations of America
- Hunton & Williams LLP
- Illumine LLC
- Jenner & Block LLP
- Jones Day
- K&L Gates
- Kaye Scholer LLP
- Kelley Drye & Warren LLP
- King & Spalding LLP
- Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis LLP
- Latham & Watkins LLP
- Lifetime Entertainment Services
- Littleton Mendelson PC
- Local Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Montgomery County
- South West
- Maggio & Kattar
- Marshfield Associates
- Mayer Brown LLP
- McDermott Will & Emery LLP
- McGuire Woods LLP
- McKee Nelson LLP
- McKinsey & Company
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy LLP
- Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovyk & Popeo PC
- MissionFish.com
- Montagut & Sobral LPC
- Motir Services, Inc.
- O’Melveny & Myers LLP
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
- Patton Boggs LLP
- Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP
- Pederson & Freedman LLP
- Perkins Coie LLP
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
- Pitney Bowes
- The PNC Financial Services Group
- Proskauer Rose LLP
- Public Opinion Strategies
- Quinn Gillespie & Associates
- Robbins Russell Englerth Orseck Unteriner & Sauber LLP
- Ropes & Gray LLP
- Seyfarth Shaw LLP
- ShcandMe Intimates, LLC
- Shearmar & Sterling LLP
- Shell Oil Company
- Sidley Austin LLP
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP
- Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Beltsville, MD
- Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’ís of Hempstead, NY
- St. Charles Church
- Steptoe & Johnson LLP
- Troutman Sanders LLP
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, VA
- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- United Way of the National Capital Area
- Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
- Venable LLP
- Viacom, Inc.
- White & Case LLP
- Wiley Rein LLP
- Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP
- Wilmer Hale LLP
- Winston & Strawn LLP
- World Bank Community Connections Fund
- Lifesavers ($5,000 or more)
- Laurie Plessala Duperier & Juan Carlos Duperier
- Jamsheed & Parvati Fozdar
- Betsy & Frank Karel
- Hamid & Neda Moayad
- Joanne Moore
- Paul Gist & Karla Jamir
- ViciK & Roger Sant
- Advocates ($1,500 or more)
- Joan and Richard Abdo
- Mary Aghazadeh
- Kathleen Behan
- Donna Callejón and Deborah Whiteside
- Jackie Eghbali-Sabet and Sina Sabert
- Caela Faren
- Michael and Debbie Goldberg
- Dana Greene
- Emmanuel and Ogay Ironto
- Frank Kendall & Beth Halpern
- Michael MacLeod
- Barbara Miller and Vahid Alavian
- Randall Miller
- Amy and Watson Mudge
- Victoria Nerenberg
- Vigo Nielsen
- Fern O’Brien
- Mary O’Neal
- Anis Ragland
- Leah Rampy
- Laila and Mehrtan Taslimi
- Partners ($500 or more)
- Peter and Riva Advisre
- Kirsten Albers
- Jim Alexander
- Blake Biles and Laura Sessums
- Inger Andersen
- Eugene Andrews
- Katherine Ashley
- Lottie Badiyan
- Irma Bashir
- Susan and Alan Berlow
- Karen Bowman
- Meridith Brown
- Thomas and Ralph Buerger
- Maria Cestone
- Anita and Christian Chapman
- David Chilman
- Lynda Clarity
- Afsaneh Davenport
- Shelia Dean
- Kathryn Drinkwater

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this listing, we may have unintentionally overlooked someone. If this is the case, please accept our apology and notify us immediately.
An estimated 11,000 to 16,000 women, representing 1/3 to 1/2 of all foreign fiancé(e)s admitted to the United States each year, may have met their husbands through marriage brokers.
2008 Financial Summary

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

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<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
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<td>Grants Receivables</td>
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<td>Other Receivables</td>
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<td>Inventory</td>
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<td>Property and Equipment</td>
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<td>Rent Deposit</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
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<th>STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</th>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
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<td>Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Used for Operating Activities:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
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<td>(Increase) Decrease in:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Receivables</td>
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<td>Other Receivables</td>
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<td>Other Assets</td>
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<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<td>Accrued Payroll</td>
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<td><strong>Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Operating Activities</strong></td>
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<td>Purchases of Property and Equipment</td>
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<td><strong>NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>(138,780)</strong></td>
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<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents-Beginning of year</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents-End of year</td>
<td>702,426</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donated Professional Services</td>
<td>6,535,884</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,535,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>828,955</td>
<td>235,000</td>
<td>1,063,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>407,913</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>407,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>22,201</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Sales, net of expenses</td>
<td>40,893</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorarium</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>35,532</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>35,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
<td>351,682</td>
<td>(351,682)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,223,360</strong></td>
<td><strong>(116,682)</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,106,678</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>7,597,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>229,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>181,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,008,462</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Change in Net Assets | 98,216 |

| Net Assets-Beginning of Year | 718,795 |
| Net Assets-End of Year | 933,693 |

2008 Revenue and Support

- Donated Professional Services: 79.48%
- Grants: 10.08%
- Contributions: 4.96%
- Miscellaneous Income: 1.2%
- Net assets Released from Restrictions: 4.28%

2008 Expenses

- Program Services: 94.9%
- Management and General: 2.9%
- Fundraising: 2.3%

Taken directly from the 2008 Independent Audit Report produced by LarsonAllen LLP. The complete report can be found at http://www.tahirih.org/about-us/financial-statements/
Our Staff and Board

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*Former client

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FACT | A wave of genocide created 500,000 widows in Rwanda. After the genocide, many widows were further victimized by their husbands’ male relatives.
End Notes


9 UN Division for the Advancement of Women, Women 2000, Widowhood: invisible women, secluded or excluded. (December 2001): 9.

Special Thanks

A very special thank you to Brandy Cohen of Studio Bluesky for supporting Tahirih through her pro bono design work, including the amazing cover of this annual report. We would also like to express our deep appreciation to Sergio Pessolano for allowing us to use his stunning portraits of women and girls from around the world.

Take Action Today

The Tahirih Justice Center is fueled by an outpouring of support from concerned individuals throughout the world. Your financial donations enable us to continue protecting and providing care for vulnerable immigrant women and girls. From one-time donations, to sustaining contributions, to honorary gifts, there are a variety of ways to make a difference. Thank you for joining us to end violence against women.
Thank you very much. Without you in me and my children’s lives, I don’t know what would have become of us today. May God Almighty continue to bless you and give you the strength to help other women and children like me. God bless. Please accept my little token. We love you all.

The Tahirih client who sent this touching letter along with a kind donation.

**FACT** | *With your support, Tahirih has assisted nearly 10,000 women and children fleeing violence since 1997.*