

2020 IMPACT REPORT

SUDDOITING

IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS ON THEIR JOURNEYS TO SAFETY AND JUSTICE



direct services

Since 1997, Tahirih has answered more than 30,000 calls for help from immigrant survivors fleeing gender-based violence, providing the free legal services needed to achieve the immigration status to which they are entitled under U.S. law and vital social services needed to rebuild their lives.

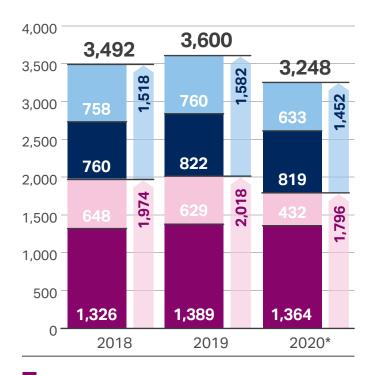
IN 2020, WE:

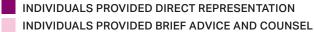
Provided free legal services to **1,796** immigrant women and children and **1,452** of their family members

Connected **504** clients and their family members with vital social services including emergency shelter, food and clothing, and healthcare

Mobilized **2,804** attorneys from **484** top law firms in our Pro Bono Network to leverage donated resources and maximize our capacity

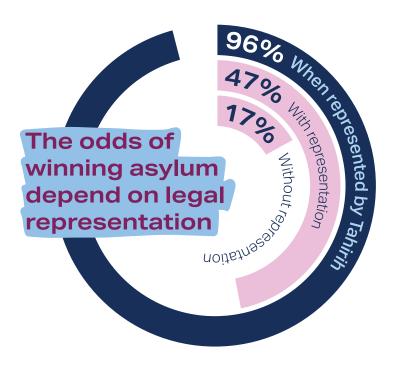
Individuals impacted through free legal services





FAMILY MEMBERS ALSO IMPACTED THROUGH DIRECT REPRESENTATION

FAMILY MEMBERS ALSO IMPACTED THROUGH BRIEF ADVICE AND COUNSEL



^{*} The number of clients served decreased in 2020 due to a freeze in client intake to allow staff to address increased needs among existing clients brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

training and education

Tahirih's outreach programs provide thousands of frontline professionals and community members with an understanding of unique obstacles that immigrant survivors face in the wake of violence, as well as the essential tools needed to help.

IN 2020, WE:

Trained and educated **13,934** frontline professionals and community members, including attorneys, judges, police officers, healthcare staff, and social service providers

Responded to calls from **346** lawyers and service providers from **22** countries and **18** states who needed expert advice

Educated the public and framed the national dialogue about the impact of federal and local policies on immigrant women and children fleeing violence through **417** articles in prominent media outlets including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *AP News*, *The Washington Post*, *Univision*, and *NPR*

Welcomed more than **158,000** users to Tahirih.org and more than **25,000** users to PreventForcedMarriage.org, connecting more people than ever before to our important mission

Saw **2,365** page views of our Pro Bono Attorney E-Library (an online resource with practice tips and guidelines)

Garnered **3 million** views on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube, sparking vital conversations about issues that impact the safety and dignity of survivors











WE ARE FOSTERING LASTING CHANGE THROUGH

nonpartisan advocacy

Tahirih's policy team amplifies the experiences of immigrant women and children in communities, courts, and Congress to bring about systemic change, ensuring that laws and policies protect survivors from violence and exploitation.

IN 2020, WE:

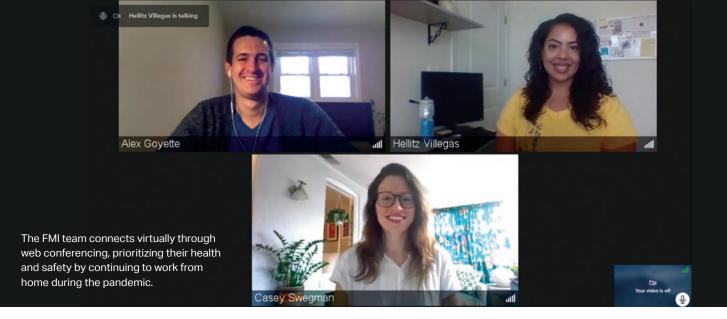
Advised the transition team for the incoming administration on ways to improve the immigration system and best practices to ensure safety for immigrant survivors

Successfully sued to challenge the use of Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) agents to conduct credible fear interviews. The court held that the agents had not been properly trained as asylum officers, in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act

Filed 17 amicus briefs, 5 new lawsuits, and 13 sets of regulatory comments opposing a broad range of administration policies, from increases on application fees to efforts to functionally end asylum

Fought for the rights of immigrant survivors in 11 active high-impact federal court cases, as counsel or plaintiff, and weighed in on 17 other legal cases by filing arguments supporting the interests of immigrant survivors of violence

Launched the Stand with Survivors campaign in response to proposed regulations to devastate U.S. asylum law. Across the country, advocates came together and filed nearly 90,000 comments in response to the proposed regulations



WE ARE WORKING TO END

child and forced marriage in the united states

IN 2020, THE FORCED MARRIAGE INITIATIVE:

Triaged **222** emergency requests for assistance – from **25** states and nearly **every region** of the globe

Equipped **1,915** frontline professionals with critical tools to identify forced marriage and protect victims

Worked closely with survivor-advocates and pro bono partners to **achieve or inspire new laws** against child marriage in **5** states: Idaho, Indiana, Maine, Minnesota, Pennsylvania; as well as the U.S. Virgin Islands, despite many legislative sessions ending abruptly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The FMI also advised advocates and legislators on additional ways to strengthen their laws in 10 more states where bills were introduced and laid important groundwork for 2021 legislative campaigns to end child marriage in North Carolina and Maryland

Throughout 2020, the FMI led the National Forced Marriage Working Group through an intentional and inclusive **transformative process**, relaunching the group under new, collaboratively drafted principles, expectations, and community agreements aimed at increasing organizational collaboration on outreach, training and community change work grounded in anti-racism and anti-oppression

Maria's story

I am Guatemalan and come from a humble, indigenous family. My life, for the most part, has been one of suffering and many times I went without. I was born in the indigenous Quiche Department, which is very rural and poor. My parents struggled daily.

I had a boyfriend since about 2007. In 2013, I got pregnant by him. From the onset of my pregnancy, my partner changed completely. According to him, I betrayed him, and because of this he looked at me with hate.

We broke up because of his accusations. But he decided to find me, he asked for forgiveness and we got back together. Yet, it wasn't the same. He began to mistreat me, hit me, and sexually abuse me, it didn't matter that I was pregnant. On one occasion when I was eight months pregnant, he tried to hang me. After our baby was born, he abused her too.

At this point there was so much suffering, my soul was pained.

I left my father and my siblings, borrowed some money, and my daughter and I headed towards the U.S. On the way here, many nights we slept on the streets, others we were lucky enough to stay in shelters.

After being here for a few months, I began to feel fear again, having to fight my case and knowing the possibility existed that we would be sent back to the hell we had fled. I didn't have the resources to pay for a lawyer. However, Tahirih arrived like angels. They took our asylum case and thanks to them and those who support them, my daughter and I won our case. I was so happy and finally I could cease feeling afraid.



I am here as an example

to women and mothers, survivors who have done everything possible to protect themselves and protect their children.

We can overcome unthinkable situations. Every mother should have the opportunity to fight for justice for themselves and their family. We deserve to be heard and we deserve to be free of violence."

The pandemic has impacted all of us in one way or another, but for immigrant survivors of gender-based violence, many of whom are living with the effects of trauma or coping with ongoing abuse, this is an especially difficult time.

immigrant survivors and the pandemic

The pandemic's disproportionate impact on immigrants exposed structural injustices in new and profound ways. When combined with the former administration's policies that denied access to safety for survivors, Tahirih clients were further marginalized during an especially vulnerable time.

Although the survivors we serve are eligible for immigration relief under the law, nearly all the families we work with have been excluded from federal emergency aid during the pandemic—leaving survivors without a lifeline as they encounter financial hardship or find themselves sick from the virus.

In 2020, Tahirih continued to work with immigrant survivors of violence to provide agile legal and social services support, and to fight harmful policies. As our whole nation coped with the public health crisis that confronted us all, Tahirih continued to serve immigrant survivors seeking protection by providing support and access to essential resources in this critical time.

THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN 2020:



In the immediate aftermath of the shutdown in March, clients needing financial assistance increased by **630%**. Financial assistance requests dropped as the pandemic wore on, suggesting that clients either found stability or exhausted their resources.

The same pattern emerged regarding food assistance: there was a sharp **300%** rise in requests for emergency food assistance in April and May.

Between June and October, clients requesting longer-term food assistance rose **530%**.

Clients needing help with rent payments or applying to rental assistance programs rose **400%** over the course of the year.







HOW WE RESPONDED TO OUR CLIENTS' NEEDS



The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic required us to be flexible and innovative while ensuring the safety of our clients and staff. In order to support immigrant survivors during this unprecedented time, Tahirih:

Spent nearly \$300,000 in COVID-related expenses to support our clients

Changed in-person legal clinics to a virtual model

Provided comprehensive care packages to clients and their families with the help of various grant awards, community partnerships, and gifts from generous donors

Completed more than 300 wellness calls with clients

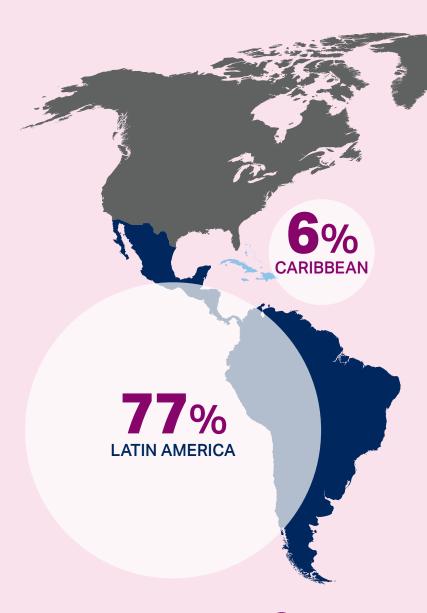
OUR CLIENTS COME FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE, BUT NOW LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES

In 2020, our top 5 countries of origin were:

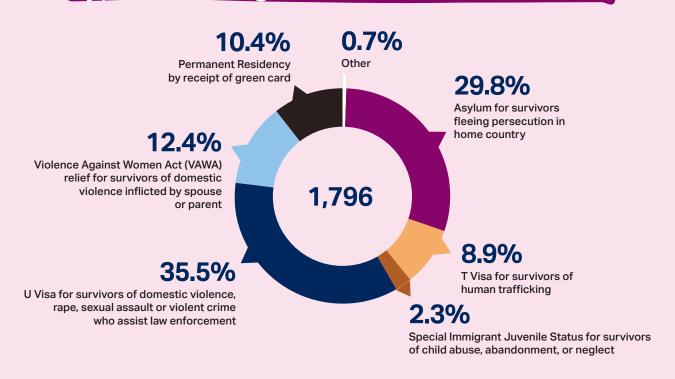
- 1. Honduras
- 2. El Salvador
- 3. México
- 4. Guatemala
- 5. Nigeria

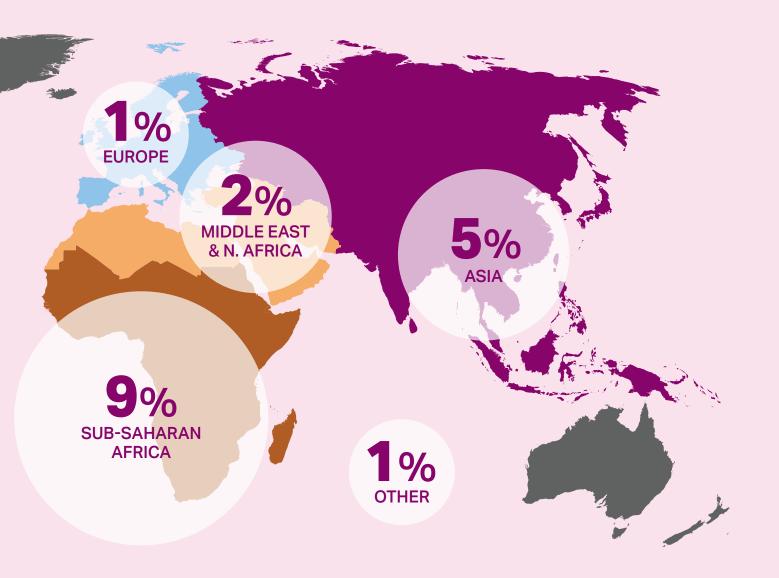
In addition to experiencing violence in their origin country,

about 64% of our clients have also experienced violence since coming here to the U.S.



Types of Immigration Protections in 2020







I hope that any girl who is facing fear in the U.S. has encouragement and faith. I was by myself and far away from help, but we made it this far together. The help is there and only [a] phone call away."

Our award-winning model of service assisted clients in five high-need locations

Atlanta



Atlanta by the numbers

69
Clients and their family members connected to vital social services

Attorneys in Pro Bono Network

1,165
Community members and frontline professionals trained

IN 2020, TAHIRIH ATLANTA:

Partnered with the Candide Group, El Refugio, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR), and the Sapelo Foundation to lead a daylong trip to the infamous Stewart Detention Center in March. This trip gathered funders from Georgia and across the country for an opportunity to learn more about the positive impact philanthropy can have on the ever-changing immigration and asylum space in the United States

Led a webinar series for summer Atlanta immigration interns and pro bono partners in collaboration with several community partner organizations including GAIN and Catholic Charities. Sessions from this series can be found on YouTube

Supported clients' emergent needs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing comprehensive care packages to clients and their families with the help of various grant awards, community partnerships, and gifts from generous donors. These care packages included food, personal protective equipment, gift cards, and tablets to help students continue their education

Received Tahirih Atlanta's first T visa approvals in April for two clients, that recognized the validity of their trafficking claims and allowed them to stay in the U.S. on a path to citizenship. The approvals mark a major milestone for the Atlanta office

Was awarded a three-year grant from the Legal Assistance for Victims program totaling \$600,000. These funds will allow us to partner with Atlanta Legal Aid to provide even more robust legal services to immigrant survivors of violence

Baltimore



by the numbers

104

Clients and their family members connected to vital social services

11

Clients provided family law services

127

Pro bono attorneys who co-counseled cases

108

Community members and frontline professionals trained

IN 2020, TAHIRIH BALTIMORE:

Established a client litigation fund for assistance with immigration filing fees funded by the Maryland Bar Foundation

Co-hosted *Torn Apart* documentary viewing and Tahirih discussion panel about family separation and asylum with the Jewish Women's Giving Foundation and the Baltimore Women's Giving Circle

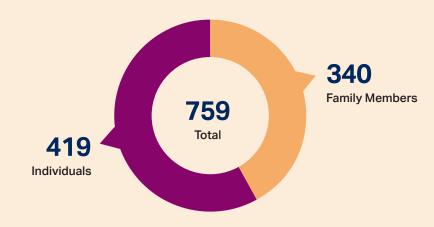
Administered more than \$55,000 of in-kind support to Tahirih clients during the COVID-19 pandemic from local, state and federal funders

Raised more than \$25,000 from generous individual supporters for our work in the Baltimore region during our annual Bighearted Campaign

9

Greater DC

INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED IN GREATER DC THROUGH FREE LEGAL SERVICES IN 2020



Greater DC by the numbers

111

Clients and their family members connected to vital social services

Clients
provided family
law services

311 Pro bono attorneys who co-counseled

cases

1,029
Community members and frontline professionals trained

IN 2020, TAHIRIH GREATER DC:

Pivoted to a virtual model to deliver services, conduct professional trainings, and provide technical assistance as clients and service seekers experienced increased vulnerability due to the COVID-19 pandemic

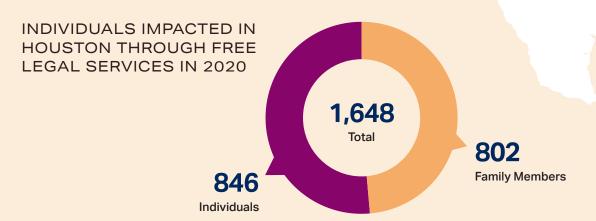
Received COVID-19 relief funding from ACT for Alexandria, The Arlington Community Foundation, and Fairfax County

Completed more than 300 wellness calls with clients, mailed care packages and masks to clients who are at high risk of exposure, and provided groceries to clients experiencing food insecurity through the SHARE Food Program

Hosted our first virtual clinic with Freddie Mac and King & Spalding, where they assisted clients with applications for green cards

Houston





by the numbers

130

Clients and their family members connected to vital social services

16

Clients provided family law services

229

Pro bono attorneys who co-counseled cases

4,769
Community members and frontline professionals trained

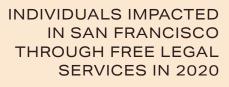
IN 2020, TAHIRIH HOUSTON:

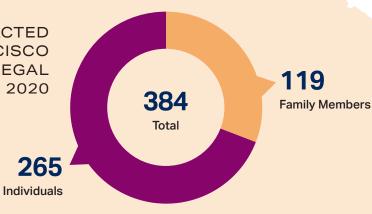
Secured and distributed three rounds of emergency funding from the Greater Houston Community Foundation, totaling \$140,000, allowing us to provide direct financial assistance to clients impacted by COVID-19

Expanded our capacity to continue providing meaningful public policy advocacy, by hiring **Alondra Andrade** as our first ever Community Engagement Coordinator in March 2020. Alondra oversees community participation and engagement to address the problem of violence against immigrant women and children with the long-term goal to increase sustained community-based capacity to address violence against immigrants in our community

Mobilized two years of community advocacy with allies to secure funding for increased immigration representation in our area. As a result of our advocacy, Harris County Commissioners voted, in November 2020, to **allocate \$2 million in funding** for the Immigrant Legal Services Fund, as well as **\$500,000** for the Immigrant Crime Victims Fund. This \$2.5 million allocation to fund immigration legal services would be the largest in Texas and on par with funds for large cities nationally







San
Francisco
by the
numbers

91

Clients and their family members connected to vital social services

96

Pro bono attorneys who co-counseled cases

715

Community members and frontline professionals trained

IN 2020, TAHIRIH SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA:

Responded to unprecedented client needs including a 900% increase in requests for financial support, a 160% increase in requests for food bank referrals, and 138% increase in the number of clients requesting assistance to meet basic needs, through periodic wellness checks, a text messaging campaign, and partnerships with law firms and corporations

Pivoted to virtual fundraising by co-hosting the Walk-Run-Ride endurance event with our partners at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, a successful summer campaign, and combined coast-to-coast virtual benefit

Adapted our in-person legal clinic to a virtual model and served 12 clients through two Adjustment of Status clinics. In partnership with law firms and corporations, we virtually provided culturally appropriate services to ensure clients could continue to make progress in their legal cases

Partnered with the Filipino Bar Association of Northern California and Arnold & Porter to help 18 clients apply for and address questions related to unemployment benefits

Launched the Tech Access project and completed a client survey to develop a new, client-centered, trauma-informed, and linguistically accessible model for working remotely with our clients

2019 Financials

In 2019, Tahirih had an operating budget of \$11.4M. Thanks to the generosity of our Pro Bono Network of attorneys, medical professionals, and other experts, the value of in-kind donated services was \$16.7M, bringing our total budget to \$28.1M.

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
REVENUE AND SUPPORT			
Donated (In-Kind) Professional Services	\$ 16,685,609	\$ 0	\$ 16,685,609
Grants and Contributions	9,069,519	1,565,178	10,634,697
Investment Income	90,833	-	90,833
Other Income	13,850	-	13,850
Net Assets Released from Program Restrictions	913,240	(913,240)	-
Net Assets Released from Time Restrictions	915,000	(915,000)	-
Total Revenue	27,688,051	(263,062)	27,424,989
EXPENSES			
Program	-	-	-
Services	22,502,380	-	22,502,380
Advocacy	1,930,982	-	1,930,982
Total Program Services	24,433,362	-	24,433,362
Supporting Services			
General and Administration	1,901,830	-	1,901,830
Fundraising	1,731,547	-	1,731,547
Total Supporting Services	3,633,377	-	3,633,377
Total Expenses	28,066,739	-	28,066,739
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(378,688)	(263,062)	(641,750)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	5,692,470	2,852,429	8,544,899
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 5,313,782	\$ 2,589,367	\$ 7,903,149





CORPORATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

Akerman LLP

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Baker & McKenzie LLP

Baker Botts LLP

Baltimore Gas and Electric

Capital One LLC

CenterPoint Energy

Cleary Gottlieb Steen

& Hamilton LLP

Coffin Renner LLP

Combined Federal Campaign

Cooley LLP

Crowell & Moring LLP

Dechert LLP

DLA Piper LLP

Eversheds Sutherland

Evil Shenanigans, Inc.

Facebook

Fidelity Title Insurance Companies

Freddie Mac

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

Fund for Educational Excellence

Gallagher, Evelius & Jones LLP

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Gonzalez Olivieri LLC

Google Fund at Benevity

Grantmakers Concerned with Refugees and Immigrants

Gray Reed & McGraw, P.C.

Greenberg Traurig LLP

HCA Healthcare

Hewlett Packard Enterprise

Hicks Davis Wynn, P.C.

Hogan Lovells LLP

Host Hotels & Resorts

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Jones Day

Kilpatrick Townsend

& Stockton LLP

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Latham & Watkins LLP

Major League Baseball Players

Association

Mayer Brown LLP

McDermott Will and Emery

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

National Center for Civil

and Human Rights

Network for Good Noble Energy Inc

Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

PepsiCo, Inc.

Phillips 66 Legal Department

RAICES

Richemont

Saint Laurent

Seyfarth Shaw LLP

Shipley Snell

Sidley Austin LLP

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

Sisters of Charity of the

Incarnate Word

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher

& Flom LLP

Taslimi Construction

The Estee Lauder Companies, Inc.

Thompson & Knight LLP

Truist

UK Online Giving Foundation

United Way of Greater Atlanta

Venable LLP

Vinson & Elkins LLP

Visa, Inc.

Weil Legal Innovators

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

White & Case LLP

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP Winstead PC

World Bank Group at Benevity

FOUNDATIONS

Aaron and Lillie Straus Foundation, Inc.

Act for Alexandria

Adventures for the Mind Foundation, Inc.

AEC Trust

Aegon Transamerica Foundation

AIDS Healthcare Foundation

Annenberg Foundation

Argyros Family Foundation

Arlington Community Foundation

Astros Foundation

Atkinson Foundation

Baltimore Community Foundation

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Blatt Family Foundation

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Blue Shield of California Foundation

Cestone Family Foundation

Charles Crane Family Foundation

Citi Foundation

Collective Futures Fund

Equal Justice Works

Firedoll Foundation
Fondation CHANEL

Foundation for a Just Society

Gaby Foundation

George L. Shields Foundation, Inc.

Girls Rights Project

Global Fund for Children

Global Smiles for All

Goldseker Foundation

Greater Houston

Community Foundation

Haskell Fund

Heising-Simons Foundation

Hickey Family Foundation

Houck Family Foundation

Houston Association of Women Attorneys Foundation

Houston Endowment

Journey Foundation

Julian Grace Foundation

M & T Charitable Foundation

Marek Family Foundation

Maryland Bar Foundation

Molly Blank Fund

Morrison & Foerster Foundation

NoVo Foundation

Patrick and Susan

Keefe Foundation

Philip L. Graham Fund

Progress Family Foundation

Shell Oil Company Foundation

Silicon Valley

Community Foundation

Simmons Foundation

Sobrato Family Foundation

Stardust/Molly Gochman

State Bar of Texas

Tegna Foundation

The Abell Foundation

The Brown Foundation, Inc.

The Frees Foundation

The Fund for Change

The Imlay Foundation

The Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation

The Morris and Gwendolyn

Cafritz Foundation

The Sapelo Foundation

Tides Foundation

Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation

Trellis Fund

Van Loben Sels/ RembeRock Foundation

Venable Foundation

Washington Area Women's Foundation

William J & Dorothy K O'Neill Foundation

William S. Abell Foundation

World Bank Community Connections Fund

World Education Services Mariam Assefa Fund

Zanvyl and Isabelle Krieger Fund Zellerbach Family Foundation

GOVERNMENTS

Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Criminal Justice Services

County of Fairfax, Consolidated Community Funding Pool

County of Fairfax,
Department of Neighborhood
and Community Services

County of Santa Clara

Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement, via USCRI subgrant

Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime

Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women

District of Columbia, Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants

Equal Justice Works, Crime Victims Justice Corps, via OVC subgrant

Maryland Legal Services Corporation

State of Maryland, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

State of Maryland, Department of Housing and Community Development

State of Georgia, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

State of Texas, Department of Health and Human Services

State of Texas,

Office of the Attorney General

State of Texas, Office of the Governor

Texas Access to Justice Foundation

INDIVIDUALS

\$750,000

Laura and John Arnold

\$100,000+

Jessica and Steve Sarowitz

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Payam and Gouya Zamani

\$25,000 – \$49,999

Douglas and Suzanne Henck

Carelle Karimimanesh

Jeff Smisek and Diana Strassman

Holly and Jeremy Taylor

Mehrnaz Vahid and Shahin Ahdieh

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Katherine Ashley

AWAF Fellowship Program, Founding Members

Sein Chew and Isaac Souede

Soo Cho

Patricia Davis and Wesley Callender

Estate of Josephine A Kuntz

Paul Glist and Karla Jamir

Jamie Gorelick and Richard Waldhorn

and Michard Waldhorf

Danai Gurira

Christine Hallen-Berg and Vincent LaBarbera

Rachel and Thomas Harrison

Harry Heiman

Tara Hogan Charles

Monica Karuturi

Frank Kendall and Beth Halpern

David and Mara Khorram

Leif and Ivonne King

Dr. Paul Lee

Laura Loeb and Howard Morse

Joanne Moore

Jacqueline Moy

Daniel and Bahia Muriello

Rosita Najmi and Craig Hammer

Riaz Rabbani and Martha Jalali

Megan and Jason Rvan

Shahrzad Saririan

Christine and James Savage

Shideh Shayan Smith and David Smith

Paul and Sharon Strain

Susanne Taslimi

Sarah and David Vanderveen

Michelle and Rishi Varma

Dawn Vermilya

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Dr. Dina Al-Sowayel and Tony Chase

Shelly Anand

Jamie Boucher

and Cameron Boucher-Khan

May Chen and Yabo Lin

Heeten Choxi

Martha Cochran

Ward Coe

Christine Comstock and Robert Lorenz

Anisa Cott and David Martin

Jennifer and Joe Duran

Jackie Eghrari-Sabet and Sina A. Sabet

Guitty and Abdolhossein Ejtemai

David Golanty

Raed Gonzalez

Barbara Goyette

Melanie Gray and Mark Wawro

Charles and Christine Henck

Angela Hogate

Lynne and Joe Horning

Lisa and Sanjay Kalavar

Betsy Krieger

Sarah and Randy Lake

Cathie and Mike Lawler

Glenn Leiter

Qi Li and Jie Qu

Robert Meyer and Terri Edersheim

Shabnam Mogharabi

Kerry Mogharebi

and Domenick Flory Sheela Murthy

Dawn Oh

Kalli O'Malley and Terry Giles

Elissa Preheim

James and Barbara Shea

Morgan and David Shin

Amy and Ken Snell

Zhang Xin





Not until we reach full equality will we all soar

Tahirih Justice Center Locations

NATIONAL & GREATER DC AREA

6400 Arlington Blvd.
Suite 400
Falls Church, VA 22042
(p) 571-282-6161
(f) 571-282-6162
Justice@tahirih.org
GreaterDC@tahirih.org

ATLANTA, GA

230 Peachtree Street NW Suite 1960 Atlanta, GA 30303 (p) 470-481-4700 (f) 470-481-7400 Atlanta@tahirih.org

BALTIMORE, MD

211 E. Lombard Street Suite 307 Baltimore, MD 21202 (p) 410-999-1900 (f) 410-630-7539 Baltimore@tahirih.org

HOUSTON, TX

1717 St. James Place Suite 450 Houston, TX 77056 (p) 713-496-0100 (f) 713-481-1793 Houston@tahirih.org

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, CA

881 Sneath Lane Suite 115 San Bruno, CA 94066 (p) 650-270-2100 (f) 650-466-0006 SFBayArea@tahirih.org

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