





I WANT  
PEACE IN  
THE WORLD



I WANT TO  
EMPOWER &  
MOBILIZE YOUTH IN  
THE COMMUNITY



I want to  
nurture the  
Impoverished.

# 2018 Annual Report



CENTER FOR ARAB  
AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY



## A message from our leadership

We are thrilled to share with you highlights of another impactful year for the Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP). As the only Arab American community foundation in the United States, CAAP envisions a just and equitable world bolstered by active, strategic Arab American philanthropy. We work toward this vision by shaping perceptions of Arab Americans; serving donors through a variety of charitable mechanisms; improving communities through grantmaking; and developing leaders by equipping Arab Americans, particularly youth, with the tools to support causes they are passionate about.

Since 2010, CAAP has grown from housing just four funds to now housing more than 125 funds that have awarded more than \$8 million in grants to nonprofits across the globe. This year was especially exciting for CAAP, as we hosted our first-ever Threads of Giving Gala honoring Dr. Farouk Shami; expanded our scholarship funds to award a total of \$123,500 to 43 students; and launched a campaign that raised more than \$150,000 for new American families from Syria, Yemen and Iraq

through our Building Blocks for New Americans Fund, among many other accomplishments.

Seeing our vision manifest has never been more critical than at this moment in time. It is imperative that we do our part to uplift people around the world through philanthropy, because, as you'll see on the following pages, philanthropy has the power to elevate our voices, create change and leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Maha Freij  
CAAP Director



Hussien Y. Shousher  
CAAP Advisory Board  
Chair

## ABOUT CAAP

### Our Mission:

Building vibrant societies by uniting and strengthening the collective power of Arab American giving

### Our Vision:

A just and equitable world nurtured by the active participation of Arab American giving

### Our Core Values:

- Improve communities
- Serve donors
- Build leaders
- Shape perceptions

Visit [www.centeraap.org](http://www.centeraap.org) to learn more.

2651 Saulino Court, Dearborn MI 48120 | [caap@accesscommunity.org](mailto:caap@accesscommunity.org)

A national institution of ACCESS



# The Year in Numbers

(Oct. 1, 2017 – Sept. 30, 2018)

**\$1,235,644**

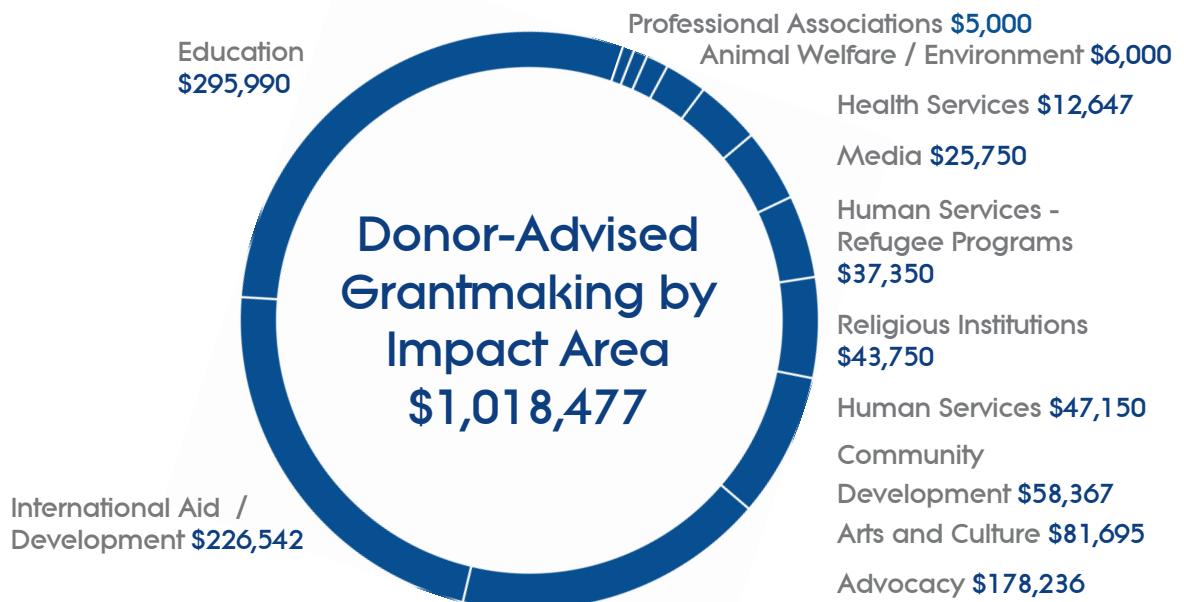
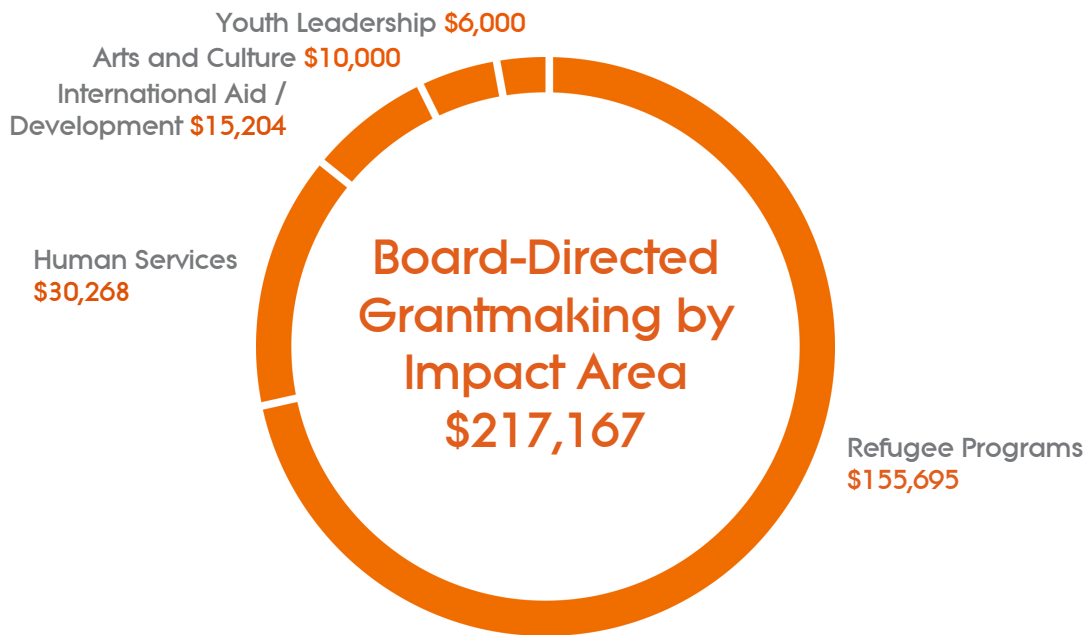
granted to organizations  
around the world

**43**

scholarships  
awarded

**227**

grants  
made







## Total Grantmaking by Location \$1,235,644



Arab American / Arab  
\$849,890



Non-Arab  
\$385,754





# CAAP hosts inaugural gala



## March 16, 2018, marked a momentous occasion: CAAP's inaugural Threads of Giving Gala.

Held for the first time, the long-awaited event represented a milestone in CAAP's evolution, bringing more than 200 people together at the Houston, Texas venue and netting more than \$75,000.

CAAP honored Dr. Farouk Shami, entrepreneur and founder of Farouk Systems, Inc., with the first Outstanding Arab American Philanthropist of the Year award. To close out the evening, world-renowned musicians Le Trio Joubran dazzled attendees with their mastery of the oud.

As CAAP's first high-level fundraising event, the Threads of Giving Gala helped us get one step closer to our vision of a just and equitable world nurtured by strategic Arab American giving.



## Farouk Shami: An outstanding Arab American philanthropist

Dr. Farouk Shami exemplifies CAAP's mission of giving back. He is a visionary businessman and a committed, compassionate philanthropist.

As an innovator and problem solver, Farouk's career progression came naturally. His ammonia-free hair care system, which earned him the title in 1986 of first hairdresser to secure a patent on a hair care product, set him on the path to become founder of Farouk Systems, Inc., a now multimillion-dollar company.

Farouk's philanthropic endeavors began through his commitment to supporting local charities, such as the Arab American Cultural and Community Center in Houston, and assisting with relief efforts after natural disasters such as the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Ike, Sandy, and most recently Harvey, in the U.S. When Hurricane Harvey hit, he pledged \$5 million in products to local shelters, organizations and hairdressers.

In addition, to support and create opportunities for his home country of Palestine, Farouk has built greenhouses to provide healthy and sustainable food sources for the community and employ those in need of economic support. Farouk has also invested in the youth of Palestine through the creation of educational opportunities. He founded the Dr. Jamil Shami Fund for Higher Education in his late brother's honor to provide 100 students with scholarships every year for the duration of his life. In addition, he established the Sheikh Mohammed Shami School in honor of his late father to educate Palestinian girls in STEM fields.

To date, Farouk has given to countless humanitarian, educational, economic, medical and relief efforts. He has built a strong reputation not only as an innovative businessman, but also as a philanthropist with a natural desire to support and elevate those in need. The legacy of his charitable giving will certainly continue to impact many lives around the world for years to come.

*Save the date for our second Threads of Giving Gala on Sept. 21, 2019, in Boston, Mass.*





# Serving Donors



## Collective Arab American giving brings education to thousands

As a mother of four, Hoda Succar realized that many students are living and learning in communities segregated by race and class, rarely having the opportunity to experience the diversity of our nation or be exposed to its cultural institutions. Hoda wanted to be a catalyst for change but knew she couldn't do it alone. She reached out to CAAP and established the *Learning . Loving . Sharing our Heritage Fund* in May 2018, designated to support the Arab American National Museum (AANM). The mission of Hoda's fund is to bring every 7th grade student in the state of Michigan to AANM each year to build a stronger understanding and appreciation for Arab American culture at a young age.

Hoda's decision to partner with CAAP to launch her fund was easy. From handling the administration of the fund, to promoting a community outreach strategy, Hoda recalls how CAAP provided the right tools, expertise and resources to simplify the process. Most importantly, her vision aligns with CAAP's mission to strengthen the collective power of Arab American giving. "CAAP is a wonderful way

to show all that our community does in one voice, which makes a much larger impact than each individual project," Hoda says.

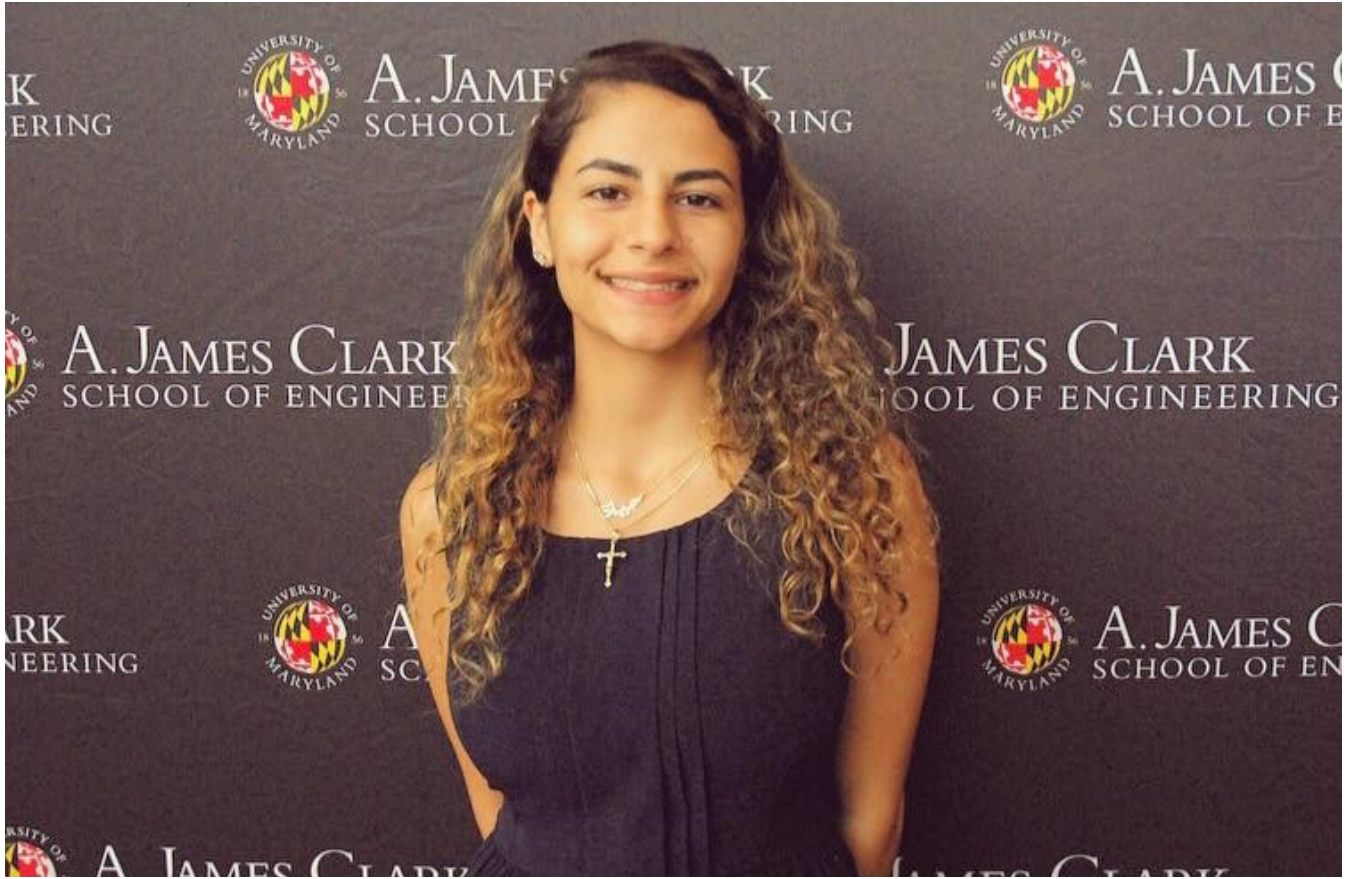
To support the goal of exposing students to the history and culture of Arab Americans, Hoda and other Arab American leaders created the Zyara Connect committee, through which committee members host fun and interactive community fundraising events like dance workshops. All contributions raised support the *Learning . Loving . Sharing Our Heritage Fund* to help provide transportation to AANM, tour guides, and educational materials to enlighten young minds. "By coming together, we can inch our way every day toward creating a better future for our kids and grandkids," says Hoda.

Learn more about the *Learning . Loving . Sharing Our Heritage Fund*, and about establishing a fund with CAAP at [centeraap.org/funds](http://centeraap.org/funds).

**"Education is the best way to take away ignorance and wrong impressions — it's the only way to gain hearts and minds"**

- Hoda Succar





## Scholarship fund connects passion with purpose

When Nafa Khalaf and his wife Maha Kasim approached CAAP in early 2018, they knew they wanted to find a way to support Arab American students studying engineering, but they didn't know where to begin. Nafa and Maha decided to establish the *Khalaf Family Scholarship Fund* at CAAP, giving them the mechanism to act on their passion for education and for empowering the next generation.

CAAP staff worked closely with the couple to develop the scholarship criteria, create an outreach and distribution strategy, and review all the applications that were submitted. In its first year, the fund awarded two scholarships to high-achieving Arab American students studying bioengineering and biomedical engineering. The fund will support several exceptional students across the country every year, allowing Nafa and Maha to continue fulfilling their philanthropic goals.

**“This scholarship will enable me to grow into a more grateful and determined person...and push me to accomplish greater things and prove that hard work indeed pays off.”**

**- Hayat Jabbour, Khalaf Family Scholarship recipient**

# Building leaders



## Building the next generation of empowered leaders through youth philanthropy

CAAP's Teen Grantmaking Initiative (TGI) is the only Arab American youth philanthropy program in the country. Youth, ages 12 through 19, in TGI's two chapters in Dearborn, Mich., and San Diego, Calif., learn valuable leadership skills by utilizing philanthropy as a tool. This year, TGI members raised and granted \$6,000 to nonprofits in Detroit and San Diego focusing on race relations, education, mental wellness, and substance abuse and homelessness prevention, ultimately supporting more than 575 young people. Since its launch in 2011, TGI has granted more than \$40,000 to nonprofits addressing a variety of issues facing youth.

TGI members also participate in site visits and community service projects with grantees and the broader community. For example, TGI students

actively participated in the planning for the first-ever ACCESS YouthFest in May 2018. This event celebrated youth from across ACCESS' diverse programs. More than 100 people attended and nearly \$4,000 was raised to benefit youth programming including TGI. When surveyed about their experience in TGI, 100% of participants said that after TGI they "observe difficulties in the world and are able to take action to improve them," showcasing that, through TGI, CAAP is growing a future generation of leaders that will work toward making our world a better place.



"I think I took a lot of things from TGI, but one of the biggest things is the importance of community. And whether that's in the group or the community at large, I think it's really important to work as a team to get things done."

- Fatima Taj, TGI alumna





## Muslim women leaders in STEM dream big via scholarship fund

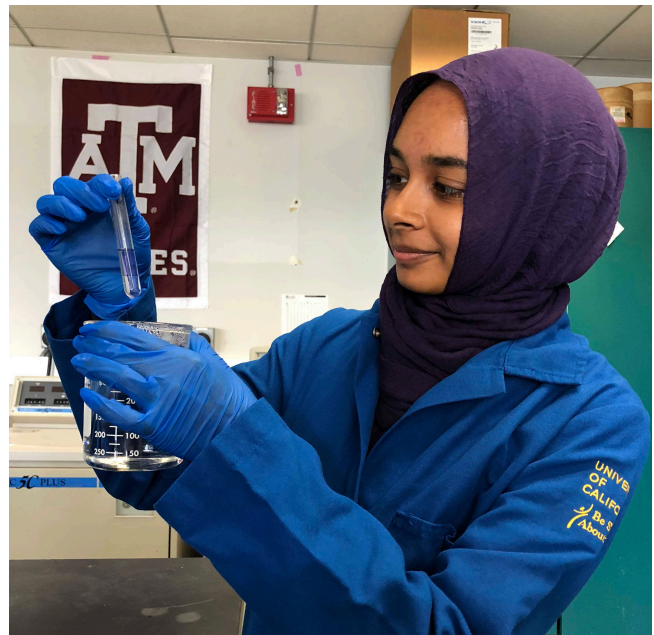
Amina Larbah is a third-year medical student at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine. She has long held an interest in helping underserved communities, which led her to pursue a degree in medicine and volunteer with organizations such as the San Bernardino Free Clinic. Her long-term goal is to pursue the fields of pediatrics and preventative medicine.

Amina is just one of the remarkable women who received the Dr. Adawia Alousi STEM Scholarship for Muslim Women in 2018. The Alousi Fund is the first and only one of its kind, honoring the incredible legacy of pioneering pharmacologist Dr. Adawia Alousi.



Launched at CAAP in 2016 with a \$500,000 endowment, the fund inspires the next generation of Muslim women leaders in STEM, placing highest priority on immigrants and refugees. The Alousi Fund supported its first cohort of 11 women in 2017 with \$50,000 and awarded another \$50,000 in 2018 to 16 women.

Through the Alousi Fund at CAAP, Amina and many other young Muslim women have the chance of a lifetime. They are making an impact with their incredible stories and commitment to research and volunteerism. There is often an unfair stereotype that Muslim women are uneducated and oppressed. However, Muslim women in STEM are truly breaking barriers and overcoming personal challenges to follow their passions – pursuing careers as doctors, engineers, pharmacists, scientists and so much more.



**“It is an honor to be recognized as an Alousi Scholar because it allows me to be an ambassador for my fellow Muslim women. As a leader in this field, I hope to show younger generations that it is possible to follow your passions and create a lasting impact regardless of your background.”**

**-Sahar Ajrouche, 2018 Adawia Alousi Scholar**

Read about all of the 2018 Adawia Alousi Scholars at <http://www.centeraap.org/blog/congratulations-to-the-2018-adawia-alousi-scholars/>



# Improving Communities

## One generous moment, lives changed forever

When the Ghuzlan family escaped to the United States as refugees after their home in Syria was bombed, their family of 11 struggled to find affordable housing that would keep them safe and united. They realized they needed to buy a home, but they didn't have the necessary funds to do so.

After learning about the family's situation, a generous group of community members in Kalamazoo, Mich., came together to raise money for a down payment on a home. CAAP was able to match the community fundraising efforts with additional support through the *Building Blocks for New Americans (BBNA) Fund*, which provides assistance to Syrian, Iraqi and Yemeni new American families. Since its inception in December 2016, CAAP has raised more than \$450,000 through the *BBNA Fund* to help hundreds of refugee families like the Ghuzlans on their path to financial stability.

**My children are here.  
They see themselves  
living here. Their future  
is here now."**

**- Samer Ghuzlan**

Watch the full story of the Ghuzlan family and learn more about BBNA at <http://www.centercaap.org/funds/featured-fund/>



## Dalia Association: A Palestinian community foundation

The Dalia Association aims to strengthen community philanthropy in Palestine and throughout the Palestinian diaspora. Dalia makes grants to support inspirational programs, especially grassroots efforts; creates partnerships by connecting people with shared expertise, contacts and other assets; and holds convenings to raise awareness around issues that affect Palestinian civil society. Its programs encourage giving and revive local traditions of philanthropy and volunteerism.

The Dalia Association established the *Dalia Association Palestinian Community Fund* at CAAP in 2015 to engage donors in the United States. Its mission is fulfilled through a variety of programs that empower Palestinians through giving, including:

- Women Supporting Women Program, which brings together women to mobilize local resources for projects of their choice. This program recently made grants supporting women's groups in Hebron, Palestine, including a greenhouse project that provides healthy food and a project that provides jobs to local women practicing the art of threading wool.



- Village Decides Programs, which empower entire villages through grantmaking projects, such as a recent initiative in Al Zawiya village that distributed waste bins to help address waste accumulation.
- IBDA' Youth Program that focuses on enhancing opportunities for youth to become leaders in their communities.
- Community Giving Programs such as The Education Fund that provides scholarships to students pursuing a higher education. In return, these students give back by tutoring schoolchildren.

**"Al ouna – community giving – is an inherent part of our culture and heritage."**

- Aisha Mansour,  
executive director,  
Dalia Association

Learn more about the Dalia Association Palestinian Community Fund at <http://www.centeraap.org/funds/view-our-funds/dalia-association-palestinian-community-fund/>



## Center for Arab American Philanthropy Revenues and Expenses October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

Revenue:	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Individuals	\$838,782	\$538,132	\$201,077	\$1,577,991
Foundations	-	-	-	-
Fees	\$70,426	-	-	\$70,426
Change in Value	-	-	\$108,338	\$108,338
Endowed Donor-Advised Fund Distribution	\$67,617	-	(\$67,617)	-
Total Income	\$976,825	\$538,132	\$241,798	\$1,756,755
Release from Restriction	\$442,804			
<b>Total Unrestricted Income</b>	<b>\$1,419,629</b>			
Expenses:				
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$144,396			
Grants:				
Board Directed Grant Making	\$217,167			
Donor-Advised Grant Making	\$1,018,477			
Total Grants	\$1,235,644			
Other Program Expenses:				
Software Fee	\$9,000			
Consultants	\$6,667			
Printing, Supplies and Publicity	\$10,455			
Conferences and Meetings	\$4,783			
TGI Group Start Up	\$3,000			
Other Expenses	\$4,740			
Total Other Program Expenses	\$38,645			
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,418,685</b>			

## CAAP PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BOARD, STAFF AND PARTNERS

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## CAAP Funds (as of Sept. 30, 2018)

### Thank you to all of our fund-holders!

#### Donor-Advised Funds

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#### Endowed Funds

##### AAAEA Chicago Endowment Fund

Bustan Al-Funun Fund for Arab Arts in America  
 CAAP Operating Endowment Fund  
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 Dr. Adawia Alousi Endowed STEM Scholarship Fund  
 Dr. Philip M. Kayal Endowed Fund for Arab American Research  
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 Lubna Emil Bathish Fund  
 Muna and Basem Hishmeh Endowed Fund  
 NAAMA Health Operations Endowment Fund  
 NAAMA Jerusalem Lectureship Endowment Fund  
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#### Agency Funds

Arava Institute Arab Student Scholarship Fund  
 Dalia Association Palestinian Community Fund  
 Michigan Arab Orchestra Fund  
 NAAP Arab American Scholarship Fund  
 Palestine Community Advocacy Network Fund  
 Palestine Legal Fund  
 Solidarity Studios Fund  
 Taawon (Welfare Association) Fund

#### Impact Area Donor-Advised Funds

Boosting Young Tech Entrepreneurs Fund  
 Building Young Tech Entrepreneurs (BYTE) Fund  
 Cultural Dialogue through the Arts Fund  
 Dr. Adawia Alousi STEM Scholarship Fund  
 Dr. Philip M. Kayal Fund for Arab American Research  
 Education Empowers Arab Americans Fund  
 Education Without Barriers Fund  
 Fostering Leadership for Young Palestinians Fund  
 Friends of Alixa Naff Fund  
 Hearing the Call Fund  
 Innovative Leadership for Syria Fund  
 Khalaf Family Scholarship Fund  
 Learning Loving Sharing Our Heritage Fund  
 Legacy and Innovations Fund for Transplant (LIFT)  
 Mawada Initiative Fund  
 McLennan Family Foundation Scholarship Fund  
 Music for Palestine Fund  
 Piano Keys for Syrian Kids Fund  
 Reaching Out and Advocating for Refugees (ROAR) Fund

#### Giving Circles

100 Arab Americans Who Care - Chicago  
 100 Arab American Women Who Care - Michigan  
 100 Arab American Women Who Care - Toledo  
 ACCESS Youth Giving Circle  
 Bustan Al-Funun Giving Circle

#### Board-Directed Funds

Building Blocks for New Americans Fund  
 Community Grantmaking Fund  
 Disaster Relief Fund  
 Empower Women and Children Fund  
 Teen Grantmaking Initiative - Dearborn  
 Teen Grantmaking Initiative - Yalla San Diego

**For more information about establishing a fund or contributing to an existing fund, please contact:**

**Katy Asuncion | CAAP Donor Services & Program Officer**  
**khanway@accesscommunity.org | 313-842-5130**

## CAAP Major Supporters

### Our deepest gratitude to our 2017-2018 major supporters (Oct. 1, 2017 - Sept. 30, 2018)\*

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## CENTER FOR ARAB AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY

### ABOUT CAAP

The Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP) is a national community foundation. An institution of ACCESS, CAAP's objective is to unite and empower the Arab American community by demonstrating the impact of giving together. We improve communities by making grants to nonprofit organizations. We serve donors by providing them with smart tools and resources to carry out their philanthropic giving. We build leaders by educating and inspiring Arab Americans, including youth, to realize their potential for change. Most of all, we shape perceptions about Arab Americans by highlighting their generous heritage and exceptional contributions to society.

Visit [www.centeraap.org](http://www.centeraap.org) to learn more.

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