

Afghan Refugee School Impact and Youth Mentoring Programs

Youth art from Uplift Charity's Art Therapy Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our program services for newcomer Afghan families include:

-  **Family Support**
services for parents of school-age children 5 to 18 years
-  **Early Childhood Education**
and support for parents of children ages birth to 5
-  **Emotional Health and Wellbeing**
services for school-age children 5 to 18 years
-  **Educational Support**
and culturally affirming recreational services for school-age children 5 to 18 years
-  **Mentoring Services**
for youth and young adults ages 15 to 24

Our community centered strategic program design provides opportunities for capacity building at three levels; individual, organizational and regional. We are co-creating a best practice model for coalition building, skill-based learning and client and healing centered trauma informed program design. The design leverages a tri-level community of practice (CoP) with Statewide operational trainings, regional coalition collaboration and subject area workshops co-led with coalition experts.

Supplemental benefits already being realized include:

At a glance

A Community Led Transformation Model has been created to support this unique and comprehensive statewide program to serve Afghan Refugees through Ethnic Community-Based Organizations (ECBOs).



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COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS	CROSS COALITION PARTNERSHIPS IMPROVE PROGRAM EFFICACY AND SERVICES FOR COMMUNITY	JOB CREATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	TRUST BUILDING: ACROSS RELIGIOUS ORGS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES AND ECBOS	CREATING A CALIFORNIA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER INVENTORY

PROGRAM GOAL



The program goal is to engage and connect Afghan youth and families with available resources, providing them the support they need to succeed academically and socially while integrating into their communities.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND APPROACH

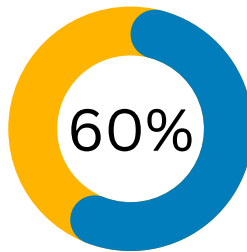


We have 47 partner organizations who are working together to deliver the Afghan Refugee School Impact and Youth Mentoring Programs. All of these partners are experienced in serving newcomer families, many are Afghan led. Services are provided by qualified and trained staff who are bilingual (speak Dari and/or Pashto) and who have lived experiences that help them understand the challenges and needs of Afghan families, children and youth.

Community Needs Assessment Survey

Across all four regions, the ARSI/AYM community needs assessment survey was completed by a total of 173 respondents representing Afghan refugees and families.

Survey respondents **included more than 60% completing in Dari or Pashto**. The program has been designed with a cultural, linguistic and healing centered approach.



Key metrics

4 Regions

47 Subawardees

80+ Projects

~150 New program partnerships across coalition



2,500

Number of families on track to be served

ARSI/AYM pioneering a community-led transformation model...



IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY



The ARSI/AYM framework promotes replicability of best practices for sustained community transformation. It encourages greater cross-sector collaboration amongst refugee resettlement, religious and community based organizations and a shift in mindset from one of competition to shared accountability for success. Thus building the trusted partnerships that are the foundation to better serve the community over the long term.

