

2024 Giving Circle Application

Member-Nominated Nonprofit

Pillars of Peace



Leader

Imam Khalid Latif, Board Chair



Summarize what is the core mission & vision

Pillars of Peace's mission is dedicated to creating communities of care. We provide culturally and linguistically conscious services to survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, with expertise serving the diverse Muslim community, using a holistic, trauma-informed approach. Through our empowerment and support model, we aim to reduce and eliminate harm within the vulnerable populations we serve. Our vision is to provide safe spaces and a variety of services to all survivors of domestic and gender-based violence and to advocate for the vulnerable populations we serve.

Briefly explain when your nonprofit was founded, why and by whom.

Pillars of Peace was founded by members of the Islamic Center at NYU community in order to address a gap in appropriate residential services for Muslim survivors of domestic and

gender-based violence. ICNYU community members addressed the gap with Imam Khalid Latif and they came together to create this organization.

Who is your constituency and approximately how many people are served by your nonprofit?

While we welcome everyone, our specialization lies in serving the Muslim, Arab, Middle Eastern, North African, Central Asian, and South Asian communities. Since the beginning of 2023, we have served 237 clients through our case management program. Through this program we provide resources for legal services, food stamps, rapid rehousing, and act as advocates for our clients.

What is the impact of your nonprofit over the past five years?

We have provided various services including case management, financial relief, mental health counseling (temporarily on hold), and our shelter Noora House. In 2023 alone we distributed \$48,000 in financial relief in partnership with the Zakat Fund. At our inception, we also raised enough money to purchase a space in NYC and completely renovate it to be our women and children's shelter. This shelter is filling a gap we have in the NYC area due to it being women only and providing halal food options. We have just started accepting clients. Also through our mental health counseling program that we are hoping to start up again, in 2023 alone we provided about 300 hours of mental health counseling to a population that overwhelmingly identifies as Muslim (83%).

What is your goal for the next 1-5 years?

In the next 5 years we are hoping to continue to grow Noora House into a sustainable, holistic housing solution. Being a full service shelter with case management, activities, and completely halal food requires consistent funding and good operational structures and we are hoping to build that out. We are also hoping to expand our case management to over all boroughs of NYC by hiring more case managers. Lastly, we are hoping to set up a legal services arm where we provide family, immigration, and housing legal services.

What is one key item our giving circle members should know?

We know that many Muslim survivors face culturally specific issues and pressures that many non-Muslim agencies and professionals will not understand. We believe context is key to providing the best care for our clients in their most vulnerable moments. We are proud to be a culturally conscious and trauma informed agency that understands the needs of these populations and will also link them to resources they never knew existed.

If you receive funding from the Women's Giving Circle, how would you plan to use the funds?

We hope to use the funds to fund our financial relief program. We have awarded thousands of dollars to survivors for them to pay for clothes, childcare, security deposits, and so much more to help them on their journey to independence and a life free from harm. We hope to use the money we receive to provide microgrants to our clients who work with our case managers and are looking for sustainable solutions and care.

Learn More About Pillars of Peace

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Nonprofit Tax ID# 83-3597054
Follow on Social Media: [@pillarsofpeaceny](#)

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Additional Information

■ POP-2023-Annual-Report-1.pdf