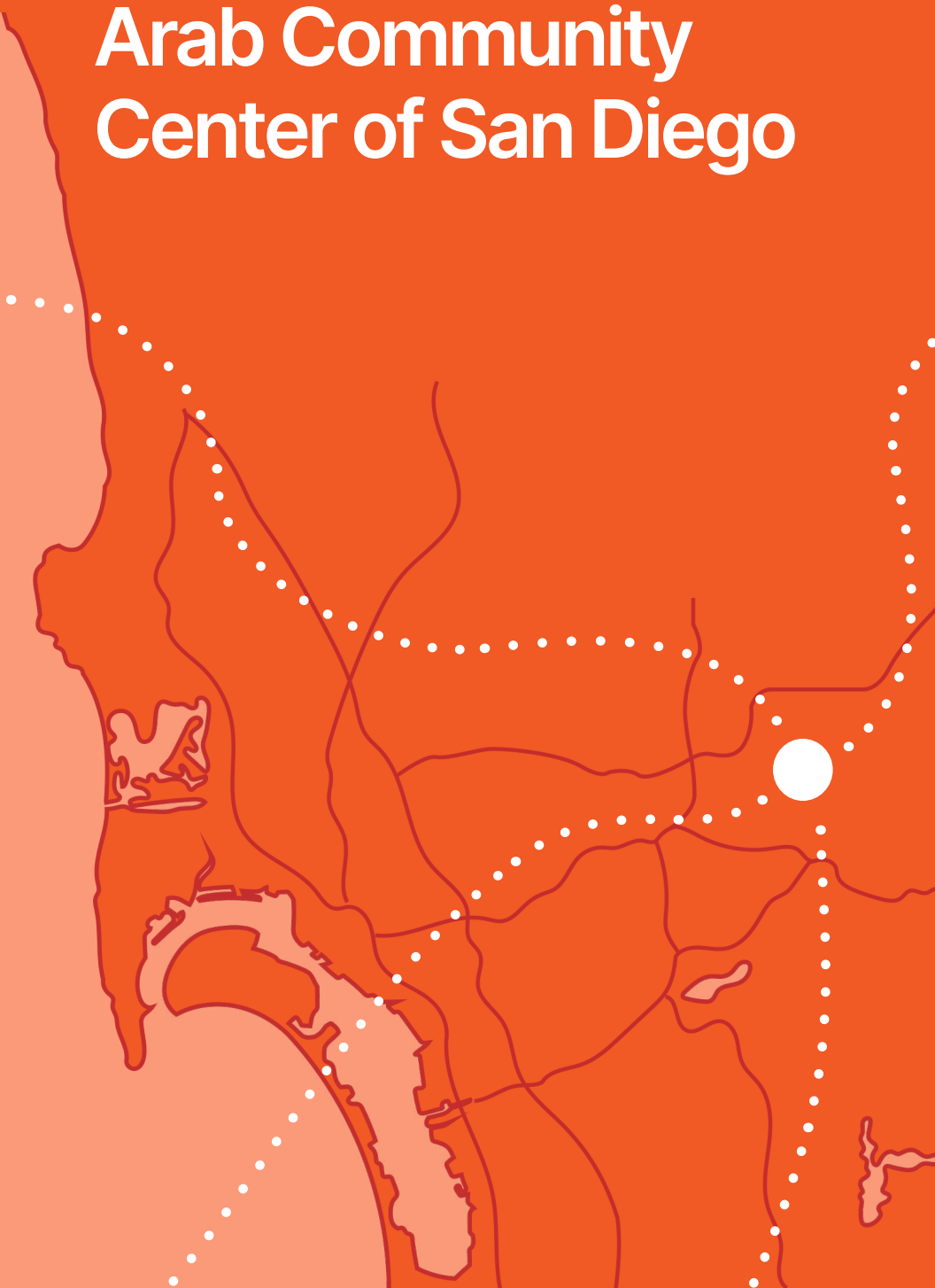


MAJDAL

2021 — Annual Report

Arab Community Center of San Diego



Mission

Majdal, the Arab Community Center of San Diego, is a grassroots institution committed to uplifting the Arab community in San Diego. Our mission is to support community members in overcoming any social, economic, and political challenges they may face in pursuit of their goals. We seek to foster an environment rooted in trust and support and to cultivate a communal identity based on a deep understanding of the rich histories and cultures present among us.

Vision

We seek to build a foundation for political power that can achieve a just and dignified future and a continued right to individual and collective self-determination for all members of the Arab community in San Diego, including youth, women, workers, families, and elders.

Dear Community,

I want to thank you for your long-time support, and especially in recent years. I joined the Majdal Center two years ago amidst all the uncertainty of the pandemic. Our constants during this time have been your support and our determination to strengthen our community's resilience.

Reflecting on 2021, we accomplished all that we set out to do—and more. We grew our team from two to seven members, including a second Community Health Worker, a Community Support Navigator, and three youth fellows.

We revived our youth programming with the launch of our Youth Leadership Council, a mentorship program, and an after-school program.

We campaigned for a more democratic San Diego by advocating for our community's participation in redistricting. One of my favorite memories was witnessing community members take to the mic in front of El Cajon City Council.

I am excited to share with you some of our favorite highlights in this annual report, capturing themes of community migration, maps, and mobilization.

As a community-driven organization, our growth relies on your continued support. Please consider making a donation towards our work in 2022. Thank you!



Sincerely,
 Ramah Awad
 Programs Manager & Steering Committee Chair

Support our work by making a donation online at majdalcenter.org/donate or by check payable to "Mission Edge, Majdal Center" and mail to:
Mission Edge San Diego PO Box 102894, Pasadena, CA 91189-2894.

Steering Committee



Ramah
Awad

Programs Manager &
Steering Committee Chair



Selma
Hassane

Co-Chair of Steering
Committee



Nadine
Hassoun

Finance &
Fundraising Coordinator



Rinad
Taha

Youth Outreach
Coordinator



Yasmeeen
Obeid

Advocacy Coordinator &
Redistricting Fellow

Fellows



Farida
Erikat

Youth Justice Fellow



Rami
Ibrahim

Economic Justice Fellow

Staff



Hadeel
Kareem

Community Support
Navigator



Mohammed
Abdul Kareem

Community Health Worker



Aeshaa
Salman

Community Health Worker

Advisory Board



Hatem
Mohtaseb



Laila
Allali



Mohammad
Alhasan



Asmaa
Kheirallah



Loubna
Qutami

Read more about
our growing team online at
majdalcenter.org/our-team

Our community members are at the center of our leadership.

We launched...

...our Youth Leadership Council!

Our Youth Leadership Council is a space for high-school and college-aged youth to develop leadership skills and build community. The council leads monthly social, cultural, and political events while participating in active campaigns.

In 2021, we planned 5 events with participation ranging from 20 to 60 youth and their family members!



...an after-school program!

The center has always served as a space for learning. After going virtual in 2020, we brought back our tutoring program in-person!

Our after-school program and virtual tutoring supported 20 students with their homework and college applications on a weekly basis.

...a Newcomer Youth Mentorship Program!

In partnership with License to Freedom, we offered one-to-one mentorship to 15 young women who resettled in the U.S. with their families within the past five years. We supported them with navigating life in San Diego and working toward their educational and professional goals.



We supported community members with the health, housing & economic resources they need!



Nearly two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued to support our community members with accessing COVID-19 information, testing, and vaccination.

We hosted COVID-19 workshops and distributed health supplies. On a daily basis, we supported community members access rental assistance, Section 8 housing, and other social welfare programs.



Through the CalHOPE Crisis Counseling Program by the San Diego Refugee Communities Coalition, we offered mental health and emotional support to over 100 community members.

Lastly, we partnered with the Center of Excellence on Health Equity at the University of California-San Diego to conduct research on refugee communities' views toward hypertension and dementia.

Our approach to community health is holistic.

We advocated for a more democratic San Diego!

Our civic engagement campaign for 2021 was Redistricting! Every 10 years, governments undergo a redistricting process to redraw their political boundaries to account for demographic changes.

As a community that is underrepresented in the Census data, we advocated for our communities' participation in redistricting through:

- ♦ Mapping over 300 Arab families in El Cajon and San Diego County through workshops & surveys.
- ♦ Drafting and submitting three maps for El Cajon City, San Diego County, and the State of California.
- ♦ Speaking with [the media](#); we were mentioned in over 10 news articles and opinion pieces.
- ♦ Mobilizing over 50 community members to give testimony at 10 public hearings.
- ♦ Advocating for translated written materials and interpretation in Arabic.

Check out our media coverage online at majdalcenter.org/in-the-news

Our vision is to impact systemic change for the long-term betterment of our communities.



In 2022

our goals include:

1

Launching a Citizenship Readiness Program

2

Expanding our mentorship programs with a focus on academic & college readiness

3

Hosting forums to assess & address community needs

4

Conducting research projects on the history of Arab migration to San Diego

5

Advocating for greater housing resources and tenants' rights

Support our goals for 2022 by making a donation!

As a community-driven organization, we rely on your continued support. Your contribution will help sustain and grow our several services, programs, and campaigns!

We invite you to donate online:

majdalcenter.org/donate

To contribute by check, please make checks payable to "Mission Edge, Majdal Community Center" and mail to:

Mission Edge San Diego
PO Box 102894
Pasadena, CA 91189-2894

Thank you!



Thank you to our 2021 community donors, partners, and funders!

Community Donors

Since its launch in 2018, the center has largely been supported by grassroots funding. Between 2018 and 2021, a total of 325 individuals donated to the center. In 2021, 200 community donors constituted our grassroots funding.

Community Partners

Center on Policy Initiatives
 CSA San Diego County
 Islamic Center of San Diego
 San Diego Refugee Communities Coalition
 Afghan Community Culture Center
 African Coalition Workforce
 Haitian Bridge Alliance
 Horn of Africa
 Karen Organization of San Diego
 License to Freedom
 Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans
 Refugee Assistance Center
 Somali Bantu Community Organization
 Southern Sudanese Community Center of San Diego
 United Women of East African Support Team
 San Ysidro Health Center
 U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights
 Youth Organize! California

A special thanks to Nash & Associates and to our fiscal sponsor of many years, Islah Reparations Project!

Funders

California Office of Refugee Resettlement
 Center for Arab American Philanthropy
 County of San Diego - Health and Human Services Agency
 Grantmakers for Girls of Color
 National Association of County and City Health Officials
 Public Health Institute
 Resist Foundation
 Sierra Health Foundation
 Solidaire
 The California Endowment
 The Conrad Prebys Foundation
 Third Wave Fund





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