

SAKEENAH  
CANADA

+ Safety. *Serenity.* Strength.



20  
22

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

**02** About Us

---

**03** Letter From Our CEO

---

**04** Milestones

---

**05** Our Impact

---

**06** In The News

---

**07** Client Testimonials

---

**08** New Home

---

**09** Our Programs

---

**11** Our Services

---

**12** Driving Growth for 2023

---

**13** Financials

---

**14** Support Us

# INTRODUCTION

## About Us



### **The Vision**

A world where everyone has safety, serenity, and strength.

### **The Mission**

Sakeenah Canada provides essential support and services, empowering people to become healthy, independent, and thriving members of our society.

Sakeenah Canada, a national charitable organization, was founded in 2018 in response to a gap for culturally and religiously sensitive services for Muslim women and children facing domestic violence and homelessness. Since then, our services have expanded to include mental health therapy and counselling and remote casework. Sakeenah Canada has also started The People's Market, a food program that helps combat food insecurity and most recently, Sakeenah Canada became the first licensed foster care agency for Muslim children in all of North America. As of printing, Sakeenah Canada operates 7 transitional homes across Canada: Toronto, Brampton, Ottawa, London, Montreal, Winnipeg, and Milton.

## THANK YOU FROM OUR 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rabia Din, *Chair*

Uzma Chaudhry, *Vice Chair*

Hena Awan, *Secretary*

Nabila Mohammed, *Treasurer*

Ateeqa Butt, *Director*

Huma Saeedi, *Director*

Salman Khalid, *Director*

Bushra Tobah, *Director*



# LETTER FROM OUR CEO & FOUNDER Zena Chaudhry

As-salamu alaykum,

What a year. Alhumdulillah.

When I first founded Sakeenah Homes in 2018, I wanted to help provide shelter for Muslim women and children across Canada. I saw a gap in the system, and with the help of people like you, we started to fill that gap.

But then, we saw more gaps and problems that required attention - and fast. We have always wanted to provide essential services and support to those who need it, so that they can thrive.

After all, we envision a society where everyone has safety, serenity, and strength.

I am proud and grateful to announce that 2022 was our most expansive year, yet. And it's all because of YOU.

Because of YOU, this year, we launched The People's Market, our response to food insecurity - a problem that plagues 1 in 7 families across the country.

Because of YOU, this year, we became the first official licensed foster care agency for Muslim children in North America.

Because of YOU, we opened a new home in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the first shelter of its kind in the Canadian Prairies.

Thank you.

To our donors, our supporters, community partners, business owners, staff, and volunteers - thank you. None of this would have been possible without your unwavering support. From day one to now, and for years to come, I look forward to this journey with you as we continue to change and save lives together.

We hope that the doors you help open for those in need, help open the doors of Heaven for you.

Yours In Service,

*Zena Chaudhry*  
CEO Sakeenah

# MILESTONES

## 2022 AT A GLANCE



**FEBRUARY 17**

The People's Market was founded

**JANUARY 9**

Sakeenah Canada turned 4

**MARCH 8**

London Home turned 1

**MAY 13**

Brampton Home turned 2

**JUNE 24**

Annual Ottawa Gala



**JULY 31**

Montreal Home turned 1

**AUGUST 30**

Received Foster Care license



**SEPTEMBER**

Received \$1M grant from the Northpine Foundation

**OCTOBER 9**

Toronto Home turned 4

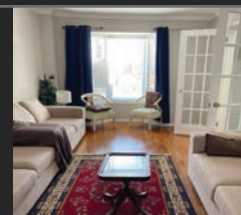


**OCTOBER 10**

Winnipeg Home opened

**NOVEMBER 1**

Ottawa Home turned 2



**NOVEMBER 11**

Sakeenah Homes rebrands to Sakeenah Canada

**NOVEMBER 11**

Annual Toronto Gala

# OUR IMPACT



## Shelter Services

Provided shelter to 156 Muslim women and children in 2022



## Remote Services

Served 1,572 clients remotely in 2022



## Services Provided

Provided over 15 services such as legal support, food support, life skills and employment training



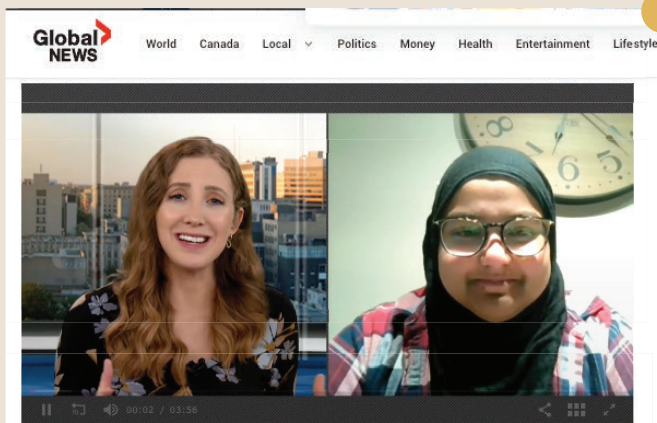
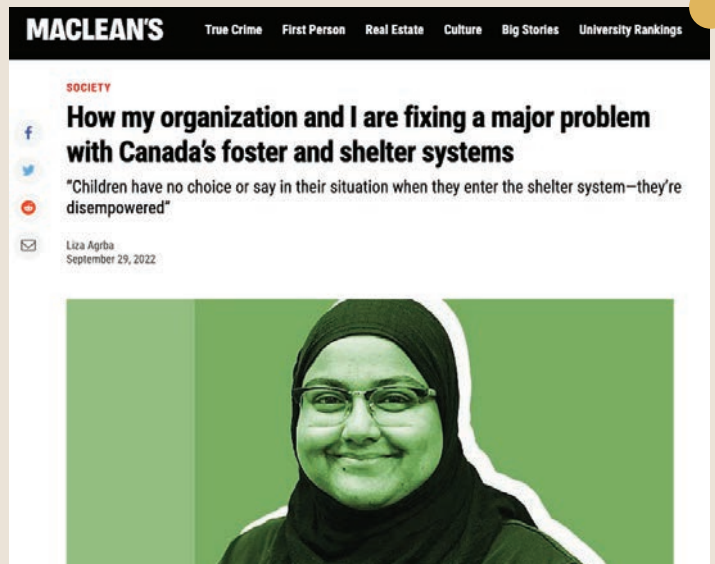
## Cities Served

Served clients in over 45 cities and regions in Canada from Vancouver to Halifax, from Yukon to Windsor

**14,717 people served across all programs & services since inception**

# IN THE NEWS

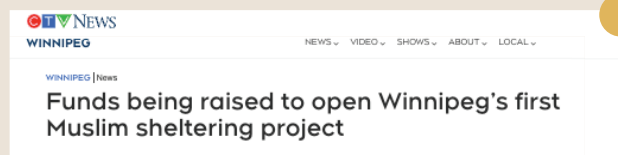
In 2022, Sakeenah Canada has been featured in news outlets nationwide bringing attention to the growing demand for our services as a result of the ongoing pandemic, which has emphasized the seclusion and violence Muslim women and children face. Working with local and national media organizations, Sakeenah Canada continues to contribute to raising awareness about our community's needs and the support required to accomplish our goals and aspirations.



## Shelter for Muslim women and children opens in Winnipeg

Posted October 18 2022 11:23am

"We have had women and children who have come to us and said 'we've been to mainstream shelters and we've left and gone back to these situations.'" Sakeenah Homes has opened a shelter in Winnipeg with culturally-specific supports for Muslim women and children. Founder Zena Chaudhry talks about the local need.



# CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

“Dear House Manager: Your compassion and kindness made my stay here less stressful. Thank you for everything you have done for me. You inspire me in many ways and I hope to do what you do, one day. Inshallah!”

“My son and I left the shelter to start a new chapter of our life in our own apartment. Thank you so much for your kind assistance during this extremely difficult time in my life. It came just when I needed it most! It is wonderful. I would like to seek your guidance in future as well.”

“I am grateful for the support you provided in helping me get back on my feet. Your valuable support and guidance helped me to gain the priority status for housing and help with getting in touch with a lawyer. Many thanks to Sakeenah Canada for providing me with a warm and safe home to stay as well.”





# NEW HOME Winnipeg



In October 2022, Sakeenah Canada opened its sixth transitional shelter in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

“There is a growing Muslim population in Manitoba, and there is also a large number of immigrants that settle in Winnipeg. It is often refugees that face the greatest challenges - language barriers, financial difficulties, a lack of education and vocational training,” explains Zena

Chaudhry, founder and CEO of Sakeenah Canada . “It is difficult for those with so many obstacles to seek help should they need it. And our experience working with various vulnerable groups and communities across Canada has shown us that they do in fact need it.”

The first of its kind, Sakeenah Canada’s Winnipeg Home can accommodate 14 women and children.



# OUR PROGRAMS

## Our Homes

Sakeenah Canada was founded in response to a gap for culturally and religiously sensitive services for women and children facing domestic violence and homelessness. Seeking to address a crucial need within our communities, Sakeenah Canada offers safe homes for Muslim women and children to reside in while dedicated staff assist them with their individual situations.

Our homes, situated nationwide, serve as safe havens where women and children find refuge,

receive nourishing meals and essential items. Most importantly, our residents benefit from a holistic support system that aids their recovery and empowers them to further develop skills necessary for independence and success through in-home workshops, activities and support. On-site house managers, caseworkers, social workers and mental health counsellors are readily available to provide assistance to every resident of our homes. Since inception, Sakeenah Canada has provided 422 women and children with shelter nation-wide.



### Toronto

Accommodates 9 women and children

Provided shelter to over 64 women and children since it opened in October 2018



### Montreal

Accommodates 9 women and children

Provided shelter to over 27 women and children since it opened in June 2021



### Brampton

Accommodates 12 women and children

Provided shelter to over 61 women and children since it opened March 2020



### London

Accommodates 12 women and children

Provided shelter to over 45 women and children since it opened in February 2021



### Ottawa

Accommodates 20 women and children

Provided shelter to over 66 women and children since it opened in October 2020



### Winnipeg

Accommodates 14 women and children

Opened October 2022

# The People's Market



In 2022, we launched The People's Market, an initiative aimed at empowering members of our community struggling with food insecurity. This program offers a dignified grocery store experience to individuals in need, ensuring they have access to

essential food and supplies for their families. Through collaboration with The Mississauga Food Bank, we successfully introduced this innovative food bank model, benefiting our clients and the broader community.



# Sakeenah Foster Care

Sakeenah Foster Care aims to facilitate the connection between Muslim foster children and Muslim foster families. As the pioneering Muslim Foster Care agency in North America, our primary objective is to ensure culturally and religiously sensitive care within a safe and loving home environment for children currently within the foster care system.

Sakeenah Canada works to train Muslim foster families and raise awareness in the community regarding the specific needs of Muslim children in

foster care. Our agency collaborates with family service agencies to receive referrals and match Muslim foster children with suitable foster families. Our commitment extends beyond basic care, as we strive to provide comprehensive support services for these children throughout their time in foster care and during the process of reunification with their families, if appropriate. This includes therapy for the child and foster family, as well as life skills.

# OUR SERVICES



## Remote Services

- 1,572 remote clients served in 2022
- Nearly 5 times the amount from 2021

Acknowledging that often women and children find refuge with family or friends after escaping an abusive situation, it became imperative for us to initiate remote casework. Providing remote casework is crucial for clients who are not currently residing in a shelter but still require support from caseworkers for referrals, accessing safe housing and receiving counselling services.

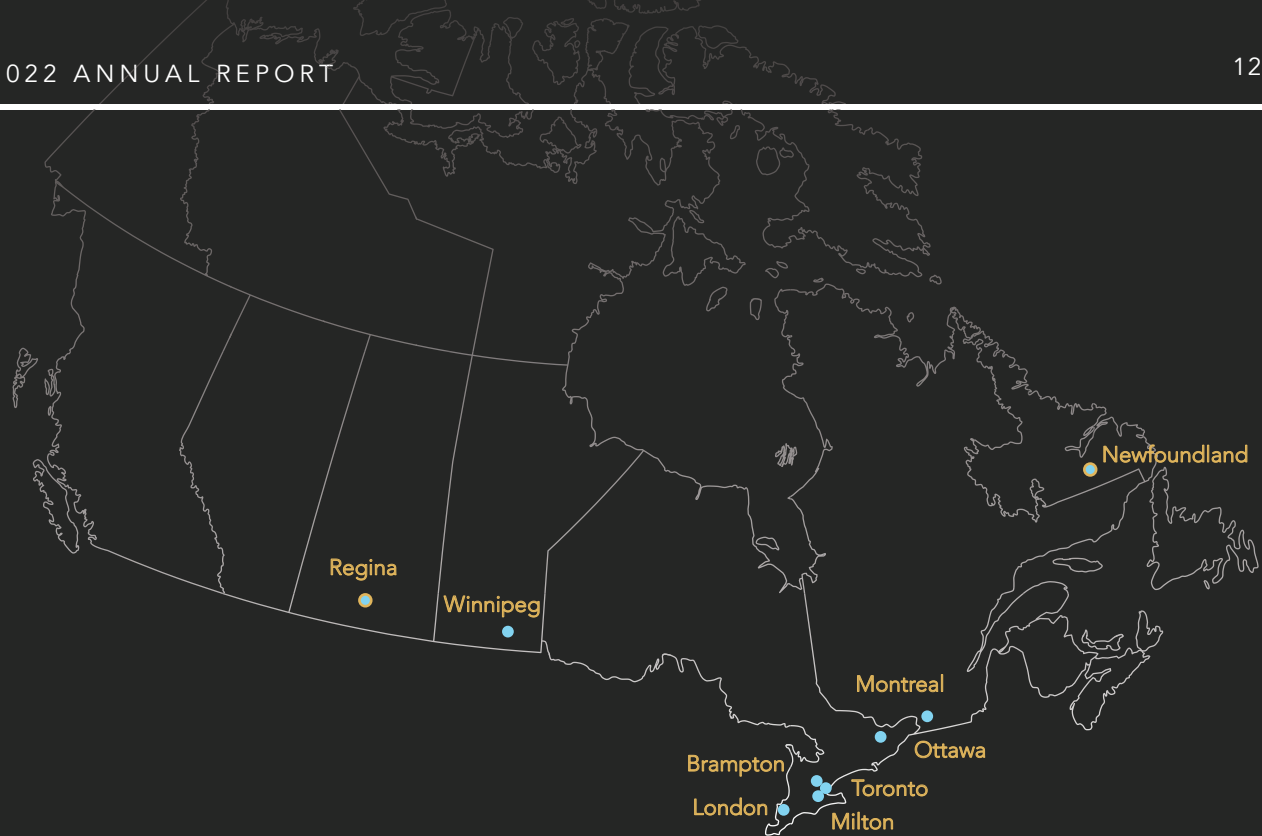


## Mental Health

- 804 clients across all programs
- 7,509 total mental health hours
- Nearly 20 times the amount for 2021

All of our clients and residents are assessed by our mental health professionals, to provide them with a diverse range of therapy programs tailored to their specific needs. These programs are available both in-person and remotely, guaranteeing that clients receive appropriate support for any underlying issues they may be facing.





# DRIVING GROWTH FOR 2023

---

Sakeenah Canada will expand its fleet of shelters in 2023 with three new homes across Canada. From a shelter with accessibility features in Milton, Ontario (opened in January 2023) to new homes in Saskatchewan and Newfoundland & Labrador.

By the end of 2023, Sakeenah Canada will operate 9 shelters in multiple provinces across Canada.

As the organization continues to grow, we work tirelessly to spread awareness about the work we do, and how we can help others. Beyond opening new shelters and programs, we are committed to providing workshops within the community, partnering with local mosques, organizations and community groups.

We are immensely grateful for the support of our local communities, donors and other organizations.

## Thank You

Sakeenah Canada is committed to working with various organizations and community partners across Canada to help make our programs and services beneficial for those who need it. From local mosques to community groups, and foundations to other charities, we are appreciative of every single donation - monetary and in-kind - we've received.

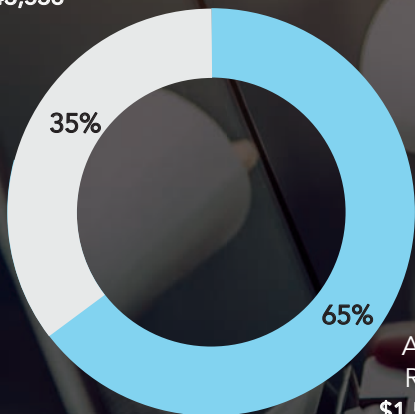
# FINANCIALS

At the end of December 2022, Sakeenah Canada had 14 permanent and 20 part time employees and 6 shelters across Canada. Sakeenah Canada employed a total of 10 caseworkers, and 3 counsellors. We also have a network of volunteers who help us with food delivery, collection of essential items, events and outreach to local partners.

Our 2022 budget included the additional costs of opening a new home, as well as The People’s Market and our Foster Care Program.

Sakeenah Canada is a registered charity that issues tax receipts. Our programs are Zakat eligible; 100% of Zakat goes towards Zakat-eligible programs and recipients.

Received Donations  
\$843,538



All Other Revenue  
\$1,538,893.10

**Revenue**  
**Total \$2,382,434.10**

Charitable Programs & Development  
\$1,333,204.34



Management & Administration  
\$111,255.01

**Expenses**  
**Total \$1,444,459.35**

## ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD 8%

This means that 92¢ of every dollar donated goes to programming

# SUPPORT US

## Join Us

This year, we are anticipating providing assistance to thousands more Muslim women, children and families across Canada. The support of our community partners, donors and supporters is vital for us to sustain our commitment to serving the community. We heavily depend on the generosity of our donors and grants from foundations to drive our crucial community services. Sakeenah Canada has fostered relationships with funding partners at different levels, securing both short-term grants and long-term sponsorships from prominent international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) to support our projects. From the very beginning, we have been steadily building a monthly donor base known as The Nest, which will gradually lead us towards self-reliance and solid financial support. The Nest comprises our group of donors who contribute towards our operational expenses, enabling us to continue to support those in need.



## HERE'S HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

1. Become a monthly donor - join The Nest!
2. Contribute to our work by making a one-time donation.
3. Sign up for our Monthly Impact email and find out what we're up to and what items we need.
4. Fundraise for us! We can help set up crowdfunding campaigns for your next birthday, anniversary or special event.
5. Connect us to a source of corporate or foundation grants for our programs.





---

Charitable Registration  
Number  
776013310 RR 0001



## CONTACT

---

-  5659 McAdam Road, Unit B4  
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 1N9
-  [info@sakeenahcanada.com](mailto:info@sakeenahcanada.com) | 1-888-671-3446
-  @SakeenahCanada
-  [www.sakeenahcanada.com](http://www.sakeenahcanada.com)

