



SAKEENAH

+ Safety.  
*Serenity.*  
**Strength.**

A N N U A L  
**REPORT**

**20  
21**





+ Safety.  
Serenity.  
Strength.

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# ABOUT US

## OUR VISION

Sakeenah was founded in 2018 from a vision of a society where everyone has safety, serenity, and strength.

## THE MISSION

Sakeenah provides essential support and services to those facing violence, homelessness, or poverty, empowering them to become healthy, independent, and thriving members of our society. All of our work is based in cultural, racial, and religious sensitivity.

Justice & Equality

Service

Compassion

Fulfilling Obligations

Accountability & Transparency

## GROUNDING PRINCIPLES



# LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

## LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

ZENA CHAUDHRY



2021 saw a world changed irrevocably by COVID-19. Charities all over the country struggled to maintain the important work they did for people on the ground, with many shutting their doors for good.

Sakeenah met that challenge and continued to grow, thanks to our incredible donors and supporters who recognized how the pandemic made things worse for abused women and stepped up to support them in their darkest times.

We were able to open new homes in 3 cities (Brampton, London, and Montreal), we provided over 700 hours of mental health therapy, worked with the Ministry for the establishment of foster homes for Muslim children, and aligned with partners to start The People's Market, an innovative grocery store-style food program for our community.

And we're not done – 2022 will be our most expansive year yet! But we can only do this with the continued support of our community partners, donors, business owners, and volunteers – thank you for allowing Sakeenah to grow this past year in incredible ways! We hope that the doors you help open for those in need, help open the doors of Heaven for you.

Yours In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Zena Chaudhry', written in a cursive style.

CEO Sakeenah



*Dear Sakeenah Staff:  
Thank you to all the Staff of Sakeenah !  
Special thanks to my Case Worker -  
without your support and  
encouragement, I couldn't have done  
this. Keep up the good work – other  
women like myself need the support of  
people like you. Special thanks to the  
House Manager as well, you made sure  
my needs were met in the household.*

*Keep up the good work - I know it's a  
hard task but it is much appreciated!*

*My Warm Regards,  
Nadiya\*  
(name changed for client safety)*



Nadiya wrote this message to the Sakeenah staff on her last day at the Brampton home. She had just received email acceptance of a job position and was overjoyed at being able to start a new chapter in her life. **When all of us as a community come together and support each other, the lives of women like Nadiya and their families are changed forever.**

Sakeenah's programming is delivered in consultation and collaboration with local community partners to help achieve the following goals for our clients:



**PHYSICAL  
SAFETY**



**IMPROVED  
CONFIDENCE**



**INCREASED  
LIFE SKILLS**

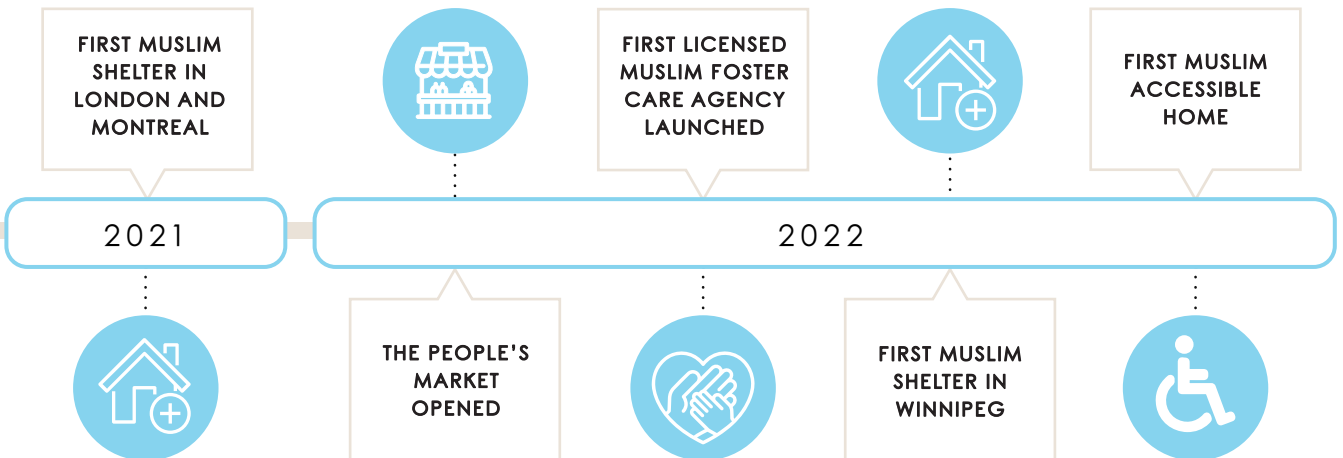
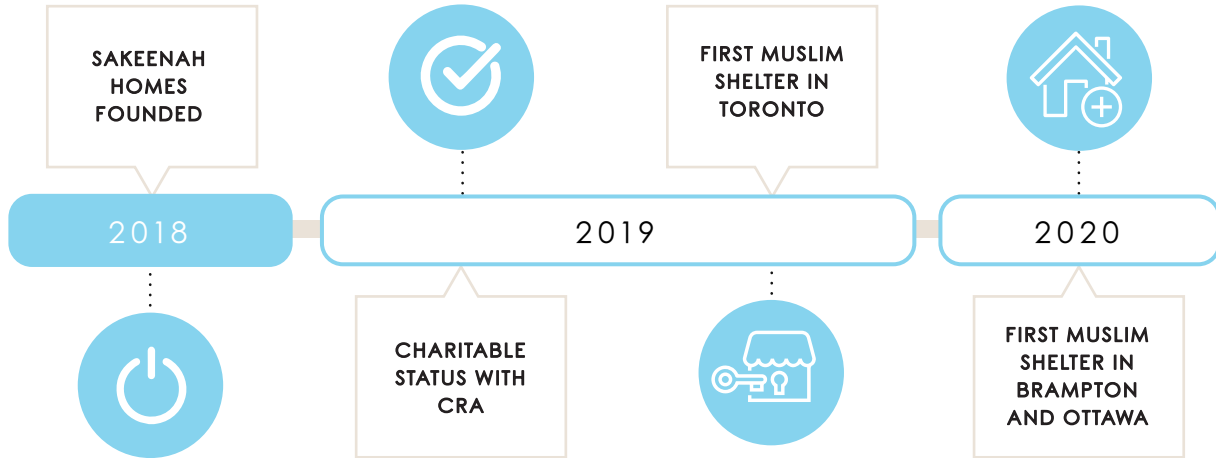


**SUSTAINABILITY**



**INDEPENDENT  
SETTLEMENT**

# MILESTONES



# MILESTONES



## OUR HOMES

### FIVE HOMES ACROSS 2 PROVINCES

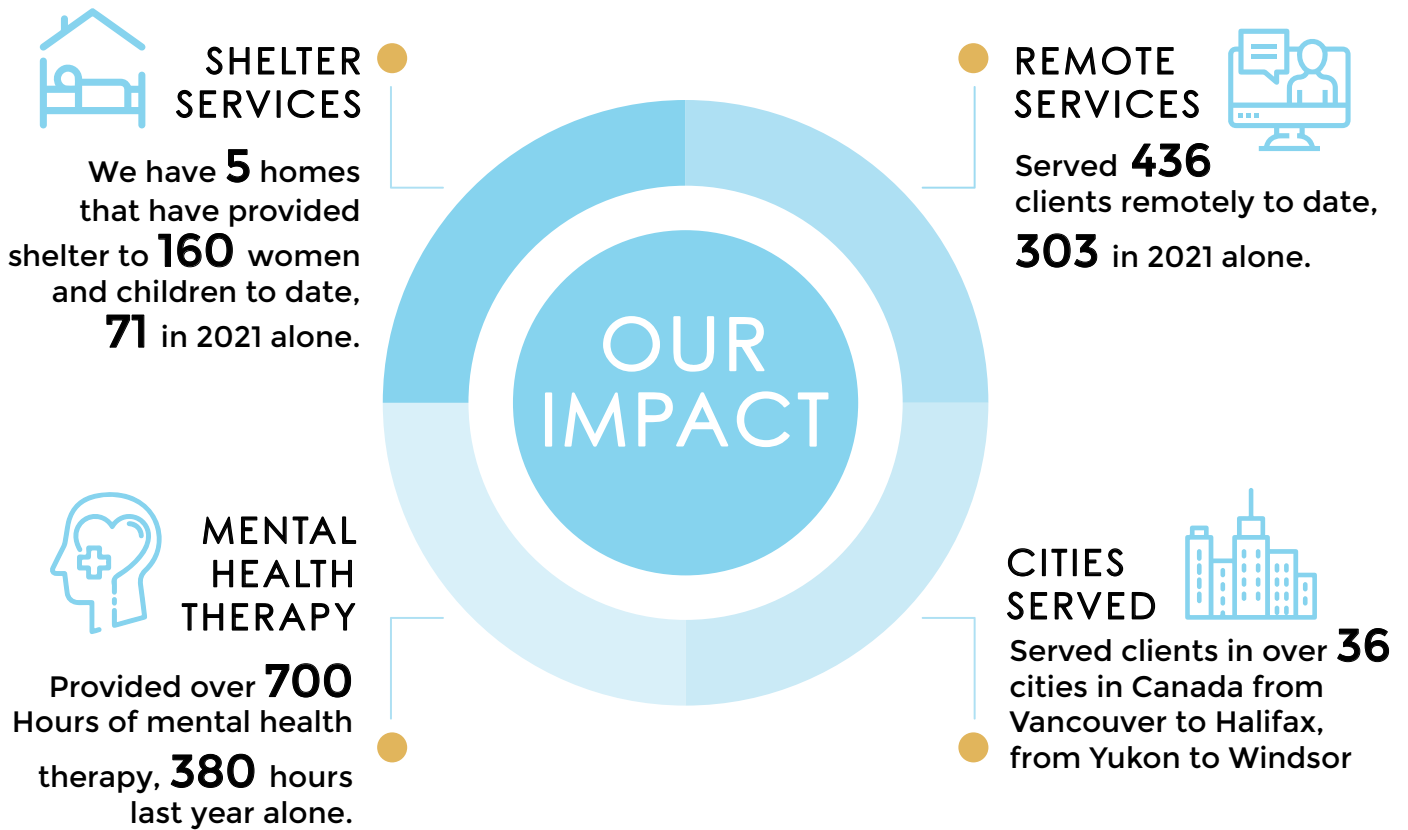
Toronto, Brampton, London,  
Ottawa, Montreal

*\*3 new homes launching in 2022*

The creation of Sakeenah was imminent. We sought to fulfill a need in our communities by providing safe homes for Muslim women and children to reside in whilst caseworkers help them with their cases. Sakeenah provides a holistic approach to ensuring that the women and children who reside in the homes will be safe and healthy whilst their cases are being dealt with. Our homes are safe spaces across the country for women and

children, where they are provided refuge, nutritious meals and essential items. More importantly, residents in our homes receive holistic support to help them recover and develop strength and skills towards independence and success. We have house managers, caseworkers, social workers and mental health counsellors available on site to provide support to every one of our residents.

## BY THE NUMBERS



10,000+

People served across all programs and services

1,326

Clients served in the last year



## IN THE NEWS

Over the past year, Sakeenah has been featured in news outlets across the country, shedding light on the increased need due to the pandemic and highlighting the dangers to women and children due to increased isolation and violence. Sakeenah has worked with local and national news agencies to help spread awareness of the needs of our community and the help we need to fulfill our mission and vision.



## PARTNERS & DONORS

Sakeenah is committed to working in collaboration with local organizations in every community we serve in. We create partnerships with our local community, individual donors, mosques, community groups, foundations, corporations, and government partners to help us reach our goals of service and fulfill the needs of each community. Sakeenah has partnered with the following organizations to provide for the women and children in our communities.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR PARTNERS & DONORS  
WHO HAVE HELPED TO MAKE OUR PROGRAMS A SUCCESS



## NEW HOMES

### LONDON HOME

Sakeenah was invited to open the very first Muslim shelter in London, Ontario, by the London Muslim Mosque and surrounding community. This home can shelter up to 10 women and children and is in a central area close to schools, public transit and shopping.

Since it opened in February 2021, this home has sheltered over 15 women and children, providing hundreds of meals, toys, and Eid gifts for the residents.



### MONTREAL HOME

The Montreal home was opened in June 2021 in response to greatly increased need due to the pandemic. Coupled with the fact that Muslim women in Montreal were facing high amounts of discrimination in mainstream shelters, it became necessary for Sakeenah to open a safe space for women and their children in the Montreal area.

The first Muslim shelter in Montreal, this home can accommodate up to 9 women and children. The home has a children's play room, an office, common living areas, and on-site laundry. Services are provided in both English and French.

Due to feedback received from residents, Sakeenah is relocating this shelter to an area that is more accessible for the community.





## REMOTE SERVICES

**303** REMOTE CLIENTS  
SERVED IN 2021

**More than 3 times the amount from 2020**

Recognizing that many times, women and children have family or friends to reside with after leaving an abusive situation, it was important for us to begin remote casework. Remote casework is necessary for clients who are not residing in a shelter but still need assistance from caseworkers for referrals, getting secure housing, and receiving counselling services.

Remote services has allowed Sakeenah to expand services to over 36 cities across Canada and grow our impact to hundreds more in need.



## MENTAL HEALTH

**OVER 380 HOURS** OF  
MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY  
PROVIDED

Our mental health workers assess all of our residents and clients and provide them with a number of different therapy programs, whether in-person or remotely to ensure they are dealing with any underlying issues. In total, over 95 clients and residents received mental health therapy services.



For a complete list of our services visit our website [www.sakeenahcanada.com](http://www.sakeenahcanada.com)



## NEW HOMES

### 3 NEW HOMES

**Winnipeg, Regina, and Accessible Shelter in Mississauga**

We are pleased to announce that Sakeenah is opening 3 new homes this year! These are the first Muslim sheltering projects in their respective communities. After years of working in the city and surrounding communities remotely, we have seen an increased need for our services. Thank you to our partners on the ground in each location to help make these shelters a reality. By the end of 2022, our sheltering projects will span across 4 provinces in Canada, serving more people in need than ever.



## THE PEOPLE'S MARKET

### 1 IN 7 CANADIANS FACE FOOD INSECURITY

**The pandemic has made food insecurity worse**

2022 saw the introduction of The People's Market, a new way to empower our community members who face food insecurity. The People's Market is a program that provides a grocery store experience to those in need and allows them to get the food and essentials that their family needs, with dignity. By partnering with The Mississauga Food Bank, we were able to launch this innovative food bank model for our clients and wider community members in 2022.





## ACCESSIBLE SHELTER

In partnership with SMILE, Sakeenah is launching an accessible shelter in Peel Region. The location is an accessible apartment that will make safe housing available to clients with disabilities, and contains shower, toilet seat and kitchen modifications accordingly. This shelter also allows autistic individuals or women with autistic children to access safe, quiet and secure accomodation. The accessible apartment will help to fill the gap in accomodation at our other shelters.



## FOSTER CARE

Sakeenah's Foster Care Program will help connect Muslim foster children to Muslim fostering families. We are the first Muslim foster care agency in North America and our goal is to provide culturally and religiously sensitive care in a safe and loving home environment to children who are currently in the foster care system.

Sakeenah will be responsible for training Muslim foster families and educating the community about the needs of Muslim foster care. Our foster agency will be responsible for receiving referrals from CAS and placing Muslim foster children with Muslim foster families. Our intention is to go above and beyond by providing wrap around services for these children while they are in foster care and in the process of reconciliation with their families if appropriate.



## JOIN US

This year, we are anticipating serving thousands of women, children and families across Canada. We cannot continue serving our community without our community partners, donors and supporters. We rely on our generous donors and grants from foundations to help drive our essential services for the community. Sakeenah has developed both long-term and immediate relationships with various levels of funding partners. We apply for short term grants while also developing sponsorships with major INGO's for funding our projects long-term. Since inception, we have been building a monthly donor base called The Nest which will slowly move us towards independence and sound financial backing. The Nest is our group of donors who cover our operating costs so that we can continue to help those who need it.



## 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 setup crowdfunding campaigns for your next birthday, anniversary or special event.

5

Connect us to a source of corporate or foundation grants for our programs.

VISIT [WWW.SAKEENAHCANADA.COM](http://WWW.SAKEENAHCANADA.COM)

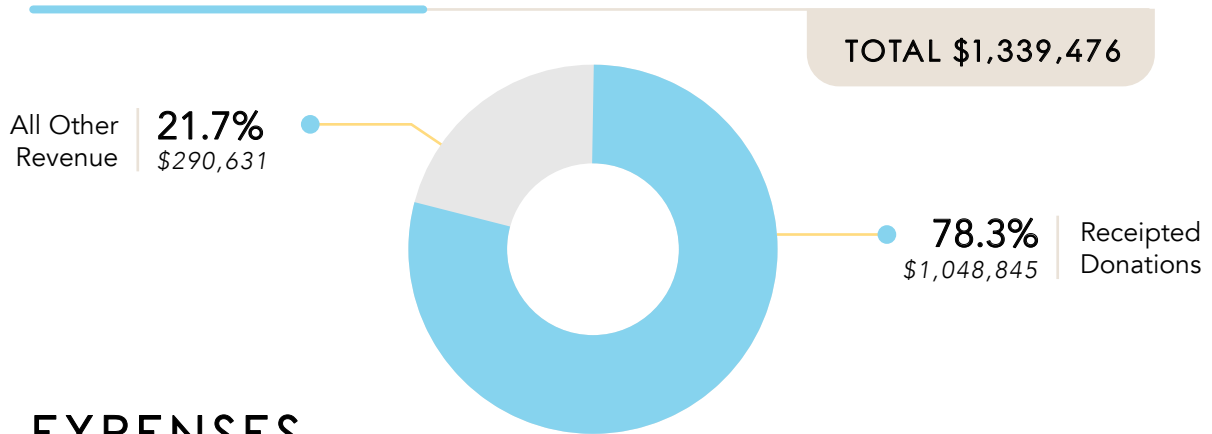
# FINANCIALS

We currently have 22 employees and 5 shelters located across Ontario and Quebec. Sakeenah employs a total of 9 caseworkers and 2 counsellors. We also have a network of volunteers who help us with food delivery, collection of essential items, and outreach to local partners.

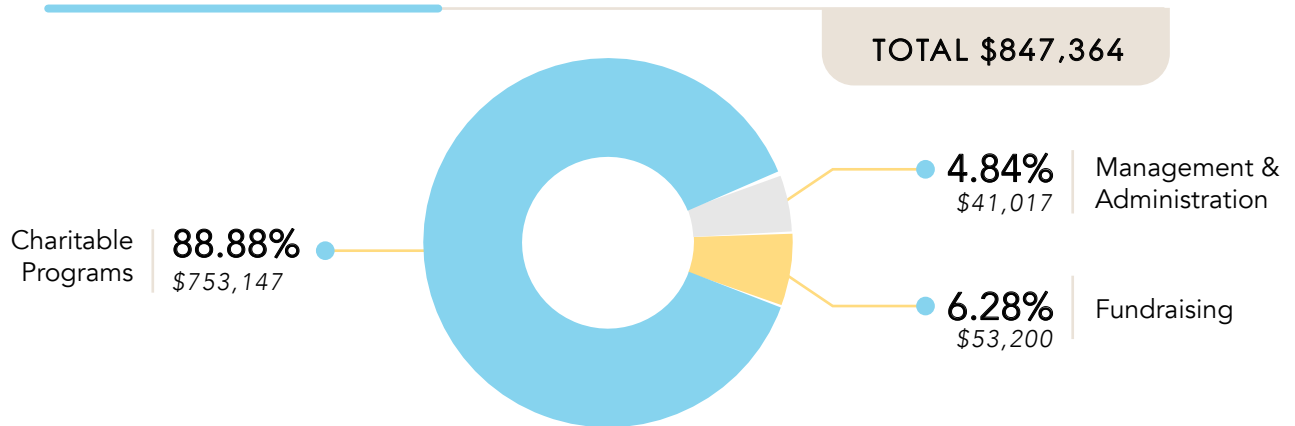
Our budget this year includes the additional costs of opening the 3 new homes as well as The People's Market and our Foster Care Program.

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

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



**ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD 11%**

This means that 89¢ of every dollar donated goes to programming



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**WWW.SAKEENAHCANADA.COM**