



# THEY CAME TO DESTROY US, BUT WE ENDURED

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ANNUAL REPORT



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# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To say that I am proud of the Free Yezidi Foundation team would be an understatement. Over the past year, our team has demonstrated unwavering commitment to improving our community and steadfast dedication to Yezidi recovery and empowerment. Humanitarian and development work is challenging at every level, and I want to recognize and applaud the remarkable efforts of each and every FYF team member.

We at FYF take the time to engage with members of our community to ensure that our programs are community-informed and driven by the wishes of our people. We have maintained this focus and avoided the temptation to build our programming around funding opportunities. By staying true to our values and mission, we have been able to tailor our efforts and direct our resources in a way that best serves the Yezidi community. This includes working together with other ethnic and religious minority communities in Iraq in a spirit of cooperation and inclusion. Together, we make each other stronger.

I have always believed that the protection and empowerment of the individual, including but not exclusive to genocide survivors, are central to our work. This informs our protection, justice, education, advocacy, and livelihoods programming. The individual is our fundamental unit of measure. The Yezidi community cannot fully recover and flourish if we neglect each person's needs. When beneficiaries reach FYF's doors, they can be rest assured that we prioritize their individual needs and concerns above and beyond all other considerations.

FYF primarily provides services, support, training, and empowerment to our community members, including the most vulnerable, and with a special emphasis on women. In this process, we have developed an incredibly strong and resilient team of young Yezidi leaders, predominantly but not only women, who hold key roles at every level of our organization. As our field team members have grown and advanced to more senior positions within FYF, we have invested our organization's time and resources in their professional development.

I am so proud of the FYF staff, who come to work every day and put forward their best efforts with dedication and commitment. They are responsible for the success we have achieved. Despite the enormous needs of our community, we are committed to tackling problems one person at a time. This requires dedication and excellence from everyone in our organization, including finance, operations, programming, and the support staff members who help make everything possible.

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Despite our organization's progress, it pains me to see that most Yezidis remain displaced, impoverished, and in the worst cases, still missing or in captivity. Mass graves are still being discovered. I sometimes wonder how we, at FYF and in the broader community, manage to keep hope alive. However, our advocacy must continue. Together, we must ensure that these crimes are never forgotten, history is not repeated, and justice is ultimately served.

In August 2024, we will mark ten years since ISIS launched its genocidal campaign against the innocent and unarmed Yezidi population. While Iraq is no longer perceived as an emergency humanitarian crisis, the lasting and devastating impact that the genocide has left on our people remains. The future of our young people is uncertain, and therefore, the very existence of our vulnerable community in Iraq is at risk. This was the aim of ISIS - the permanent eradication of our people. While much work remains to be done, FYF and Yezidi civil society have demonstrated that we will persist. With friends and supporters like you, we are rebuilding from the rubble.

As I always say, we are steadfast in our pursuit of a brighter future for the Yezidi community.



Pari Ibrahim  
Executive Director



# OUR MISSION & VISION

The Free Yezidi Foundation (FYF) supports the Yezidi community in the aftermath of the 2014 Yezidi Genocide. FYF promotes the rights and well-being of Yezidis in Iraq and the diaspora, with an emphasis on women's empowerment, the pursuit of justice, and helping the community rebuild through trauma treatment, education, training, and economic development.

## Why we work with Yezidis

In August 2014, the so-called Islamic State (ISIS) carried out a genocide against the Yezidi ethno-religious minority in Iraq, resulting in mass killings, forced conversions, enslavement of over 6,000 Yezidi women and children, displacement of over 400,000 Yezidis, and destruction of the Yezidi homeland of Sinjar. Almost a decade later, the community continues to suffer the impact of the genocide, with nearly half the population still internally displaced, over 2,600 Yezidis still missing or in captivity, and a lack of basic resources and infrastructure in Sinjar. The community needs holistic and tangible support to rebuild, recover, and establish resiliency.

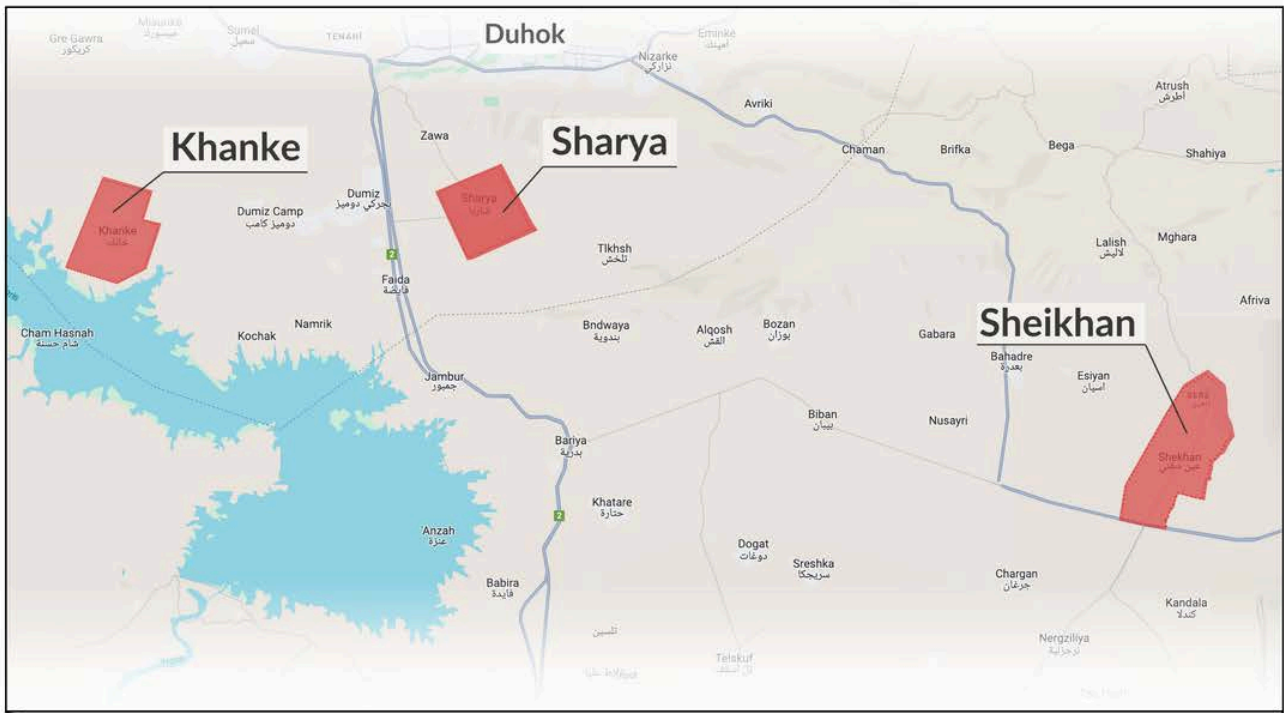
## Why we work with women

FYF operates under the principle that there are no human rights without women's rights. FYF empowers Yezidi women to combat gender-based discrimination and violence against women and girls within the Yezidi community, as well as broader Iraq society.

FYF is women-led and attaches great importance to working with women from other communities, particularly minority and vulnerable groups in Iraq. Through its programming and internal policies and procedures, FYF builds the capacity of Yezidi and other minority women to become leaders in their communities. FYF integrates gender equity principles into its operations and human resources practices, reflecting its organizational values of promoting the rights of women and girls.

FYF's success will include the development and advancement of Yezidi and other minority women beneficiaries and staff members to serve as changemakers and community leaders in both Yezidi and women's rights civic spaces. This priority runs throughout each FYF strategic goal and embodies FYF's ethos as an organization.

# GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS



## Sheikhan

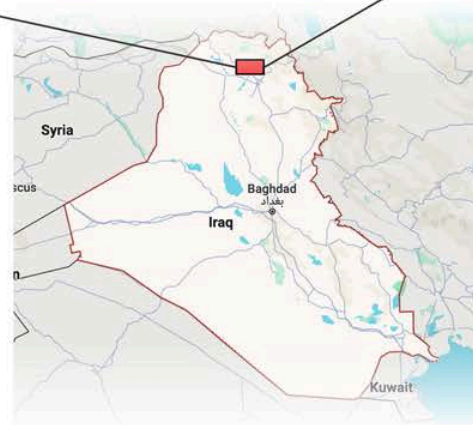
Protection, education

## Sharya

Protection

## Khanke

Protection, education, livelihoods



# OUR PROGRAMS

## PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

FYF places accountability to affected populations at the core of its mission to promote the rights and well-being of ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq, including Yezidis in Iraq and the diaspora. Our focus areas include protection (including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and legal aid), livelihoods, education, justice, and advocacy. As a Yezidi and women-led organization, FYF ensures that its program activities are finely attuned to the diverse needs of the most vulnerable within affected populations. Our programs are not only shaped by the insights of these individuals but are also guided by their leadership, ensuring a profoundly responsive approach.

Rooted in a rights-based approach, FYF prioritizes respect for the rights, dignity, and safety of those affected by disaster, conflict, and protracted displacement. At its core, FYF positions women, men, girls, and boys receiving humanitarian assistance and development aid as the principal stakeholders. FYF upholds their fundamental right to actively participate in decisions that impact their lives, access pertinent information for informed decision-making, and voice grievances if assistance proves inadequate or leads to unintended repercussions.

Through its programming and internal policies, FYF actively nurtures the leadership potential of Yezidi and other minority women, empowering them to become catalysts for change within their communities. Gender equity principles are deeply embedded within FYF's operational framework and human resources practices, reflecting the organization's unwavering commitment to promoting the rights of women and girls.

FYF envisions success not only in the tangible development and advancement of Yezidi and other minority women within their communities but also in their emergence as influential changemakers and community leaders within both Yezidi and broader women's rights advocacy spaces. FYF's holistic approach to programming enables vulnerable women to work together, fostering resilience, knowledge sharing, and cross-ethnic friendships. This collaborative environment helps re-establish social cohesion and trust among different religious and ethnic minority communities in Iraq, while challenging ingrained cultural norms and traditional gender roles.

FYF is dedicated to mitigating any unintended harm caused by its presence and assistance by prioritizing the establishment of rapport and trust with community members. This involves actively listening to their concerns and feedback, while respecting their autonomy. At the core of FYF's approach is a survivor-centric, do-no-harm philosophy, which emphasizes flexible and responsive engagement with community members. This ensures effective, humane, and personalized coordination and continuity in service delivery. Central to this approach is the fundamental respect for the rights and preferences of individuals, ensuring their safety, and treating them with dignity and respect.





# EDUCATION

## Sheikhan

In November 2023, FYF launched a new education program in Sheikhan called the “English Microscholarship Access Program.” The program aims to empower economically disadvantaged internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host community members, offering a comprehensive foundation in English language skills, personal development, and community service.

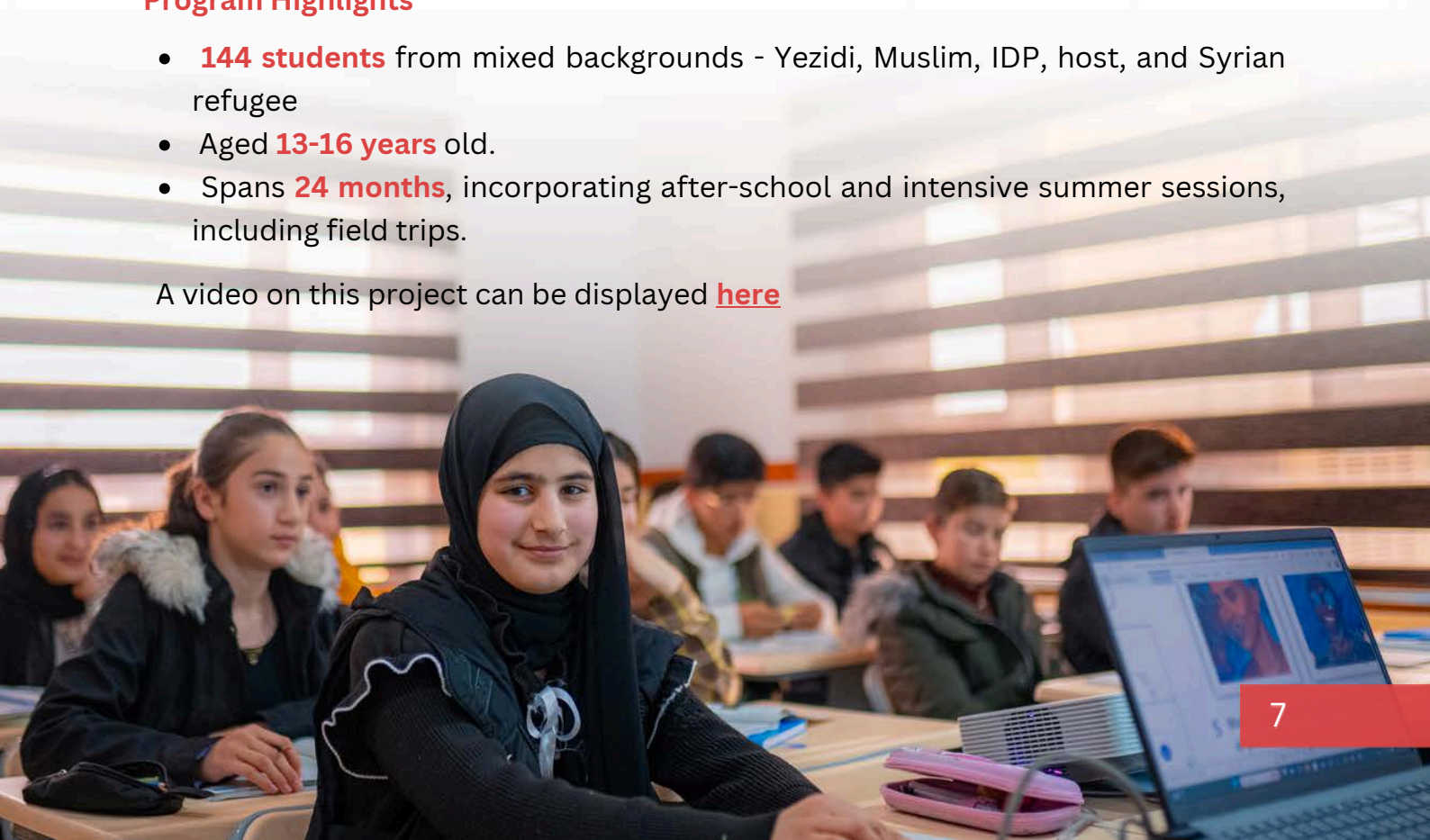
The Iraqi education system has long relied on rote learning, a method centered on memorization for exam success. This approach stifles creativity and critical thinking skills in students, limiting their ability to think innovatively.

In response, FYF's English Microscholarship Access Program is designed to revolutionize education by fostering critical thinking, social cohesion, tolerance, and mental well-being among a diverse student body, many of whom have faced conflict and displacement. Rather than simply imparting knowledge, the program prioritizes the holistic development of students, encouraging them to question, analyze, and engage with the world around them. Both inside and outside the classroom, students are equipped with essential skills to cultivate stronger social bonds that transcend ethnic and religious divides, thus mitigating the risk of minority communities in Sheikhan becoming increasingly isolated.

## Program Highlights

- **144 students** from mixed backgrounds - Yezidi, Muslim, IDP, host, and Syrian refugee
- Aged **13-16 years** old.
- Spans **24 months**, incorporating after-school and intensive summer sessions, including field trips.

A video on this project can be displayed [here](#)



## Khanke

In June 2023, FYF commenced a series of new educational courses at its Enterprise and Training Center (ETC). The courses included English language, Arabic language, IT/computer skills, and professional development – a holistic approach aimed at enhancing the empowerment of women and youth IDPs from host and camp communities in Khanke, Duhok. Students completing the program demonstrated remarkable knowledge growth throughout both semesters, consistently surpassing the minimum target scores in pre- and post-tests across all four courses.

Remarkably, all 110 students reported that attending the courses at the ETC improved their overall psychological well being through new friendships, empowerment, and rights awareness. In addition, almost all students felt motivated and able to use their newly acquired skills to continue their studies or pursue a professional career.

### **Program Highlights**

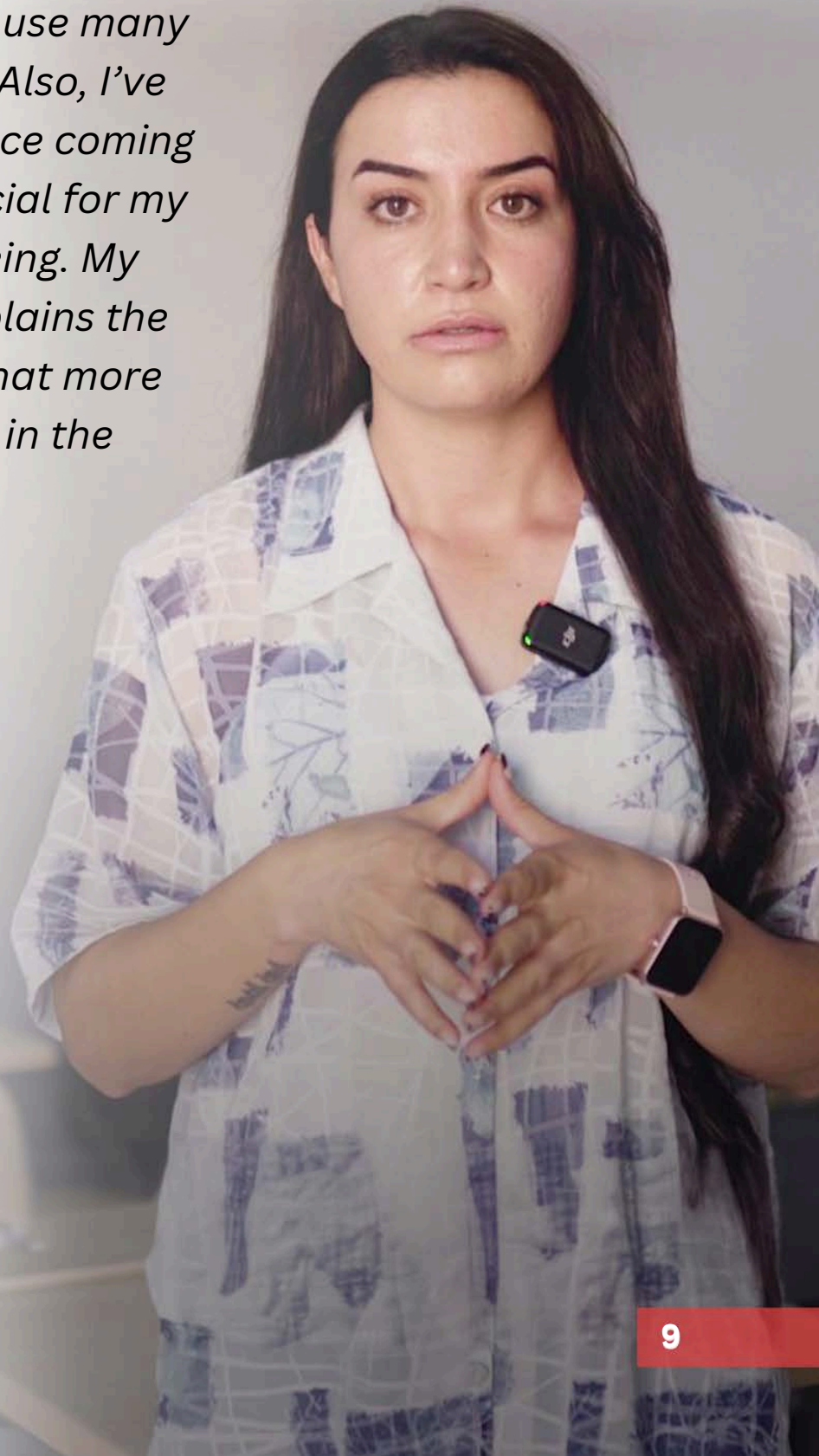
- **110 students** (women + youth) successfully completed the program.
- The program spanned **2 semesters** from June to December 2023.
- Students included FYF staff members and beneficiaries participating in livelihood programs run from the ETC.

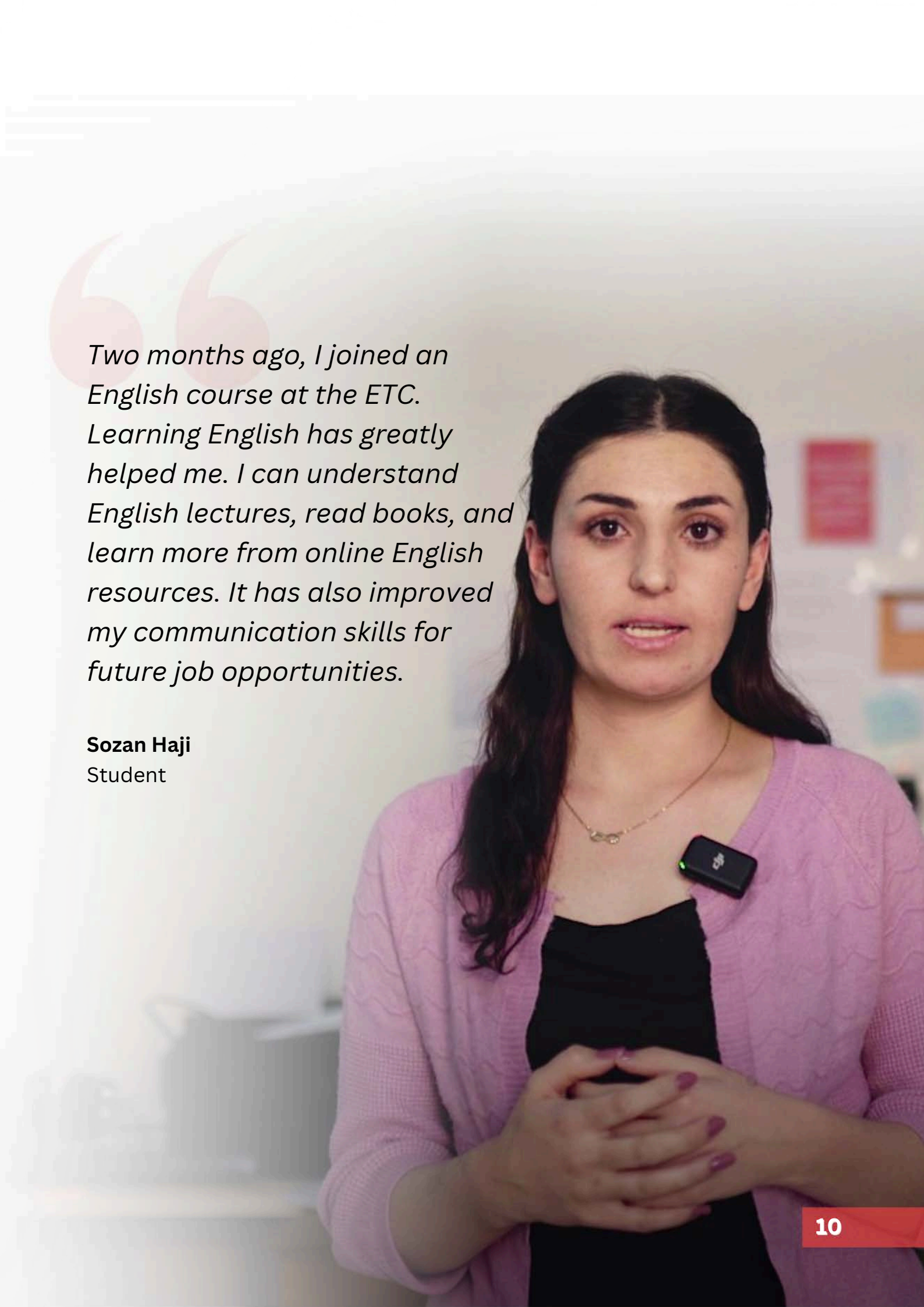
A video of this project can be viewed [here](#)



*I enrolled in the computer course to improve my digital skills, as they teach us how to use many computer programs. Also, I've made new friends since coming here, which is beneficial for my psychological well being. My instructor clearly explains the lessons. And I hope that more courses will continue in the future.*

**Zahra Alyas**  
Student





*Two months ago, I joined an English course at the ETC. Learning English has greatly helped me. I can understand English lectures, read books, and learn more from online English resources. It has also improved my communication skills for future job opportunities.*

**Sozan Haji**  
Student



# LIVELIHOODS

FYF's ETC in Khanke, Duhok sustainably empowers women to reduce their vulnerabilities and reliance on foreign aid through skills training, jobs placement, and income generation activities. At the ETC, female artisans are trained in crafting and marketing one-of-a-kind items, including the Chonky Animals® product line of hand knitted stuffed animals and Crafts and Enterprise® product line of knitted clothing and made-to-order traditional carpets. Adjacent to the ETC is FYF's Sugar is Sweet® Bakery and Cafe run by Yezidi women. 100% of the proceeds from the ETC and Sugar is Sweet® go to the artisans, bakers, supplies, and maintenance of the facilities, which empower Yezidi women and survivors to heal, recover, and reclaim their agencies. Operated and managed entirely by displaced community members, the ETC is committed to fostering self-reliance among displaced individuals through a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach.

## Artisan Training Program

The ETC remains dedicated to crafting top-tier artisanal products, with FYF's successful Chonky Animals® product line taking center stage. This line, as well as the Crafts and Enterprise® product line, serve as a source of income and a gateway to sustainable livelihoods for 14 internally displaced Yezidi women.

In 2023, FYF rebranded the Crafts and Enterprise® product lines, while also launching dedicated web pages to facilitate online orders. These efforts, coupled with our newly formed collaborations with The Station Foundation for Entrepreneurship in Erbil, Erbil Rotana Hotel, and Global Styleshop in Duhok, significantly boosted both revenue and brand visibility, paving the way for FYF to include more women in its program.

## Program Highlights

- **35,106.25 USD** total sales in 2023.
- **491 products** produced.
- **463 products** shipped out of Iraq.

Check out our artisan training program YouTube playlist for videos: [Click Here](#)



After all the trauma we have experienced due to the genocide, our life in the camp has been difficult because our mental health isn't good. We keep overthinking and worrying about our lives and those we've lost or who are missing. After becoming a beneficiary at FYF's ETC, I have found a way to stop overthinking by using my skills to hand make stuffed animals. As I craft the products, I lose myself in my work and forget all about my worries, while making an income to support my family. I also feel supported by the instructor and ETC's staff. I am proud and encouraged to work at the ETC because FYF is led by Yezidi women. FYF has greatly contributed to my development as a person, as I now believe in myself and my skills more.

**Hala**  
Artisan

*While I work with the yarn, I forget about my worries and difficult living conditions, as my only focus is my work. I am happy that through my skills I am able to earn an income to support my family. As a woman, I find it very inspiring and encouraging to be able to work and depend on myself because before the Yezidi Genocide women had very limited work opportunities.*

**Zereen**

Artisan



## Bakery Training Program

In Khanke IDP camp, spaces dedicated to community celebrations, anniversaries, and birthdays are scarce. Sugar is Sweet® Bakery and Cafe, with its inviting décor and welcoming ambiance, has rapidly transformed into an impromptu community center. This charming bakery provides a haven for the Yezidi community, offering precious moments of joy amidst the adversities of camp life.

Originally conceived as a means to empower displaced Yezidi women through employment, the bakery has organically emerged as a central hub for commemorations, anniversaries, and birthdays. In the stark reality of Khanke IDP camp, characterized by barren fields punctuated with residents' tents, Sugar is Sweet® stands out as a warm and inviting social space, underscoring its vital role in fostering a sense of community and connection.

Noteworthy is the growing trend of sponsored children's birthday parties celebrated at Sugar is Sweet®—an initiative introduced by FYF in 2022. Through the simple act of relishing a slice of freshly baked cake and a cup of tea at Sugar is Sweet®, displaced children discover moments of joy and delight, offering a temporary reprieve from the challenging realities of their surroundings.

### Program Highlights

- **9,417.82 USD** total sales in 2023.
- **128 birthday** parties hosted.

Check out our bakery training program YouTube playlist for videos: [Click Here](#)



*I heard about FYF's bakery training course and registered myself. Through the course, I gained new skills and saw my mental health improve because I was leaving the camp, interacting with people, and learning. I am grateful to have been given the chance to work and earn an income to support my family.*

**Adiba**

Bakery Worker



*I personally believe that Yezidi women have progressed a lot since the genocide, as many of them were previously illiterate and impoverished. Yezidi women have gone through so much adversity, yet they still have worked hard to develop themselves and support their community.*

**Shaima**

Bakery Worker

Sweet





# PROTECTION

In 2023, FYF's protection team grew significantly, expanding to 16 members. The team now includes a Protection Manager, 3 Protection Officers, a Lawyer, 3 Psychologists, and 8 Harikara (community outreach workers). This female-led team received months of rigorous capacity building and technical training, ensuring they're fully prepared to engage with survivors and beneficiary communities in a survivor-centric and do-no-harm manner, including intensive in-person trainings on trauma-informed yoga and child protection.

The protection team provides comprehensive protection, legal aid, and MHPSS services to beneficiaries, including survivors of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV):

- Case management
- Individual + group therapy
- Recreational psychosocial support (PSS), including yoga and arts and crafts
- Protection/MHPSS awareness sessions
- Psychoeducation sessions (PTSD, anxiety, depression, and stress)
- Legal Aid
- Psychological First Aid
- Rights Awareness (minority rights, women's rights, child rights)
- Gender-Based Violence Awareness (prevention of SGBV and prevention of child, early, and forced marriage and unions (CEFMU))
- Men's engagement (anger management, positive masculinity, and prevention of SGBV)
- Yezidi Survivors Law information sessions

## Program Highlights

- Provided protection/MHPSS services to **4,912 individuals** under its Iraqi Human Rights Defenders program.
- Conducted protection outreach and sessions with **1,008 community members** in Khanke, Sheikhan, and Sharya.
- Received **351** internal referrals.

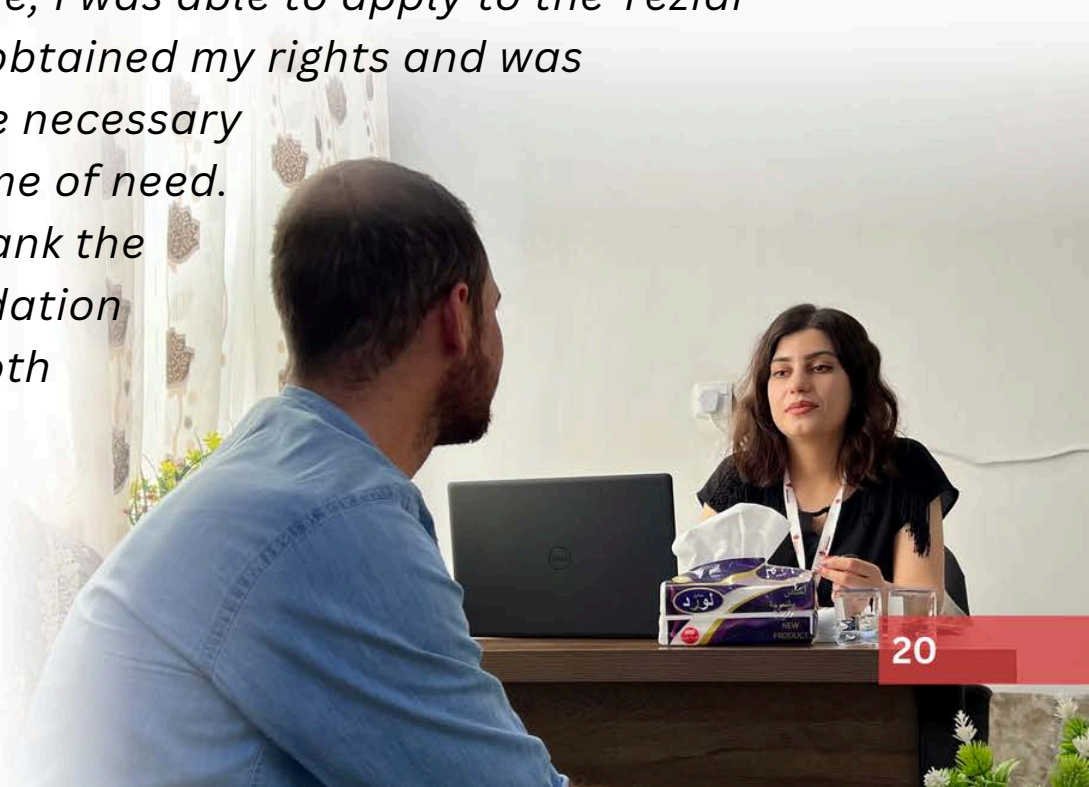
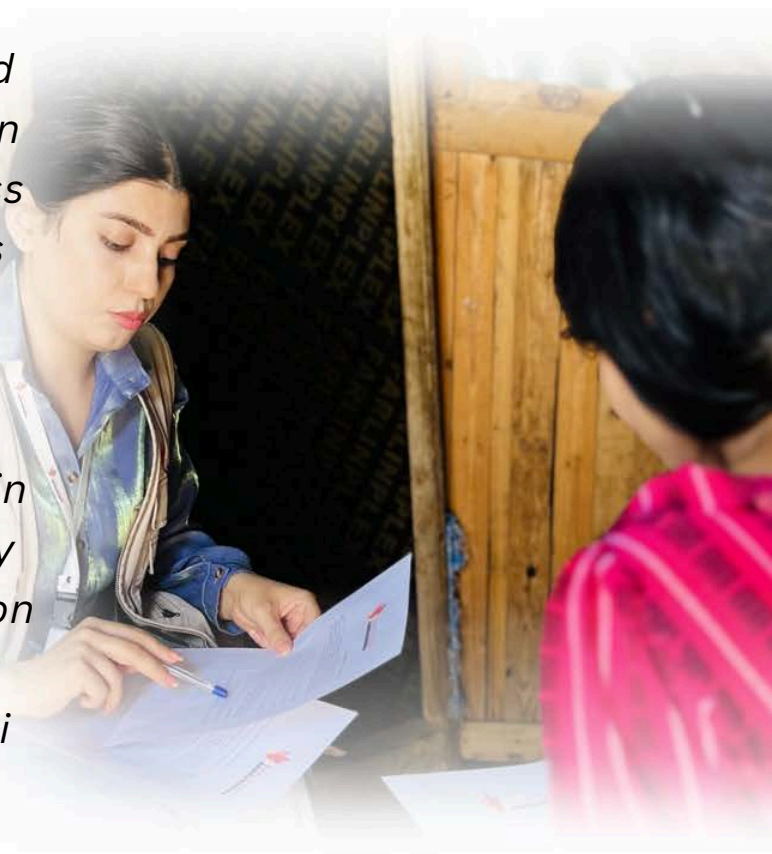


*"After the suffering I endured during those years of injustice and torture, the Free Yezidi Foundation helped me greatly with the process of applying to the Yezidi Survivors Law. They informed me about the law and helped me apply, so I did not need to travel to the General Directorate for Survivors' Affairs in Mosul. I am very pleased that they have assisted me in the application process and helped me obtain my rights and benefits from the Yezidi Survivors Law. I also thank the foundation for their kindness to me."*

**YSL Survivor**

*"Through the Free Yezidi Foundation team's care and support to me, I was able to apply to the Yezidi Survivors Law. I obtained my rights and was provided with the necessary support at my time of need. I would like to thank the Free Yezidi Foundation for supporting both female and male survivors."*

**YSL Survivor**






## JUSTICE

FYF's justice team finalized and shared 4 comprehensive crime scene analytical reports, 1 detailed massacre report, and a series of perpetrator dossiers with law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, UN investigative bodies, and Europol, in strict accordance with survivor consent protocols.

FYF conducted thorough analyses and investigations across 5 villages in Sinjar - Tel Banat, Tel Qasab, Siba Sheikh Khidr, Gerzerik, and Tel Azir villages. Additionally, FYF meticulously examined the tragic Yezidi massacre in Qani village, compiling a comprehensive analytical report on this event and the broader assaults targeting Yezidi communities across various towns. The detailed reports and underlying evidence represent a significant step in the pursuit of justice for the Yezidi community.

Composed predominantly of Yezidi female investigators, our dedicated legal team collaborates closely with international experts to meticulously document witness testimonies and compile evidence, ensuring thoroughness and accuracy. The disclosures come after two years of hard work. Our collective aim is clear: to ensure that those responsible for the heinous crimes against the Yezidis are held accountable under the law.



A video of this program can be viewed [here](#)





9 YEAR  
YEZIDI GENOCIDE  
COMMEMORATION  
3 AUGUST 2023

الذكرن السنوية التاسعة  
للإبادة الجماعية الايزيدية  
٣ آب/أغسطس ٢٠٢٣

سالفه كهرنا نههت يا  
جينوسايدا تيزيديان  
٣ تي باختن ٢٠٢٣

FREE YEZIDI  
FOUNDATION

The Free Yezidi Foundation  
supports the Yezidi community in  
the aftermath of the 2014 Yezidi  
Genocide.

المؤسسة الايزيدية الحرة  
تدعم المجتمع الايزيدي في  
اعقاب الإبادة الجماعية  
٢٠١٤

هتت FYF  
تتيزيدي  
سايدا تيزيدي  
٢٠١٤

www.freeyezidi.org  
freeyezidi.org



# ADVOCACY

## FYF Participated in UK Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights

FYF's Executive Director spoke at the UK Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights on accountability of UK nationals who joined ISIS and committed atrocities in Iraq and Syria. She outlined the crimes committed by ISIS, emphasizing the genocide against the Yezidi community. She discussed the importance of justice and accountability for the Yezidi community's collective healing and prevention of future violence, illustrating the efforts of Germany and other jurisdictions who have been successful in prosecuting ISIS perpetrators for international crimes. Watch the Executive Director's full remarks [here](#).

## FYF Participated in International Religious Freedom Event

FYF's Executive Director participated in an International Religious Freedom (IRF) event alongside U.S. Ambassador at Large, Rashad Hussain. She addressed numerous challenges confronting Yezidis, highlighting the narrowing window for justice and the peril posed by the potential closure of UNITAD. Emphasizing the significance of funding civil society organizations, she stressed the need to support not only large international NGOs but also specifically recognized the importance of empowering civil society organizations led by women.



## FYF Published Report on Yezidi Survivors Law

To mark one year since applications under the Yezidi Survivors Law (YSL) in Iraq began, FYF published a report looking back at the first year's successes, challenges, and areas for improvement. The report reflects feedback from survivors gathered during FYF's protection team's extensive work to support survivors to apply for reparations under the YSL.

The report's recommendations emphasize the need to improve accessibility for survivors, expand eligibility requirements, enhance multi-lateral communications and information sharing between government agencies, international organizations, civil society, and survivor communities, and expedite the processing of applications. Read the full report [here](#).

## 9 Year Commemoration of Yezidi Genocide

### **1% of 153 Billion Campaign**

FYF led a group of Yezidi civil society organizations, community leaders, and intellectuals to draft a [joint statement](#) calling for the special allocation of a \$1.5 billion dedicated fund, directly administered by the office of the Prime Minister of Iraq, for the reconstruction of public infrastructure and private housing and property in the District of Sinjar

Video: [No More Words Without Action: 1% of \\$153 Billion](#)

### **Baghdad Event**

On August 1st, FYF co-led a historic event in Baghdad commemorating the 9th anniversary of the Yezidi Genocide, which brought together 27 Yezidi-led NGOs and CSOs. The event was attended by Iraqi, UN, and Embassy officials, as well as international experts. The event opened with a minute of silence in honor of the victims of the genocide and those who remain missing. This was followed by keynote speeches from various officials and prominent community leaders.



## FYF and UNITAD Co-Host International Women's Day Event

FYF partnered with the UN Investigative Mechanism on ISIL crimes, UNITAD, to mark International Women's Day with an event at the UN compound in Baghdad. FYF sold their Chonky Animals and Crafts and Enterprise products made by displaced female artisans at the event.

## FYF Visits Al Hol Camp in Syria

FYF's Executive Director visited the infamous Al-Hol camp in Northeast Syria, which houses more than 50,000 residents affiliated with ISIL. FYF and others continue to search for the more than 2,600 Yezidis who remain missing and unaccounted for in the aftermath of the Yezidi Genocide perpetrated by ISIL.

The purpose of the visit was both to understand how to scale up rescue efforts of missing Yezidis and to improve the flow of information related to justice and accountability for the crimes committed by male and female ISIL members.

# HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## FYF Recognized by the United Nations as One of Ten "Champions of Prevention"

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the UN Genocide Convention, FYF was recognized as one of ten Raphael Lemkin "Champions of Prevention" for its efforts to empower Yezidi survivors of genocide. Read more [here](#).

## FYF Signs Agreement with Iraqi Directorate for Survivors' Affairs

FYF and seven other NGOs were selected to sign agreements for MHPSS referrals with Iraq's Directorate for Survivors' Affairs. The Directorate was formed to implement the Yezidi Survivors' Law that was passed in Iraq's Parliament in 2021.

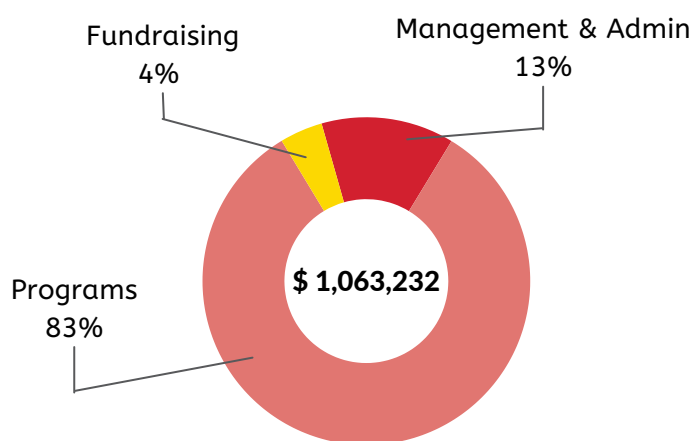




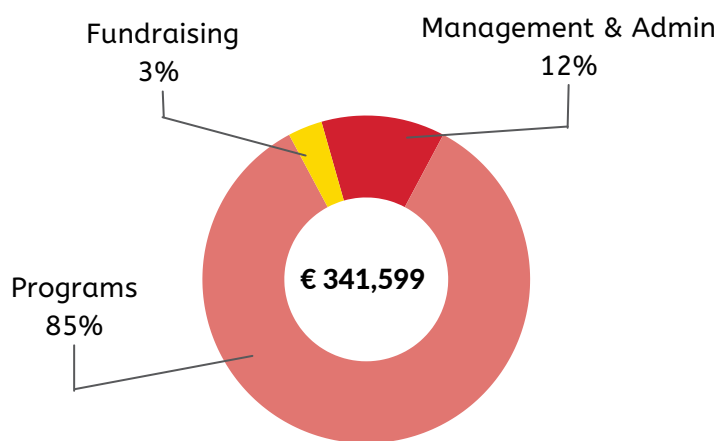
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## EXPENDITURES

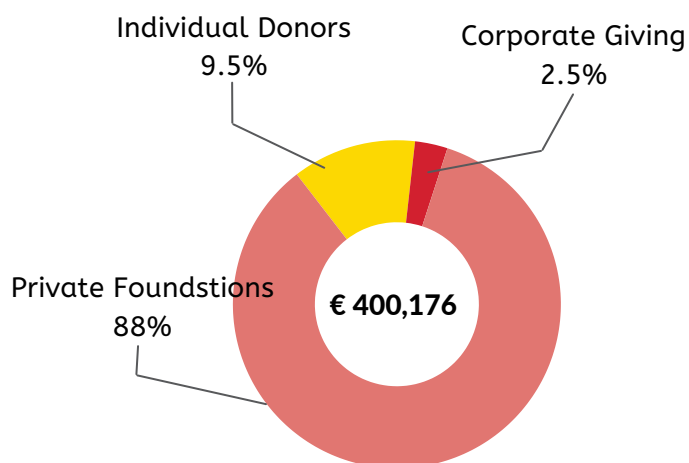
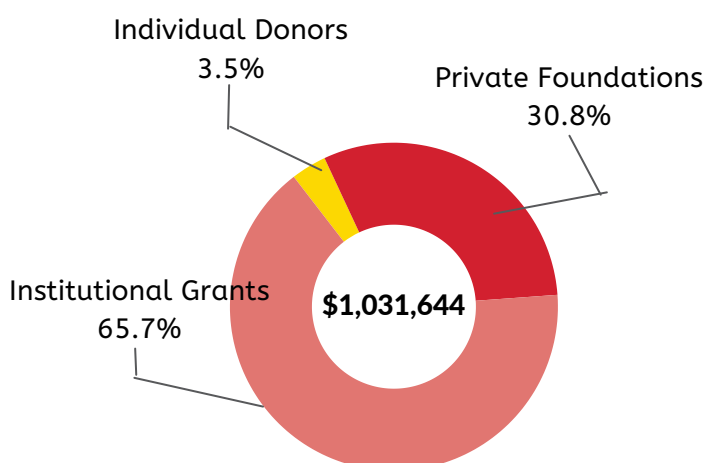
Free Yezidi Foundation - USA



Free Yezidi Foundation - Netherlands



## REVENUE



# LOOKING FORWARD

As we reflect on our accomplishments and the challenges we've navigated, FYF is poised to build on our progress and expand our impact in the coming year. Our vision for the future includes several key strategic initiatives designed to enhance our reach and effectiveness in supporting vulnerable populations.

## **Establishing Holistic Service Provision Models**

In our continued efforts to provide integrated and effective support, FYF will establish holistic service provision models in all our target areas of intervention. These models will encompass a range of services, from psychological support and legal assistance to educational and economic opportunities, ensuring that we address the multifaceted needs of the communities we serve.

## **Broadening Our Target Groups**

FYF is committed to expanding our target groups to include more women and girls from religious and ethnic minority communities. By doing so, we aim to address the unique challenges faced by these populations, providing tailored support to foster their empowerment and resilience.

## **Enhancing Partnerships with Local Women-Led NGOs**

Recognizing the importance of collaboration, we will focus on strengthening and expanding our partnerships with other local, women-led NGOs. By working together, we can leverage our collective expertise and resources to deliver more comprehensive and impactful programs.

## **Expanding Geographical Presence**

To better serve the needs of our communities, we plan to establish new offices in Sharya and Sinjar. These locations are strategically chosen to extend our services to areas with significant needs, ensuring that more individuals have access to our support and resources.

## Continuously Improving Internal Policies and Building Staff Capacities

FYF is dedicated to continuously improving our internal policies and procedures to ensure efficiency, transparency, and accountability in our operations. Additionally, we will invest in building the capacities and technical expertise of our staff through ongoing training and professional development. This commitment to excellence will enhance our ability to deliver high-quality services and adapt to the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

## Diversifying Funding Streams

To sustain and grow our operations, diversifying our funding streams is a priority. We will pursue various funding opportunities to ensure the financial stability and scalability of our programs.

The future of FYF is one of growth, innovation, and deeper impact. By establishing holistic service models, broadening our target groups, enhancing partnerships, expanding our geographical presence, diversifying our funding streams, and continually improving our internal policies and staff capacities, we are committed to making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. Together, we will continue to advocate for and empower the Yezidi community and other vulnerable populations, building a brighter and more inclusive future.





*From a young age, I was talented at creating unique handmade products through my skills in knitting and crocheting, but like most Yezidi women who had few opportunities to earn an income from their skills, there were no avenues for me to develop mine. I am delighted that through my work as a Livelihoods Officer at FYF, I am able to hone my skills and make new creative products on a daily basis, while empowering other Yezidi women to do the same. I am able to teach and train other Yezidi women to create handmade items and earn an income through FYF's Chonky Animals® product line. FYF has greatly contributed to improving our lives, as it provides us with a safe and supportive environment, which is invaluable to fostering creativity and self-reliance. I believe that women in general, and Yezidi women in particular, should be given more opportunities to improve their self-reliance and resilience, as they can play an important role in inspiring other women and girls to be strong and build better futures.*

Kafia Ido  
Livelihoods Officer

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*“Towards a brighter future”*

