

Finding Refuge

2020-2021

Annual Report



Finding Refuge

**ANNUAL REPORT
MAY 2020-APRIL 2021**

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Acknowledgements

As we recap our second year as an organization, we would like to thank our donors, partner organizations, friends, and family who have supported the growth and development of Finding Refuge since its inception. This year we embarked on a new project, our first-ever community housing center, Duniya House.

This project would not be possible without our monthly and one-time donors and grant-giving organizations such as Donate4Refugees and Move92. Thank you so much for believing in our vision to end homelessness for refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers.

Further, we are so grateful for the strong partnerships we developed with organizations across Athens, such as Medical Volunteers International, Better Life With Refugees, Pamperaki, who provided medical and food assistance to Duniya House residents.

Lastly, we would like to thank the incredible people we have met along this journey, especially the residents of Duniya House who have shown us that a family can be found in a communities' collective resilience.

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A Message From Our Co-Founders

We cannot believe Finding Refuge celebrated its second anniversary this past May. Finding Refuge began as an idea to crowd raise funds for the homeless refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers we met during our service trips to Athens in 2018 and 2019. At that moment, our goals were humble. After all, we were tackling major systemic problems and a service gap that no one seemed to be addressing let alone filling. As two university students, we did not envision our impact to be large, but we were determined to do the best we could. Beyond our expectations, the initial crowdfunding campaign was successful. We raised over \$5,000 in less than a month. And by mid-May, we supported two families that were facing homelessness by paying the rent for their new accommodations. The impact of our crowdfunding campaign and the generosity of donors propelled us to begin Finding Refuge-- a nonprofit organization with the mission to end the homelessness experienced by refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers.

Co Founders, Lena Azzouz (left) and Ghania Chaudhry (right)



We knew our mission was difficult to achieve, but not impossible. Finding Refuge's growth over these last two years has been a testament to our willpower to achieve our vision. Our journey as Finding Refuge has been incredible - beyond what we could have imagined. In its second year, our housing program provided support to 47 people. In total, since first starting Finding Refuge, we have housed 175 migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers (117 through the housing program and 58 at Duniya House). Through our General Needs Fulfillment program, we delivered direct financial assistance to 29 people since May 2020. In total, this project has provided much-needed emergency financial assistance to 44 people since its start in November 2019. We expanded beyond just providing housing and financial assistance to designing a program that trains refugees to become language educators as a source of income. The Language Education and Development Program (LEAD Program) has trained four educators and our educators have taught over 318 classes since May 2020!

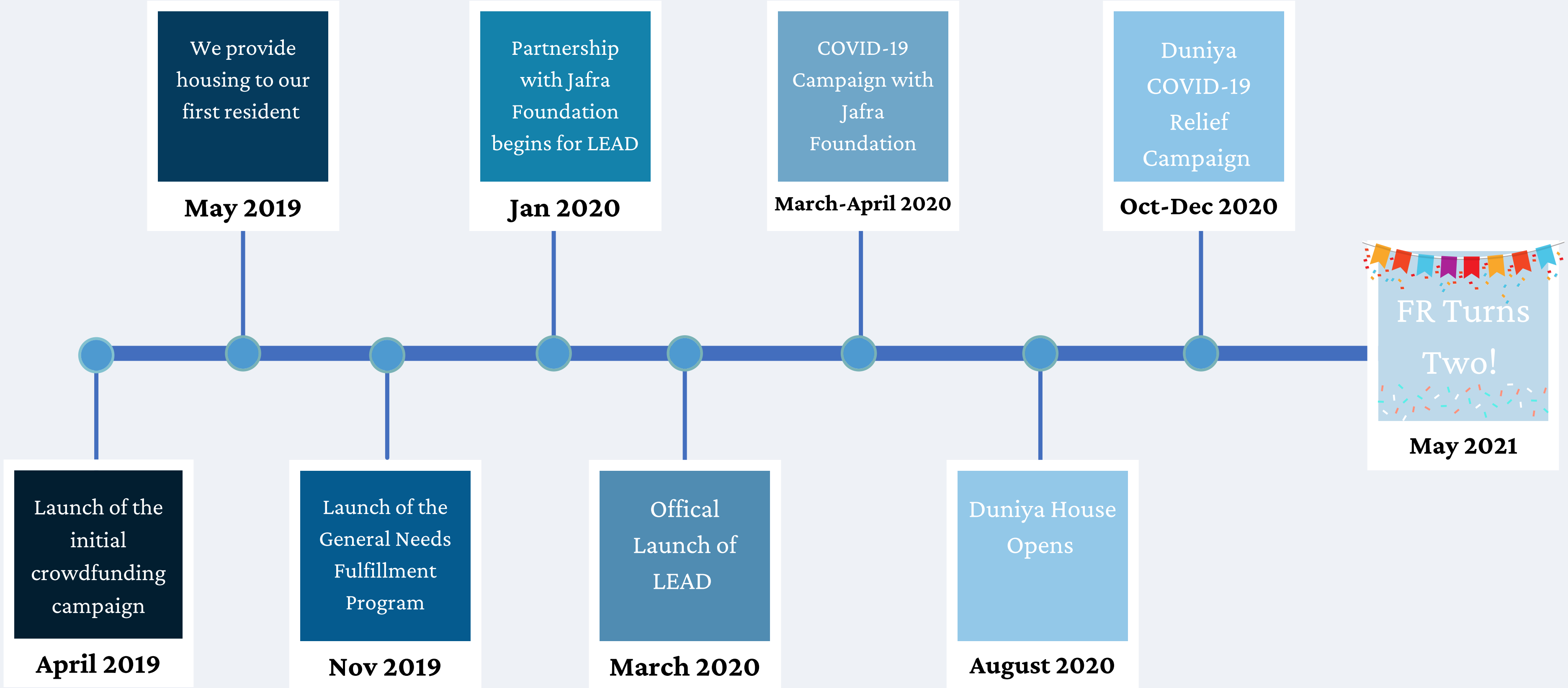
However, this past year was not without its challenges. A global pandemic shut down the entire world. Governments mandated lockdowns, closed down stores, restaurants, and organizations for months on end. For displaced communities, this meant that they could not access essential services. In the midst of this pandemic, a housing crisis emerged in Greece. Fires in camps across Lesvos island left thousands of people living in the streets. Some of these people relocated to Athens. Soon after the fires, the Greek government evicted 11,000 refugees from government-funded housing. The demand for our services was increasing, but the opportunities to expand our housing program through the apartment-sponsoring model diminished as landlords became increasingly wary of providing housing to refugees.

In response to these challenges, we expanded our operations from an apartment sponsoring model to running our first community housing center, Duniya House. We were inspired by Second School squat, which became a community for refugees from all over the world to meet their needs in the absence of support. Through Duniya House, we aim to provide a space in which a community can form and support each other to reach both individual and collective goals. Finding Refuge believes in people's determination to achieve their dreams. That is why Duniya House is not just a housing project. It is a step toward achieving all the residents' hopes and goals. We work side by side with our residents to assist them through our case-working capacities. As a result, 32 of the 58 people housed at Duniya House have successfully transitioned out to their next step. We develop strong relationships with Duniya House residents and will continue to be a source for them wherever their next steps take them. After all, the Duniya community is a community that will persist no matter where its members are in the duniya (world).

Throughout this journey, we are grateful for: our wonderful team of volunteers who are committed to our mission and vision to end the homelessness of refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers in Athens; the people we have met; the relationships we have formed; our incredible supporters and donors; and, most importantly the Duniya residents whose kindness, resiliency, and hope is a constant reminder why our mission is so important.

-Co-founders, Ghania Chaudhry and Lena Azzouz

Finding Refuge's Journey



Meet the Team

Cheree Scott



Director of Public
Relations

Aalya Surti



Director of Finance

Victoria Nefve



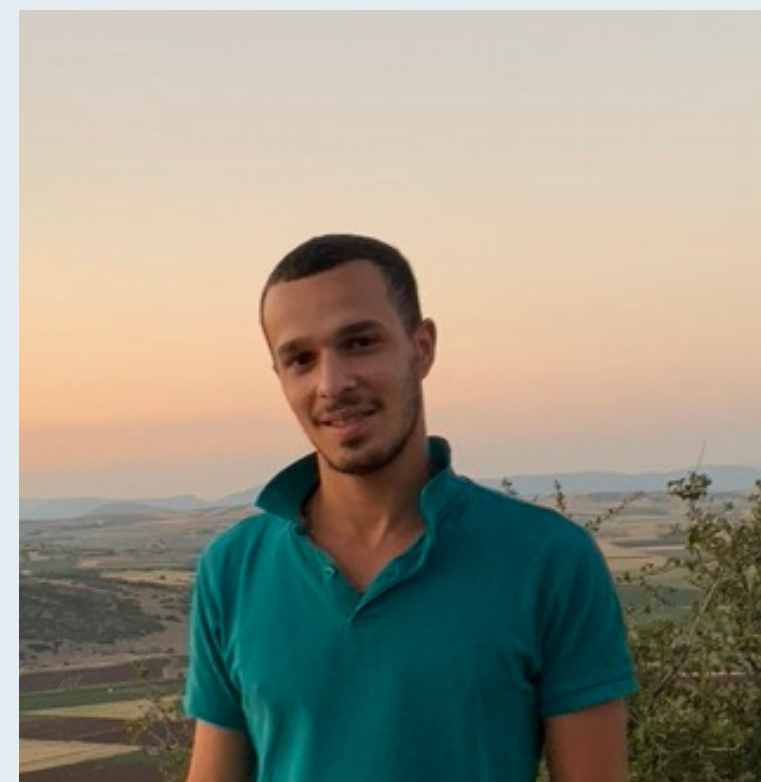
Lead Program Coordinator

Suhel Al Karaaza



On-site Coordinator

Moayad Abo Al Hasan

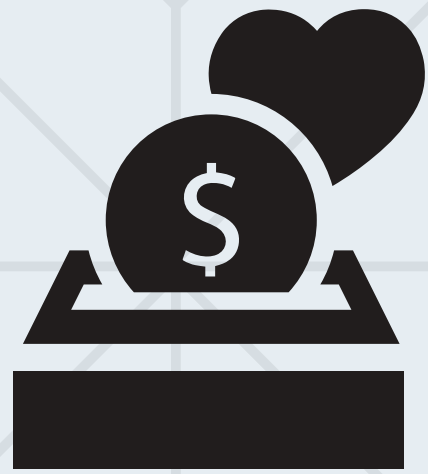


Duniya House Building
Manager

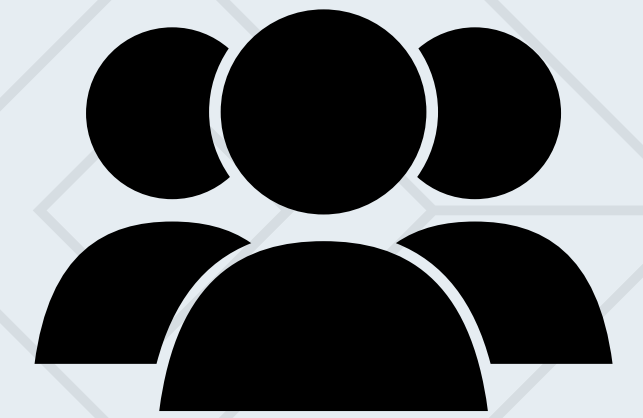
Impact at a Glance



**\$65,997
Donated**



**543
Donations**



**287
Donors**



Housing Program



117 people have received housing in apartments through the housing program

General Needs and Fullfilment Program



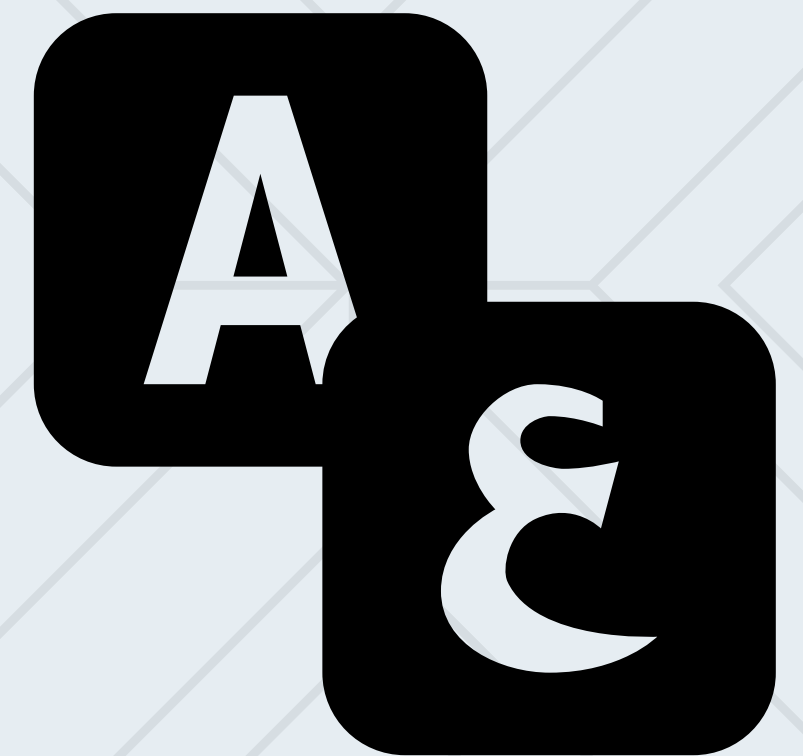
44 people received cash assistance for essential needs

Duniya House



58 people have received housing through our community housing center

Language Education Development Program



LEAD educators have given 318 classes to 15 students





Housing Program



Before establishing Duniya House, Finding Refuge's housing model directly connected donor funds to the displaced community by providing emergency rental assistance or renting out apartments on behalf of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers. We began this project in May 2019 and since then it has expanded tremendously. We renewed our rental assistance on a monthly basis where there was still a need. However, we found many residents were able to resume supporting their own housing after one or two months of support from Finding Refuge.



38

New residents housed since May 2020

47

Total residents were housed this year

117

Total residents housed since May 2019



13

WOMEN



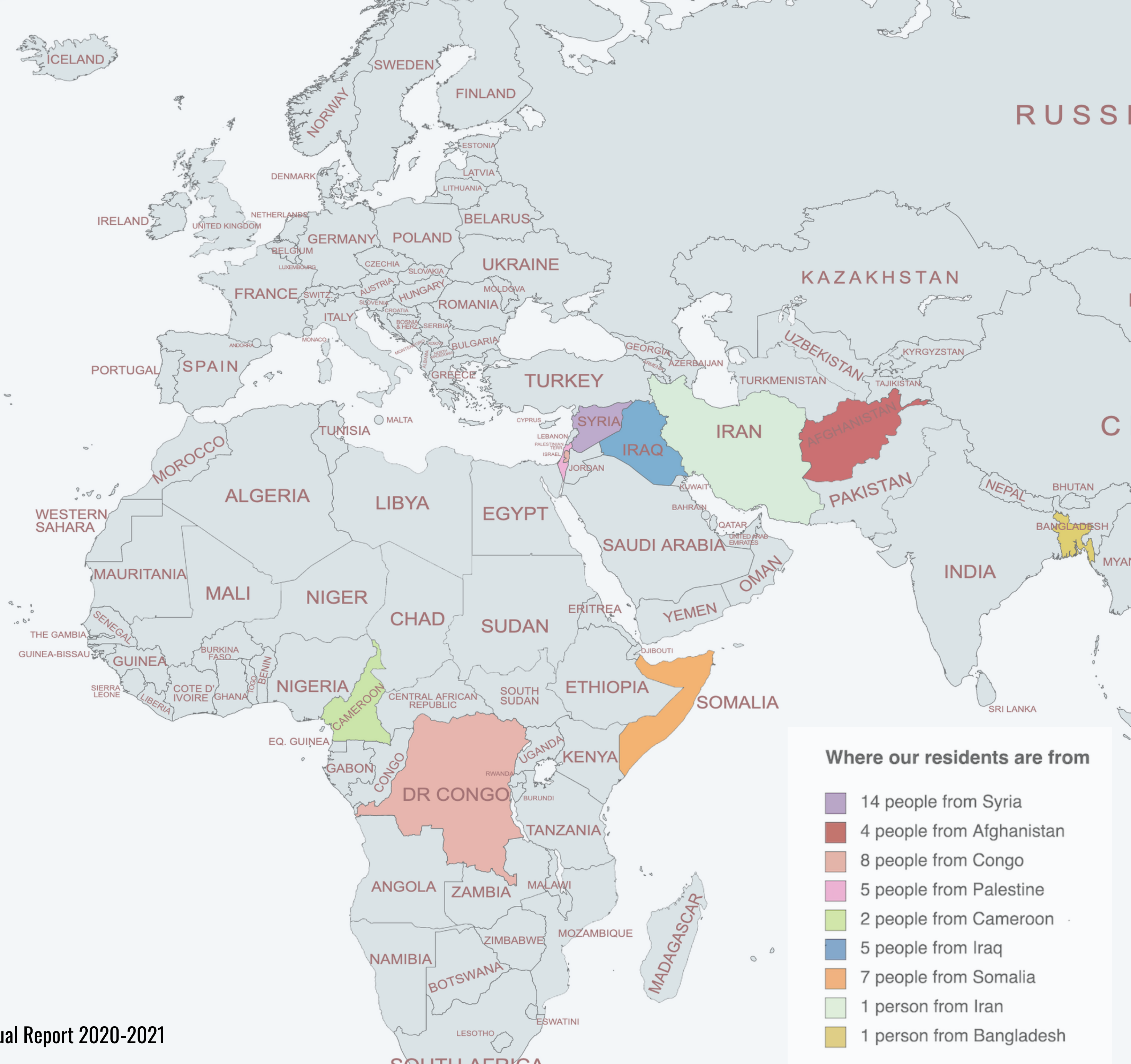
6

MEN



28

CHILDREN



Where our residents are from

- 14 people from Syria
- 4 people from Afghanistan
- 8 people from Congo
- 5 people from Palestine
- 2 people from Cameroon
- 5 people from Iraq
- 7 people from Somalia
- 1 person from Iran
- 1 person from Bangladesh

9

**New accommodations
since May 2020**

\$8,138

**Total amount spent for Housing
Program from May 2020 to
September 2020**

35

**Accommodations since
May 2019**

\$19,453

**Total amount spent for Housing
Program Since May 2019**

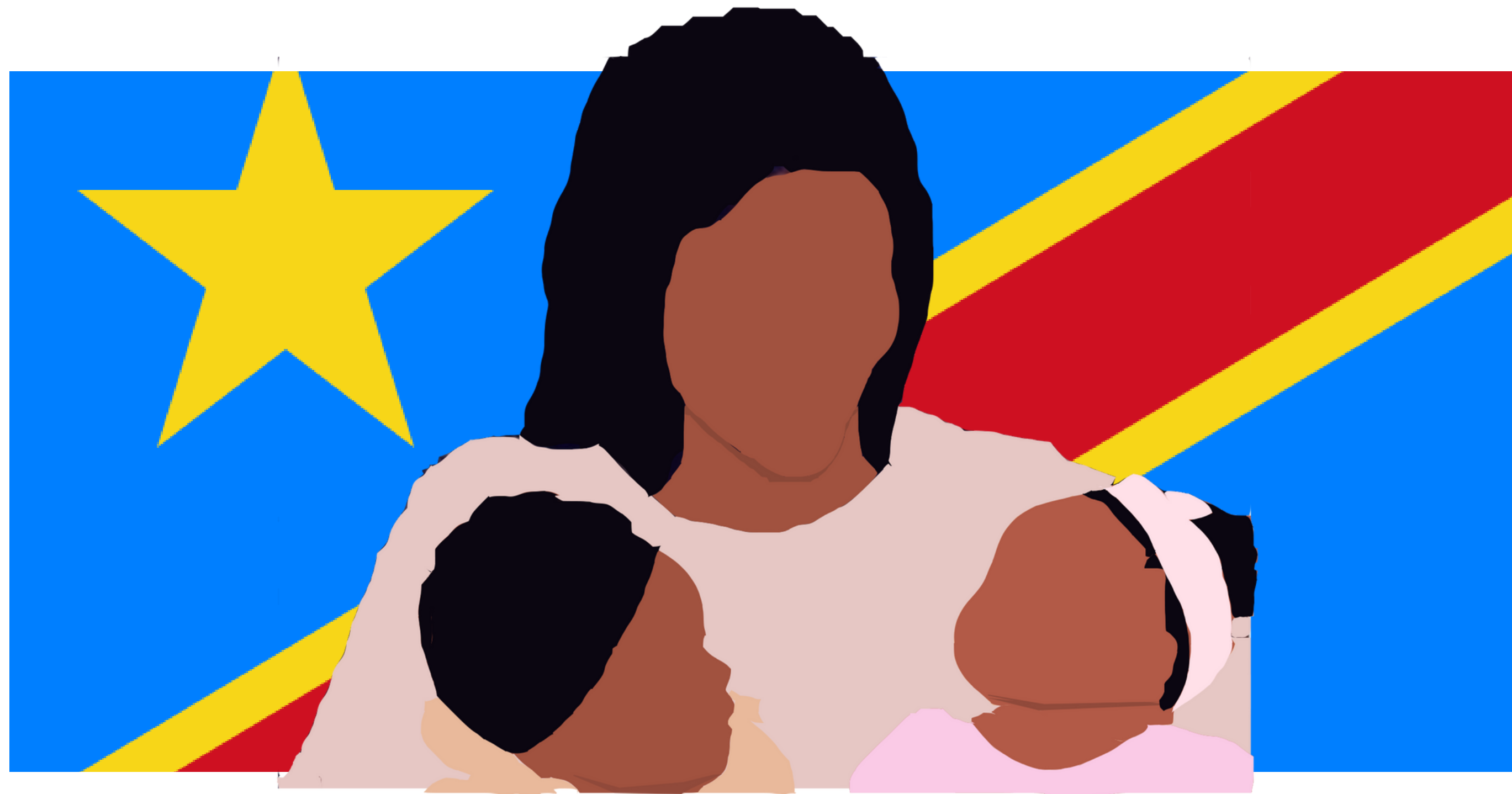
For the Housing Program, we found refugee-friendly landlords rented out their apartments to refugees for the duration of one month or more. We would provide either partial rental assistance or full apartment sponsorship, depending on the need of the applicant.

Meet Belise and Her Baby Twins

HER NAME HAS BEEN CHANGED TO PROTECT HER IDENTITY

Belise is a single mother from the Democratic Republic of Congo with two beautiful twin toddlers. When we met Belise, she was homeless, staying at a friend's home for a few days. Her twins played in the background as Belise told us her story. She needed a safe place for her babies to live. Moving from place to place every few days or sleeping on the streets was not the life she expected to live when she made the decision to leave her home country. Her friend, who was living in government sponsored housing, was risking losing her apartment to accommodate Belise but she could not do so long term because of how grave the risks were. Belise felt pressure to leave her friend's place to save her friend of potential trouble and risk of losing her government sponsored apartment. Belise was moved into our women's shelter, where she shared the space with two other French speaking women.

Our second women's shelter was a furnished two bedroom apartment with a fully functioning kitchen and bathroom. Although the women did not originally know each other, they all adjusted to living alongside one another. While Athens has become home to many refugee communities from all over the world, refugees from African countries like Somalia, Congo, Sudan and Cameroon, are often neglected by both the government and NGOs when it comes to providing humanitarian service provision. Coupled with this neglect is the extra layer of anti-black racism that Black refugees are faced with. We realized the extent of the anti-black racism in the Greek housing system when the landlord of the apartment spoke of her frustration with the new tenants being Black and mentioned that the neighbors were not happy with Belise and her roommates moving in. We were outraged and immediately responded to the landlord that any form of racism against them would not be tolerated. Shortly after, we relocated our women's shelter to a new apartment with a new landlord to ensure the women's safety. Finding Refuge stands firmly against all forms of racism, including institutionalized racism that prevents Black refugees from accessing safe housing.



Meet Khalid and His Family

NAME HAS BEEN CHANGED TO PROTECT HIS IDENTITY

Khalid and his family were on the verge of being put out on the street when we met him.

He, his wife and his 3 young sons were under constant threat of eviction by their landlord, who was exploiting that they were new to Athens to have them at his mercy. He was the neighborhood smuggler and threatened them by sporadically raising the rent and putting them under a constant fear of possible eviction, even when they paid rent on time. This psychological torture was putting Khalid's family at great risk, and his wife suffered from severe mental health issues. They did not have the means to find a better housing solution, especially considering this was in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We were able to find them a home where they were not under the threat of constant eviction. The family would have time to rest and recover from the psychological torture they had endured. They were finally able to rest their heads in an apartment where they no longer had to deal with an exploitative landlord. We renewed the rent for Khalid's family three times, after which they were able to successfully relocate to Germany.



General Needs Fulfillment Program

Service gaps in Athens, Greece for refugees do not just occur in the housing realm. It can be extremely hard for refugees to gain access to health care. Even with health care, we met many people who did not have the financial capacity to pay for life-saving medication. Additionally, we've met families who, although had a roof over their heads, could not afford food. Our General Needs Fulfillment Program serves these individuals with cash assistance for essentials like medication, food, or even lawyer fees that go towards asylum procedures.



44

**total people
supported since
May 2019**

29

**total people
supported
Since May 2020**

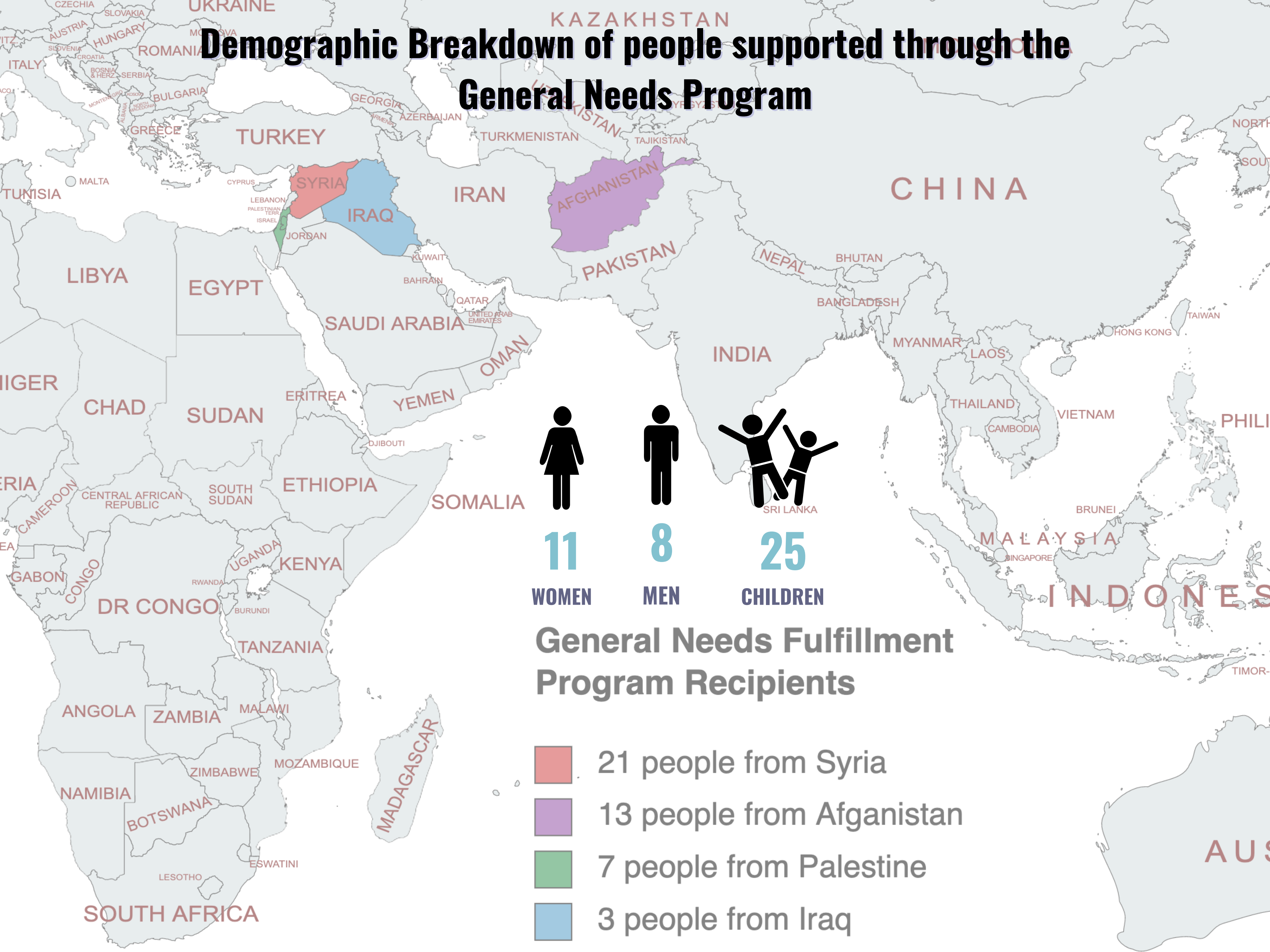
\$6,222

**total spent since
May 2019**

\$4,216

**total spent on
since May 2020**

Demographic Breakdown of people supported through the General Needs Program



Meet Jamilla and Her Family



We met Jamilla and her family in the early days of Finding Refuge at an abandoned school that refugees squatted. Jamilla, a former resident of the squat, introduced us to her four-year-old daughter, Asiya, who looked like she was only two years old. Asiya was different from most kids her age. While most four-year-olds are already speaking and walking, Asiya was unable to stand up or even swallow food. She suffers from a series of health issues that have prevented her from growing properly, being able to eat food and even breathe without assistance. She was in need of round-the-clock care and also extensive medical checks to keep her alive.

Although the family's housing was supported by the government, they still did not have the financial means to provide Asiya with the needed medication and medical care. Asiya needed medical equipment, like tubes to be able to eat and breathe. Along with her medication, she could only consume specialized milk for her fragile bones, which was much more expensive than baby food and formula. A packet of this specialized milk costed the family 100 euros, lasting them only 2 weeks.

All Jamilla and her husband Ali wanted was for their daughter to heal and for her to not feel pain, but that was impossible without all of her medical needs being fulfilled, which they could not afford as asylum seekers in Greece. Thanks to a monthly donor, we were able to provide this family with cash assistance ranging from 150 to 200 euros every month for 6 months, that they used to buy medication, milk, and food. With this help, the family no longer had to choose between eating meals and buying medication for Asiya, while nearly always choosing the latter.

The family has now relocated to Germany, where they have better access to the kind of medical care Asiya needs. The family is building their new life in Germany and Jamilla even gave birth to a new baby girl, Lena, whom she named after our own co-founder!

Language Education and Development Program

LEAD

A language education program designed to create job opportunities and encourage self-sufficiency

Finding Refuge and the Jafra Foundation in Greece partnered to create the Language Education and Development Program (LEAD), as a response to the lack of initiatives promoting self-sufficiency for refugees in Greece.

LEAD connects Arabic educators who are refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers with motivated students worldwide. We provide educators with the training and resources needed to provide individualized language instruction suitable for all student levels and objectives. Students receive all the necessary textbooks and language resources free of charge.

While Arabic is the only offered language at the moment, we are working on expanding to other languages as well.



15

**STUDENTS
REGISTERED SINCE
MAY 2020**

\$4,002.29

**PAID OUT TO EDUCATORS
SINCE MAY 2020
*€3,306 PAID OUT IN EUROS**

93%

**OF STUDENTS
CONTINUED AFTER 1ST
TRIAL CLASS**

318

**ARABIC CLASSES
GIVEN**

Where our LEAD Students Come From:

Arkansas, US

Maryland, US

Athens, Greece

Dublin, Ireland

California, US

New York, US

Barcelona, Spain

London, UK

Illinois, US

Philadelphia, US

Cardiff, Wales

Lokeren, Belgium

Florida, US

Texas, US

Copenhagen, Denmark

Rome, Italy

Doha, Qatar

Zurich, Switzerland



**18
CITIES**

Meet Our Educators!



Mahmoud

Mahmoud is a Palestinian born and raised in Syria. He was displaced to Greece in 2016. He has years of teaching experience and teaches advanced ESL classes. He is passionate about languages and also speaks conversational Greek and German. Mahmoud has volunteered with multiple organizations that support refugees in Greece along with being a local activist for refugee rights and the liberation of Palestine.



Rahaf

Rahaf is a Palestinian born and raised in Syria, displaced to Greece in 2018. She is a mother of two kids and is a trained nurse. Rahaf is passionate about teaching and learning. She uses the LEAD classes she administers as an opportunity to improve her own English. Rahaf values communication and being able to learn about people from all over the world. She enjoys music and writing stories!



Suhel

Suhel is Syrian, displaced to Greece in 2015. He has years of teaching experience and also teaches English as a second language. He is passionate about languages and is currently learning Greek! Suhel also happens to be our Duniya House on-site coordinator. He spends much of his time working towards improving conditions for his community



Murad

Murad is Syrian. When he was in Syria, he studied to become an engineer. He was displaced to Greece in 2015 where he spent most of his time in Moria camp. At the camp, Murad was a volunteer and language interpreter for many organizations. A couple of years ago, Murad was able to migrate to the Netherlands, where he is based now. Murad is currently enrolled in university in the Netherlands and is resuming his studies to become an engineer!

Student Review

Who is your Instructor?

Mahmoud

How Long Have You Been Involved with LEAD?

1 year

Overall Feedback on the Course and on the Instructor:

Mahmoud is an incredible instructor:

He has taken me from 0 level Arabic to understanding and having specific conversations.

He is very supportive and great at adapting the content to my skill level. We started off with the alphabet (and specific words related to each letter), with numbers and verbs interspersed. The sessions are engaging and Mahmoud explains well how this is relevant to wider learning. He's easy to speak to asking for help on specific topics and is VERY good at explaining things.

I would recommend Mahmoud to anyone who is a beginner in Arabic.

Would like to highlight as well he has a good understanding of multiple languages and uses this to explain why something works the way it does. He is also skilled in knowing what is good to know and what is too high level so you don't get wrapped up in complicated grammar.

Overall this is a great experience, and I have been given all the resources I need. Learning Arabic has been far more enjoyable than I could expect!



BREAKING: June 2020 -A global pandemic and an emerging housing crisis puts thousands of refugees at risk ...



In the midst of a global pandemic, governments should be protecting people at high risk of COVID-19, not throwing them out onto the streets.

Fears of a humanitarian crisis

Most of the accommodation provided by the scheme is in Athens and evicting so many refugees could trigger a humanitarian crisis in the city.

Greek newspaper Efsyn said it would be "devastating and not just for the refugees".

“These are people who have gained refugee status and should be fending for themselves,” the migration ministry’s secretary general, Manos Logothetis, tells the Guardian. “If they are pampered, how are they going to ever find a job and become part of society? There has to be a limit.”

[UNHCR](#) and [NGOs](#) warned that the change to ESTIA would cut off aid prematurely and leave ousted refugees facing poverty, hunger, and homelessness. They further cautioned that HELIOS was [unprepared](#) to handle an increase in beneficiaries. They were right.

With 2,000 people transferred from the islands [in June](#) and [thousands more](#) asylum seekers and refugees set to move after the Moria fire in September, demand for reception and integration support [rose quickly](#). Capacity in reception centers was strained. Soon after transfers to the mainland began, refugees from Moria ended up [sleeping outdoors in Athens’ Victoria Square](#). Authorities [evicted inhabitants of the makeshift camp](#) and moved individuals to facilities in and around Athens. There, [refugees report](#) living in tents with little access to food and no electricity. An NGO representative described a resulting vicious cycle—refugees leave the [dire camp conditions](#) to return to the city streets, only to be [rounded up](#) and forced back again.

“In Moria, at least I had a job. Today I can’t think of work until we have somewhere to stay”
Sarah Hussein,
Afghan refugee

Sources top-bottom: Medicines Sans Frontiers, Euro News, The Guardian, Refugees International.

Duniya House was formed as a response to this growing housing crisis in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic



In July 2020, there was a surge in homelessness for refugees and asylum seekers in Athens, Greece due to evictions by both the Greek government and the UNHCR. In total, the government evicted 11,000 recognized refugees from camps and accommodations across the country. The first phase of evictions led to nearly 200 people sleeping in Victoria Square in Athens, where refugees faced continuous harassment by police and fascist groups. The situation was deteriorating day by day and the level of need for our services was growing.

Welcome to Duniya House



MAIN OBJECTIVES:

- Provide immediate emergency housing assistance for vulnerable and neglected refugees and asylum seekers
- Build a network of support for beneficiaries and create individually catered self-sufficiency plans
- Develop community dialogue and engage beneficiaries in the management and operations of Duniya House
- Create an inclusive and open space which encourages beneficiaries to engage with each other
- Provide assistance with accessing other social services
- Streamline communications and check-ins with beneficiaries

Services at Duniya House



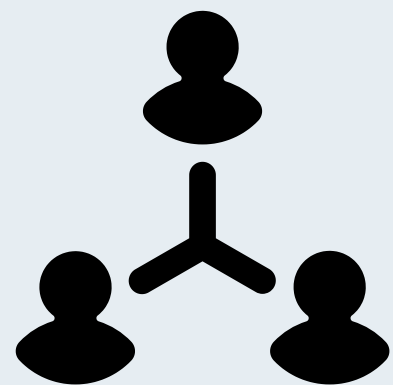
Catered asylum
case-working
support



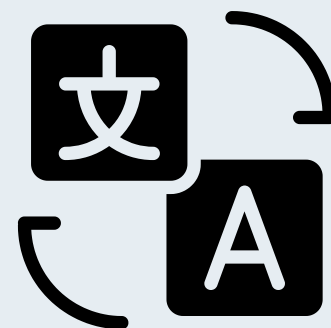
Emergency food
and general needs
assistance



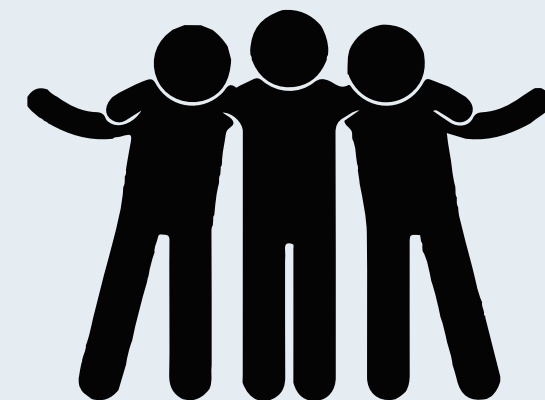
Informal education
and language
training



Resource mapping and
connecting



Translation and
accompaniment



Community development
and empowerment
events and activities

BREAKDOWN

**50
PERSON***

OCCUPANCY

**4
KITCHENS**

**15
ROOMS**

**4
BATHROOMS**

**3
FLOORS**

*This max occupancy varies depending on tenant unit in each rooms and what is comfortable and dignified for all residents. Ideally, each room should house at least four people but this may vary based on family size.



58

TOTAL PEOPLE HOUSED



32

TRANSITIONED OUT



16

WOMEN



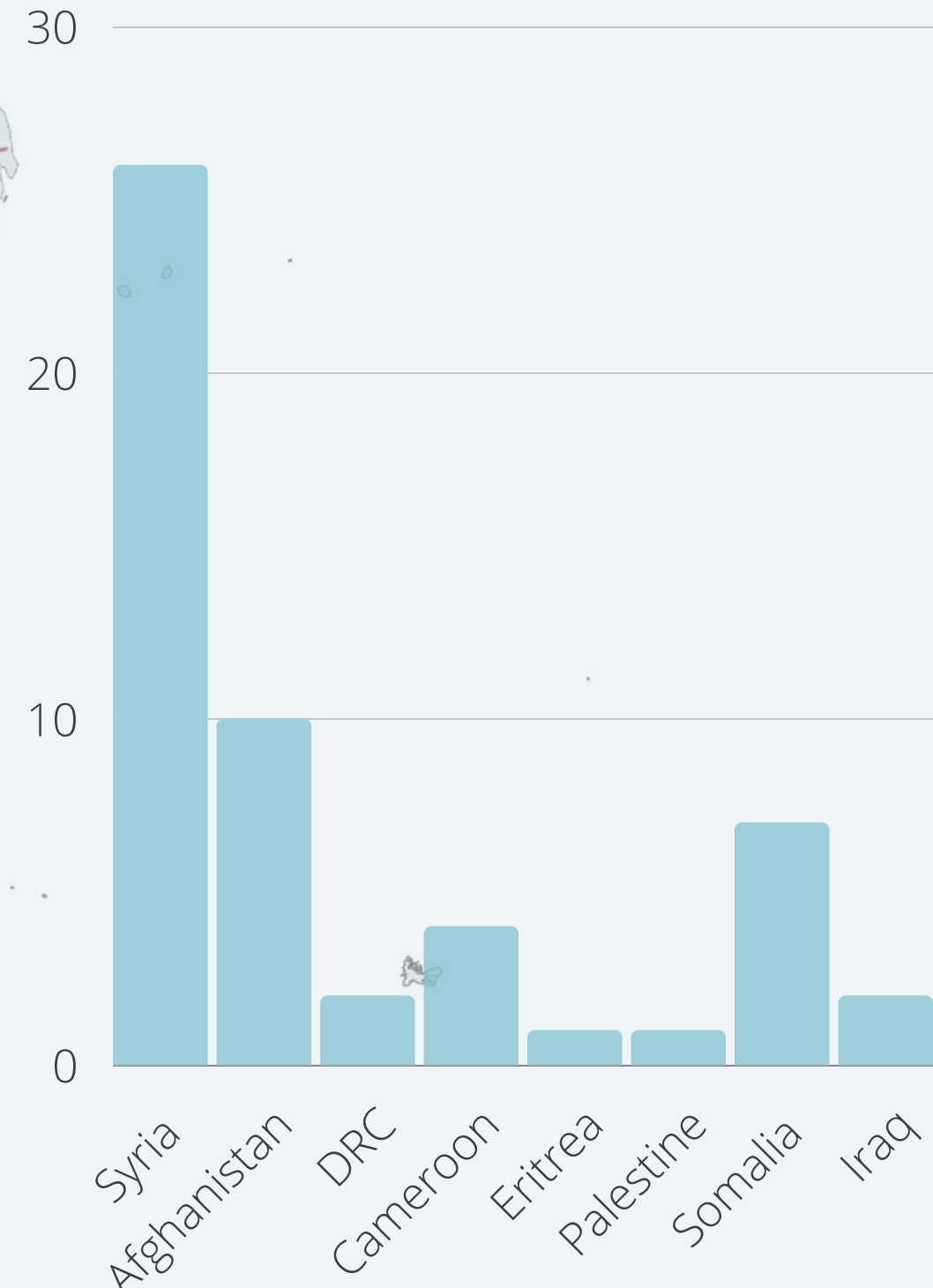
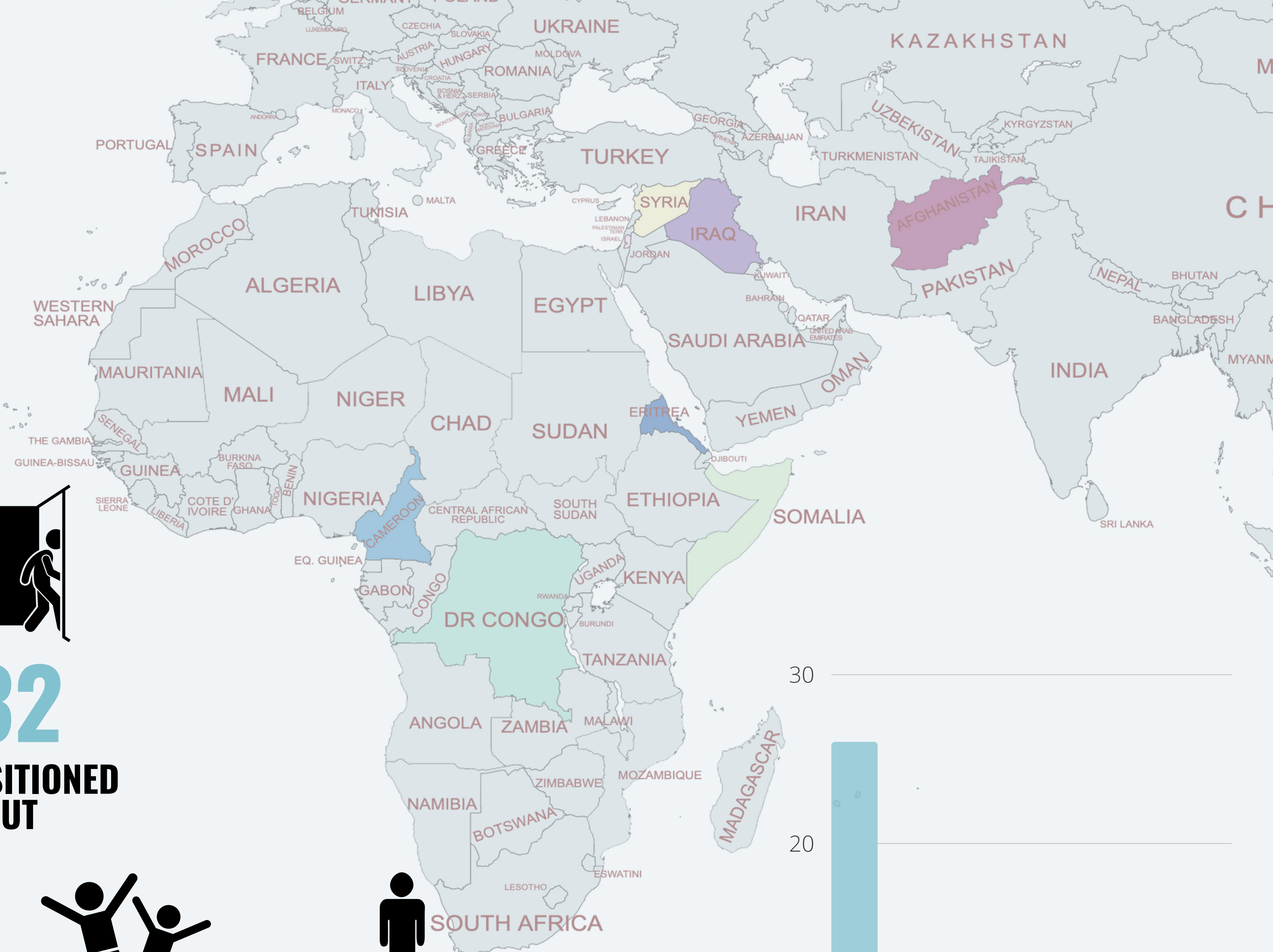
30

CHILDREN



12

MEN



Where They Are Now



6

**People transitioned
into government-
funded housing**



14

**People
migrated to another
country**



12

**People moved
into their own
home**

Duniya House is a transitional home for residents. The Duniya model encourages and assists residents to prepare for life beyond their time at Duniya House. Despite many challenges, over half of residents have successfully transitioned out of Duniya House.

Hear from Sahra* - a former resident

What was your favorite memory while staying at Duniya?

Wajiga farxada leh een kala kulmi jirnay masuuliyiinta duniyo. Iyo Dalxiiskii bada.
The happy faces of the Duniya House leaders and the trip to the sea.

What did you appreciate about Duniya House?

Sida meel loo wada dajiyey dumarka aan ninkoodii wadan iyo caruurtoda, loogana mamnuucay in rag lala dajiyo.
How unmarried women and their children are housed together and prevented from cohabiting with men.

Did you feel that Duniya was a place you can call home?

Haa wuxuu ahaa duniyoguri wanaagsan.
Yes, Duniya was a great home.

Did the community that lives at Duniya feel like a family to you?

Haa qoys ayey ila ahayd is jecel.
Yes, it was a family to me it was full of love.

How did it feel living in the same place as people from so many different backgrounds?

Dadku waxay ka soo kala jeedeen qaarada kala duwan, wadamo kala duwan, iyo diimo kala duwan, hadana duniyo ayaa walaalaysay waxay ahaayeen hal qoys.
People came from different continents, different countries, and different religions, yet the the Duniya house made us brothers and made us one family.

"I miss my Duniya family and my little girl Maya[does] as well"

Sahra and her daughter Maya are from Somalia. They were one of the first residents we housed in Duniya House and stayed with us for a year. When we first met Sahra, she was camping outside Malakasa camp in desperate attempts to secure housing there. One time she and her daughter even snuck into the camp-- only to be found and dragged out by camp authorities. Soon after, Sahra's case was referred to us. We were able to approve her promptly and since then, she has lived at Duniya House. Duniya House became her home! Her daughter Maya even became best friends with a young Iraqi boy who lived on the same floor as her. We were so happy to say good bye to Sahra this July when she moved out of Duniya House. Sahra and her daughter now have housing from the government and are living in an apartment in the city.

*Her name has been changed to protect her identity

Hear From Ali* - a current resident

Ali, 17, and his brother Yusuf, 28, joined the Duniya community in the fall of 2020. The two brothers are Palestinian refugees from Yarmouk refugee camp in Syria. When the camp was bombed by the Syrian regime, Ali and his brother fled Syria in search of a safer and better future in Greece. When we first met Ali, we were unaware of their housing situation. At the time, they were volunteering with an organization that provides vocational training and language courses. It was clear to us that the two brothers were passionate about helping people. They even helped us carry out a previous campaign in which we prepared food baskets for 800 families in need around Athens. We later learned that they did not have a home and had been sleeping at the center for a year. When the center closed, Ali and his brother were homeless once again. They applied for Finding Refuge housing in hopes of not being subjected to living on the street. Since moving in, they have become essential to the community at Duniya.

Ali is a bright 17-year-old teen, filled with motivation to learn. He always attends English classes offered at Duniya and he also pushed for an initiative to have sports and physical activity classes. During his time at Duniya, Ali also started his application for family reunification with his older brother that resides in Germany. We are happy to hear that his reunification case was approved and he will be leaving the Duniya community soon to head to Germany!

What is Duniya House to you?

دنيا هي بيتي، الخطوة التي ساعدتني لتحقيق أهدافي

Duniya is my home. It is a step that helped me achieve my goals.

What is something new you've learned since living here?

أعيش في مبنى دنيا، وأنا محاط ب مجتمعات متنوعة، فهناك اشخاص من دول مختلفة و قد تعلمت الكثير عن ثقافات الشعوب المختلفة

Living at Duniya House, I am surrounded by a diverse community. There are people from different countries and I have learned a lot about different cultures.

What has been your favorite memory at Duniya House?

لدي الكثير من الذكريات الرائعة في الدنيا يصعب علي اختيارها. أود أن أقول إن أحد الذكريات المفضلة لدي هي من هذا الصيف. حيث اجتمع عدد قليل من السكان وأعضاء الفريق حيث رموا البالونات المائية على بعضهم البعض في الحديقة بالقرب من مبنى دنيا

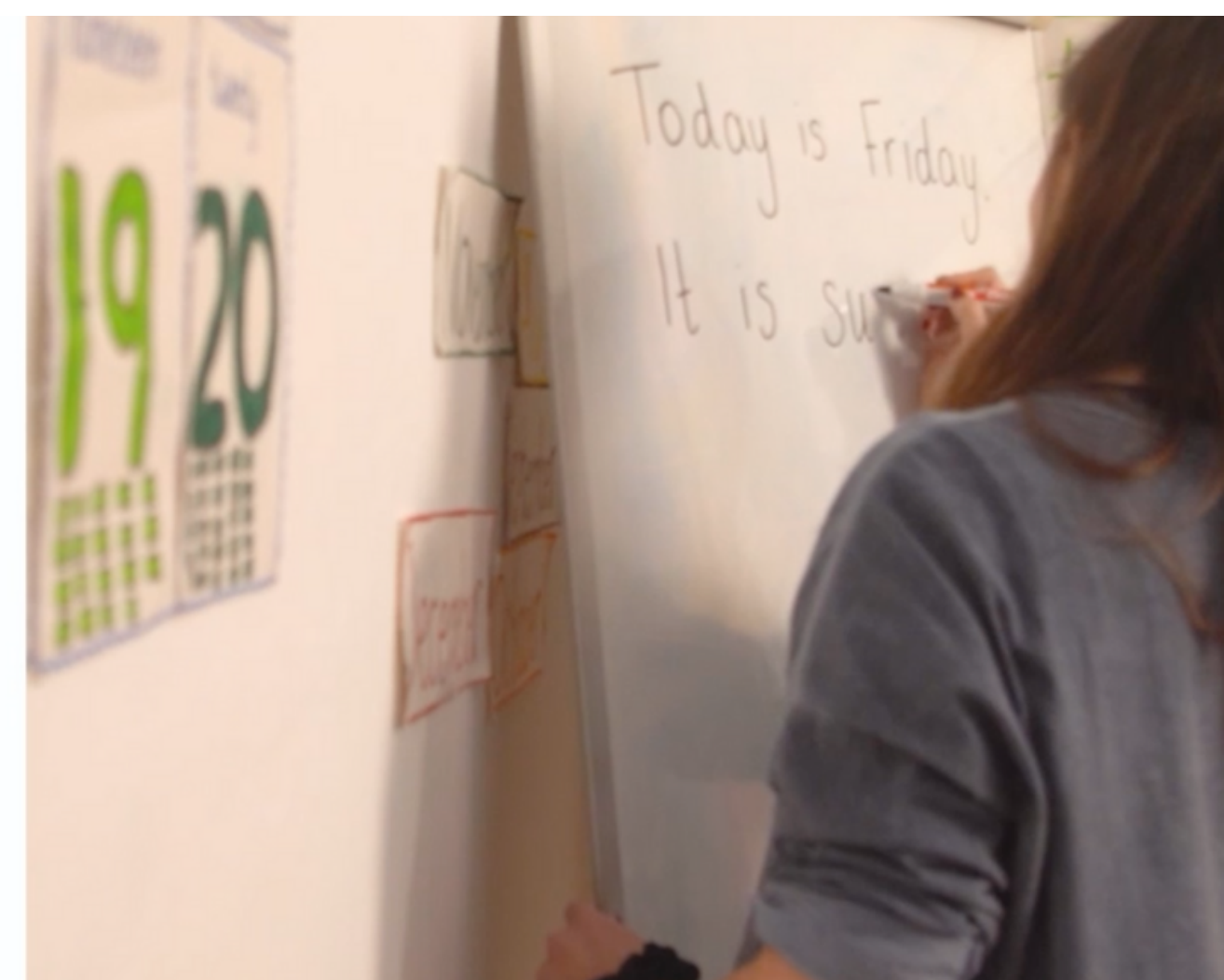
I have had so many great memories in Duniya that it is hard to choose. I would have to say my favorite memory is from this summer. A few residents and team members got together and had a water balloon fight in the park near Duniya House.

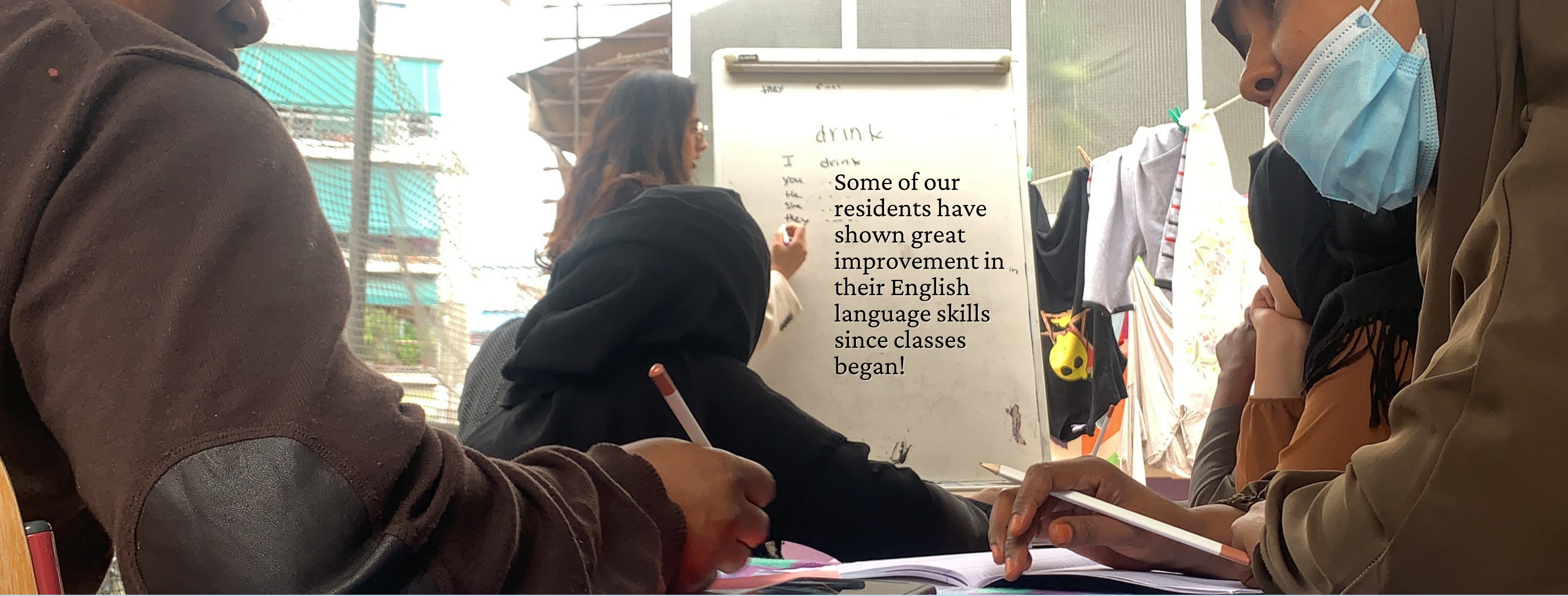
"Duniya is my home. It is a step that helped me achieve my goals."

*His name has been changed to protect his identity

Education Program

Many of the children living at Duniya House are unable to access mainstream forms of schooling. That is why since September 2020, we have been holding classes for children, adults, and teens living in Duniya House. A certified teacher volunteers to host classes 3 times a week in our very own in house-classroom.





Some of our residents have shown great improvement in their English language skills since classes began!



Food and Non-Food Item Distributions

Throughout the year, generous donors and partner organizations provided our residents with food and necessary non-food items. We divide up food and non-food items amongst residents so everyone is covered. These donations became especially crucial for the Duniya community during the COVID-19 lockdowns, when other organizations were closed and residents could not access many services. Pamperaki has been one of our major supporters and has helped provide these necessary food and non-food items.





Community Activities



Eid Ul Fitr Beach Trip

We recieved a generous donation to purchase a goat and sacrifice in accordance with Islamic beliefs and distribute the meat to all residents at Duniya House!

In collaboration with the Drop Project, we rented a bus and drove residents to Sounio for a fun day at the beach !



Eid Ul Adha Duniya House Qurbani Goat

A volunteer performer showed up to conduct activities with the kids including dances and magic tricks. We also barbecued and launched lanterns from the Duniya roof

The end of our Emergency Covid Relief Campaign coincided with Christmas. We distributed the financial assistance stipends from the campaign to residents during Christmas festivities and Suhel dressed as Santa to give out these gifts!



Our onsite director dressed as Papa Noel before the Christmas party



Eid Ul Adha Festivities and Activities



A day out at the park!

A volunteer from Pilipapa offered to paint a mural for the entrance of Duniya House. The children living in Duniya House also got involved in the process!

The Duniya community had a day out for some sunshine, activities and snacks after a long lockdown



Mural painting at Duniya



Psycho-social support workshops

Residents attended a psycho-social support workshop with Dr. Fady Salfiti, who facilitates workshops with refugees about mental health and overcoming challenges.

Some of the residents decided to have daily morning physical exercise and sports activities at a nearby park!



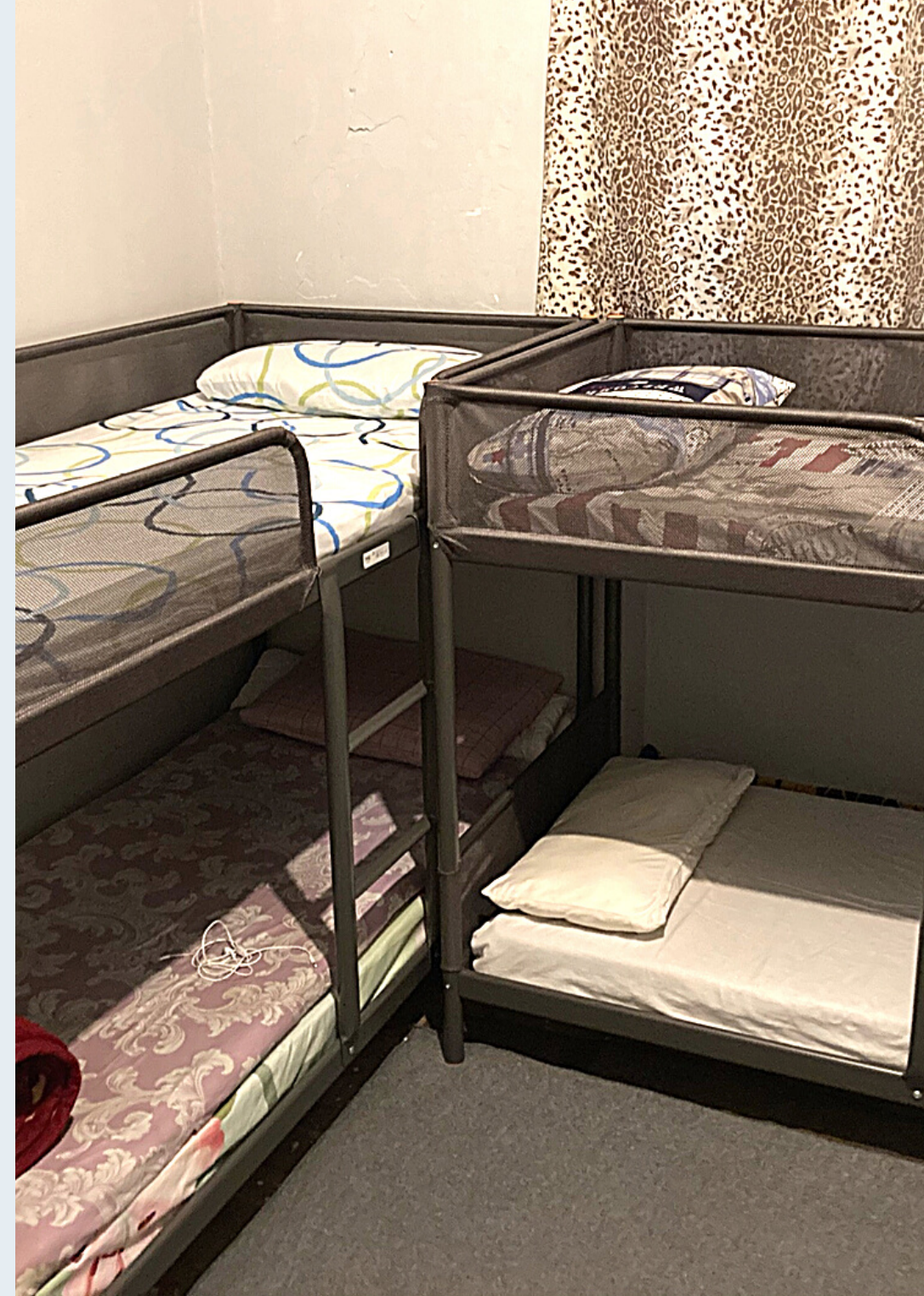
Sports Class and Physical Activities

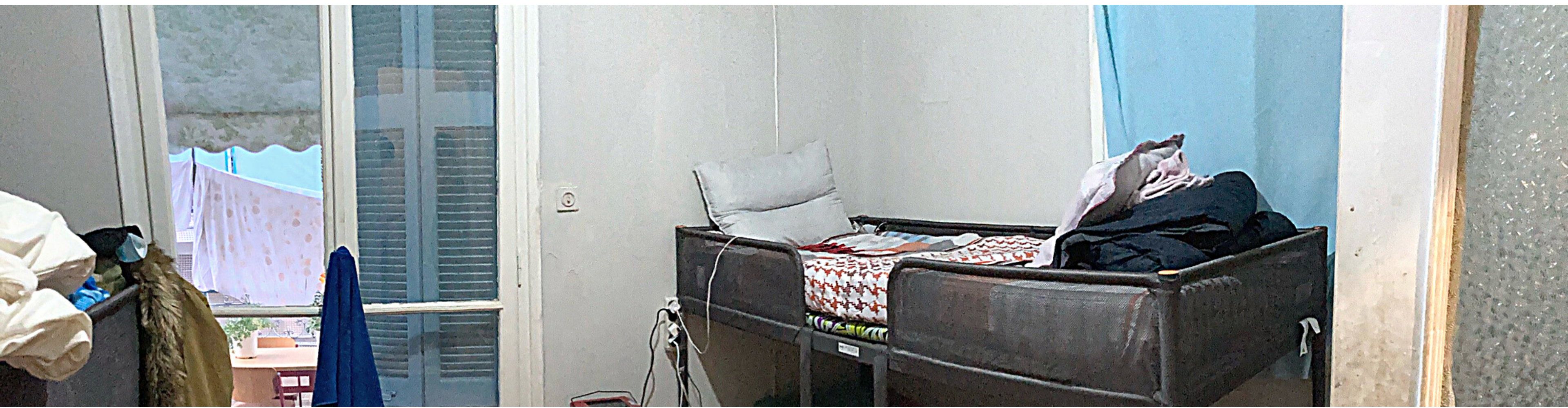


Duniya House Makeover

Bunk Beds

This past year, we received a generous grant from Donate4Refugees to purchase much needed bunk-beds for Duniya House residents. We purchased a total of 12 bunkbeds and 24 mattresses. The bunkbeds were purchased from IKEA. We acquired the mattresses from a refugee-run small business that sold mattresses and other bedding materials. The beds allowed us to expand our capacity in each room! Our incredible onsite team worked tirelessly to assemble the bunk beds and prepare the rooms!





Beautifying Duniya

As Duniya House is an old Greek building with a lot of character, we wanted to add to add our own personal touches as the Finding Refuge community. In the month of July, the Duniya community as a whole, worked to give Duniya a new paint job from the outside in. We also re-cemented walls, patched up holes, and added touches that beautified the courtyard and made it a more childproof area for children to play.



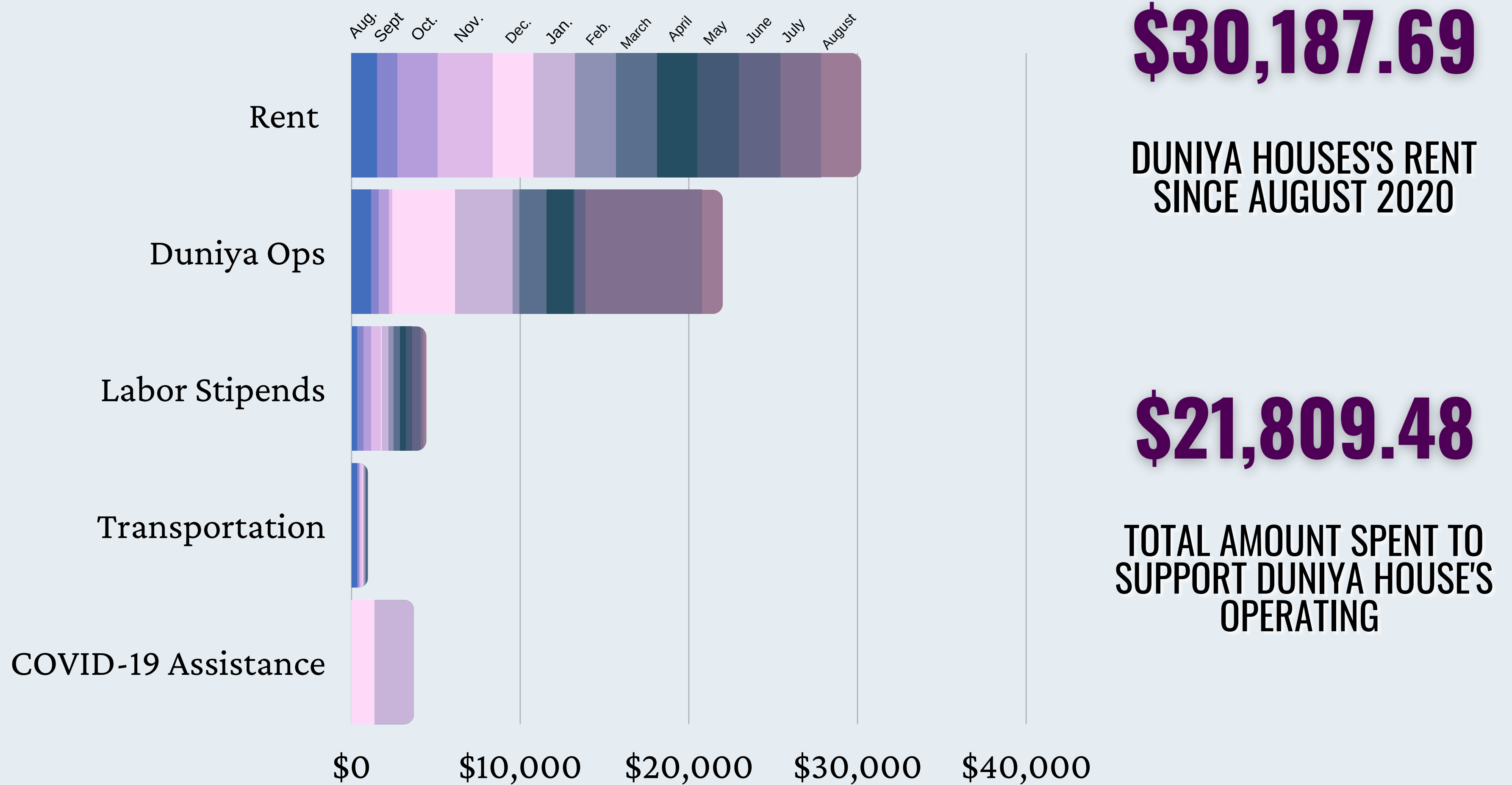
Before



After

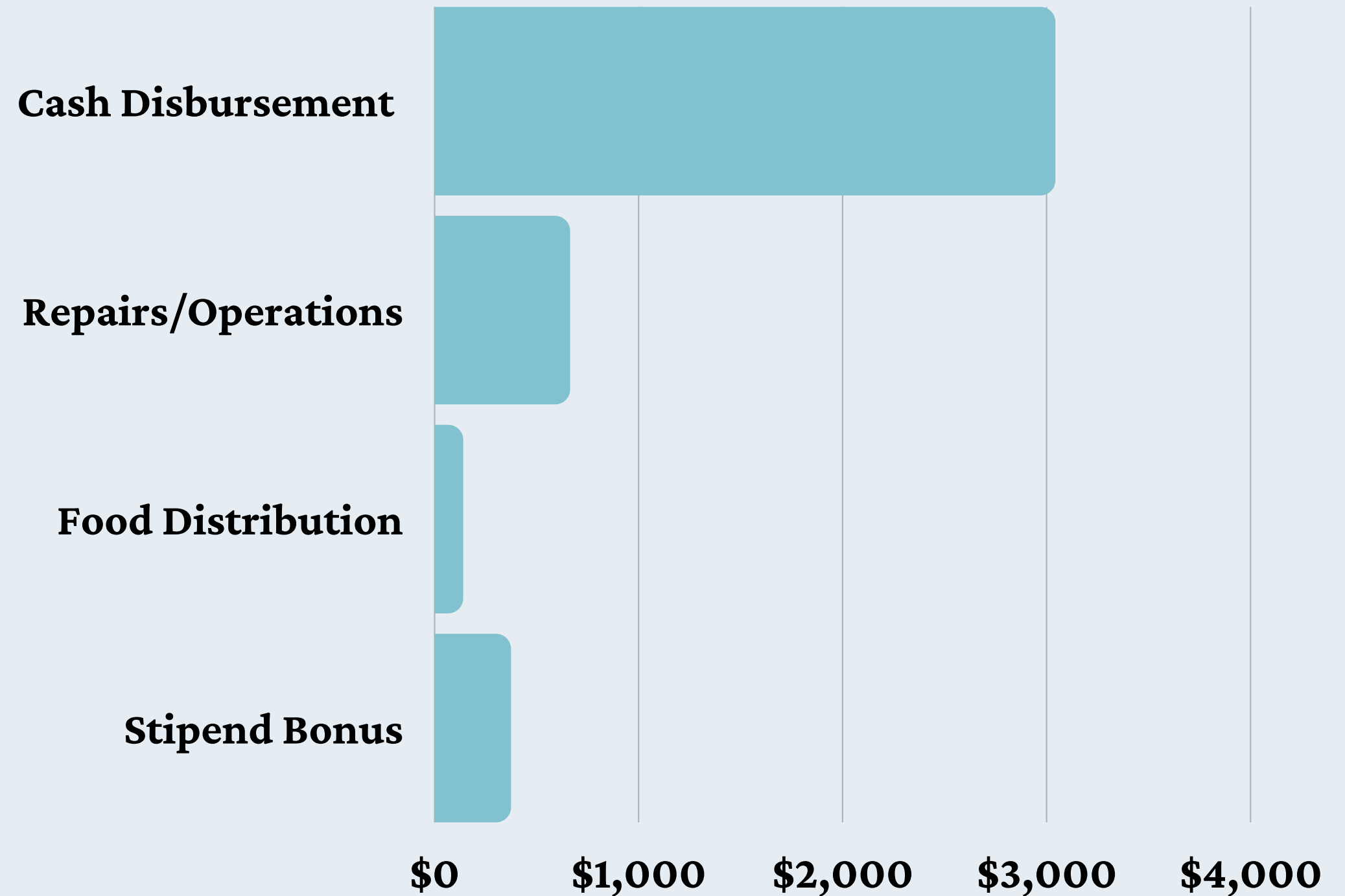
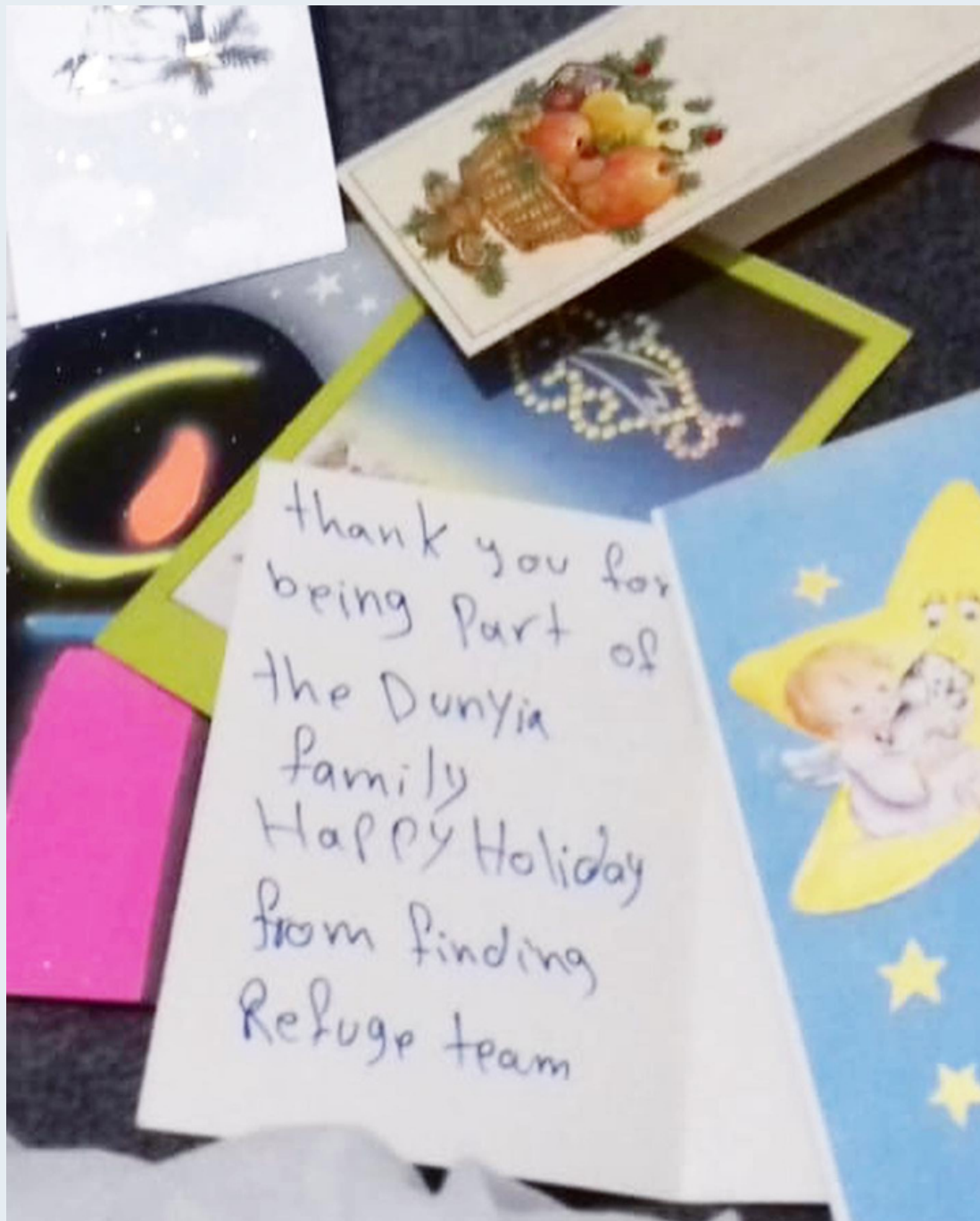
Duniya House Expenses

(AUGUST 2020 - AUGUST 2021)



The graph above depicts categorized expenses from August 2020, Duniya House's founding, to August 2021. Duniya operations cover costs related to ongoing repairs, essential operations such as utility bills, cleaning supplies, food items, fridges, stoves, and other household items and appliances. Labor stipends go towards our two onsite staff members that keep Duniya House running smoothly. Transportation refers to costs associated with transporting people and materials to Duniya House. Most transportation costs occurred over August and September when Finding Refuge was implementing the move-in process to Duniya House. COVID-19 assistance was a cash disbursement campaign to residents to help them get through the strict COVID-19 virus lockdown.

Covid-19 Support Campaign



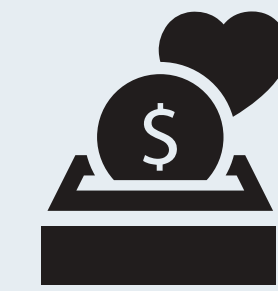
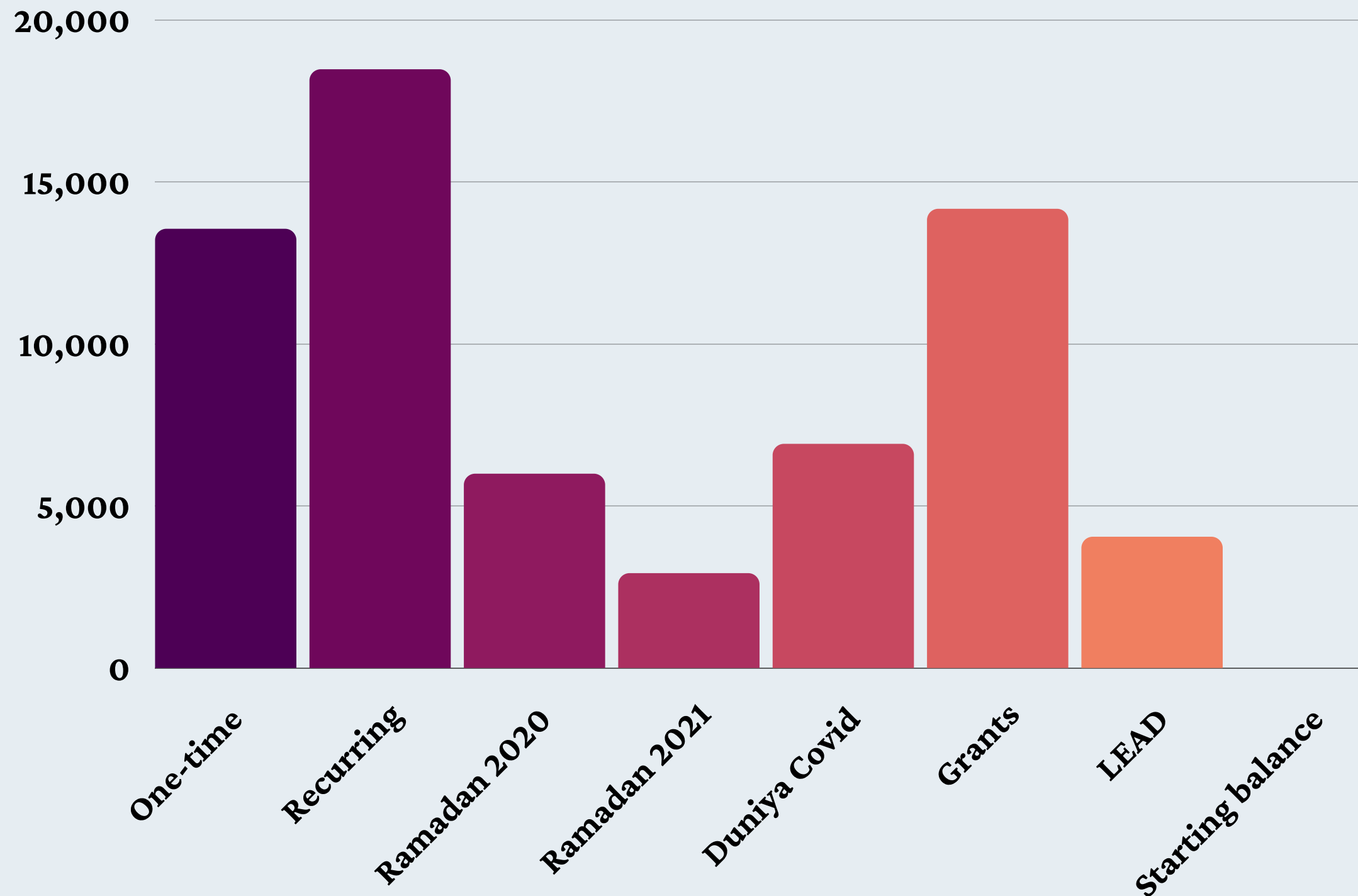
In November we launched our emergency COVID-19 relief fundraiser for our residents and other community members. We distributed cash assistance ranging from 100 to 150 euros per resident unit and provided a bonus for our onsite team members. We also had community dinners around the holidays!



Financial Overview From May 2020- April 2021

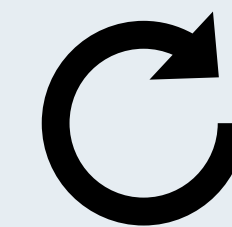
Donation Breakdown:

MAY 2020-APRIL 2021



\$13,541.03

One-time donations



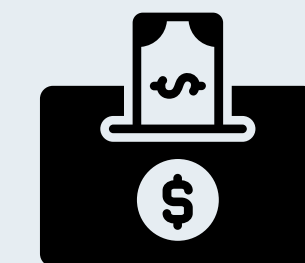
\$18,464.70

Recurring monthly donations



\$15,796.86

Donations from crowdfunding and campaigns



\$14,158.12

Grants awarded

\$65,996.84

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED

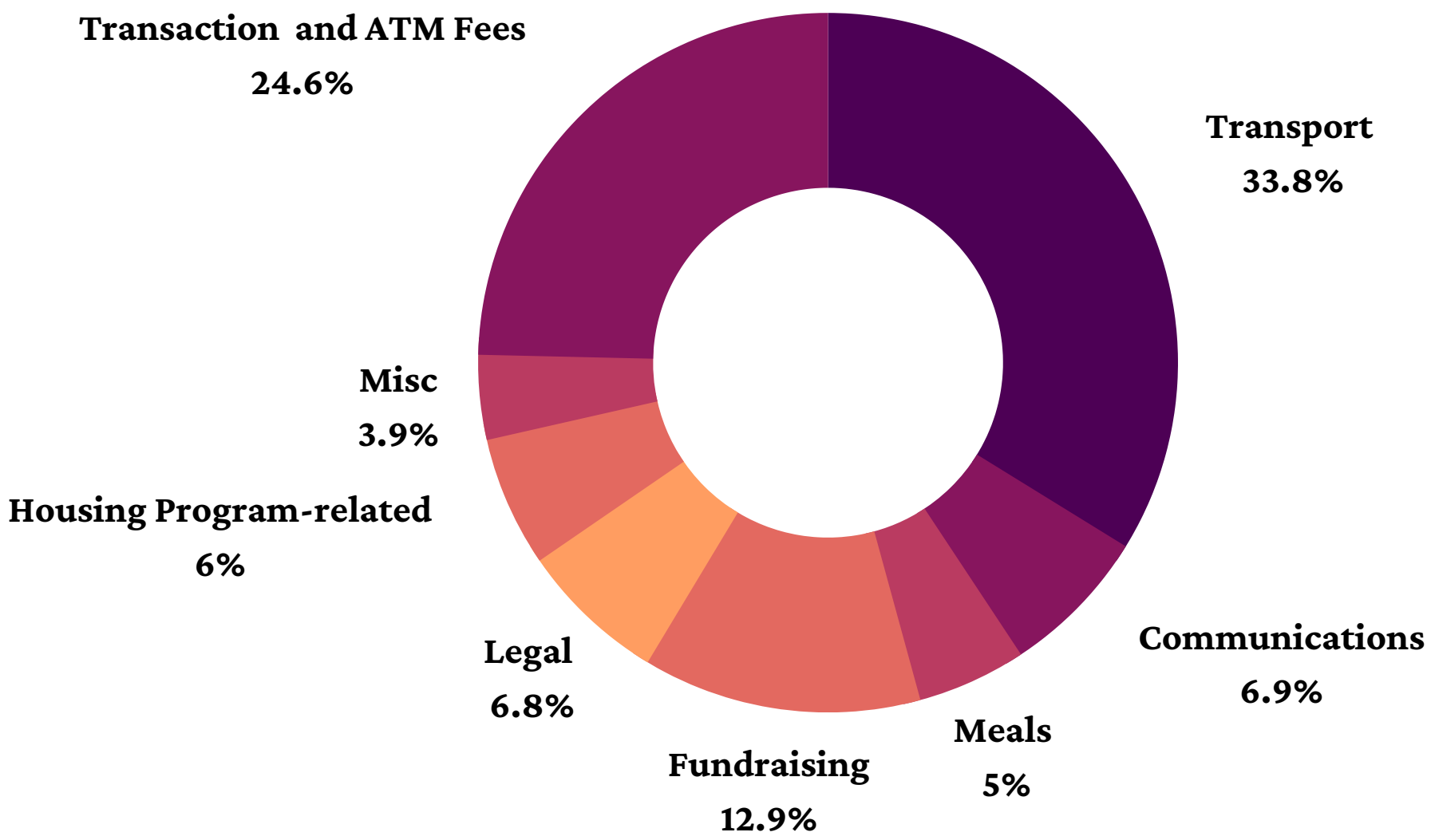
All the work we do at Finding Refuge would not be possible without our generous donors. We rely heavily on our recurring donors to help us fund Duniya House each month. We are also so grateful to have received grants from Donate4Refugees and Move92. Donate4Refugees' grants have assisted us with paying rent for and also provided us with the funds to purchase bunk beds. Move-92 provided us with a grant to purchase essential items for Duniya House as well as support with rent. One-time donations were pivotal to ensure that we could support residents during tough COVID-19 virus lockdowns and ensure funds to continue Duniya House's operations.

Expense Breakdown

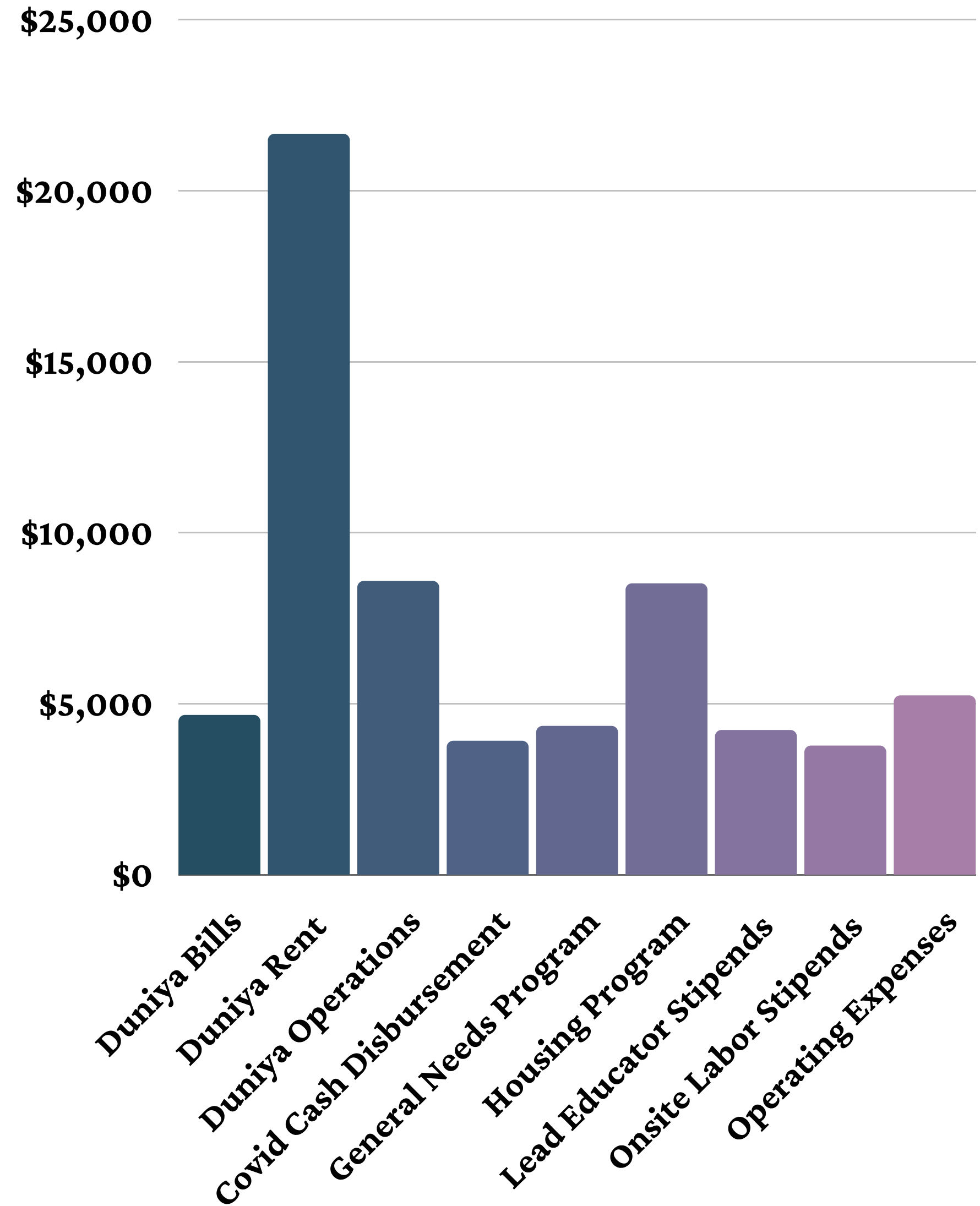
MAY 2020-APRIL 2021

Total Expenses:

\$64,824.22



Operating Expenses Breakdown





Thank
You!

