



RAMWI
Refugee & Migrant
Women's Initiative

2024

Annual Report



SEW MUCH HOPE PROJECT
Community + Opportunity = Hope

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Thank You

Support Us

Dear Friends and Supporters,



As we reflect on the past year at the Refugee and Migrant Women's Initiative (RAMWI), I am filled with gratitude for the strides we have made together in our mission to support and empower our program participants and their families.

2024 has been a year of both challenges and achievements. Despite global uncertainties, RAMWI has remained steadfast in our commitment to providing essential services and fostering a welcoming environment. Our dedicated team has worked tirelessly to ensure that every individual we worked with received the care, support, and opportunities they needed.

This year, we expanded our programs and initiatives, focusing on enhancing mental health and social support, wellness services, and integration programs, empowering countless women to rebuild their lives with resilience and dignity. None of this would have been possible without the generous support of our donors, partners, and volunteers. Your commitment has been the cornerstone of our success.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are excited to expand our reach and deepen our impact.

On behalf of the entire RAMWI team, thank you!

Together, we are building a more inclusive and compassionate community.

With gratitude,

Florence Ackey

About Us

The Refugee & Migrant Women's Initiative (RAMWI) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) Charity started in 2013 to support refugee and migrant women resettling in the Tampa Bay Area.

Our mission

is to enhance the lives of refugee and migrant women in the community by providing an opportunity to heal, engage with others while learning the skills necessary to become self-sustainable, organize and advocate for themselves.

Programs

- Sew Much Hope Project
- WEL Institute
- Wellness Support Groups
- R.E.A.C.H.



Programs Overview

Wellness Support Groups

Tailored programming to encourage and equip women with skills and knowledge to navigate cultural differences and norms, as well as gain confidence in their ability to achieve personal goals. Exposes participants to local resources while providing a sense of community and support.

R.E.A.C.H.

Our Refugee Empowerment & Access Through Healing (R.E.A.C.H.) program is a weekly therapist-facilitated support group that will run for 6 sessions and focus on mental well-being, trauma healing, and social support. Our goal is to provide a safe space to promote mental well-being and strengthen social support through group and guided activities.

Sew Much Hope Project

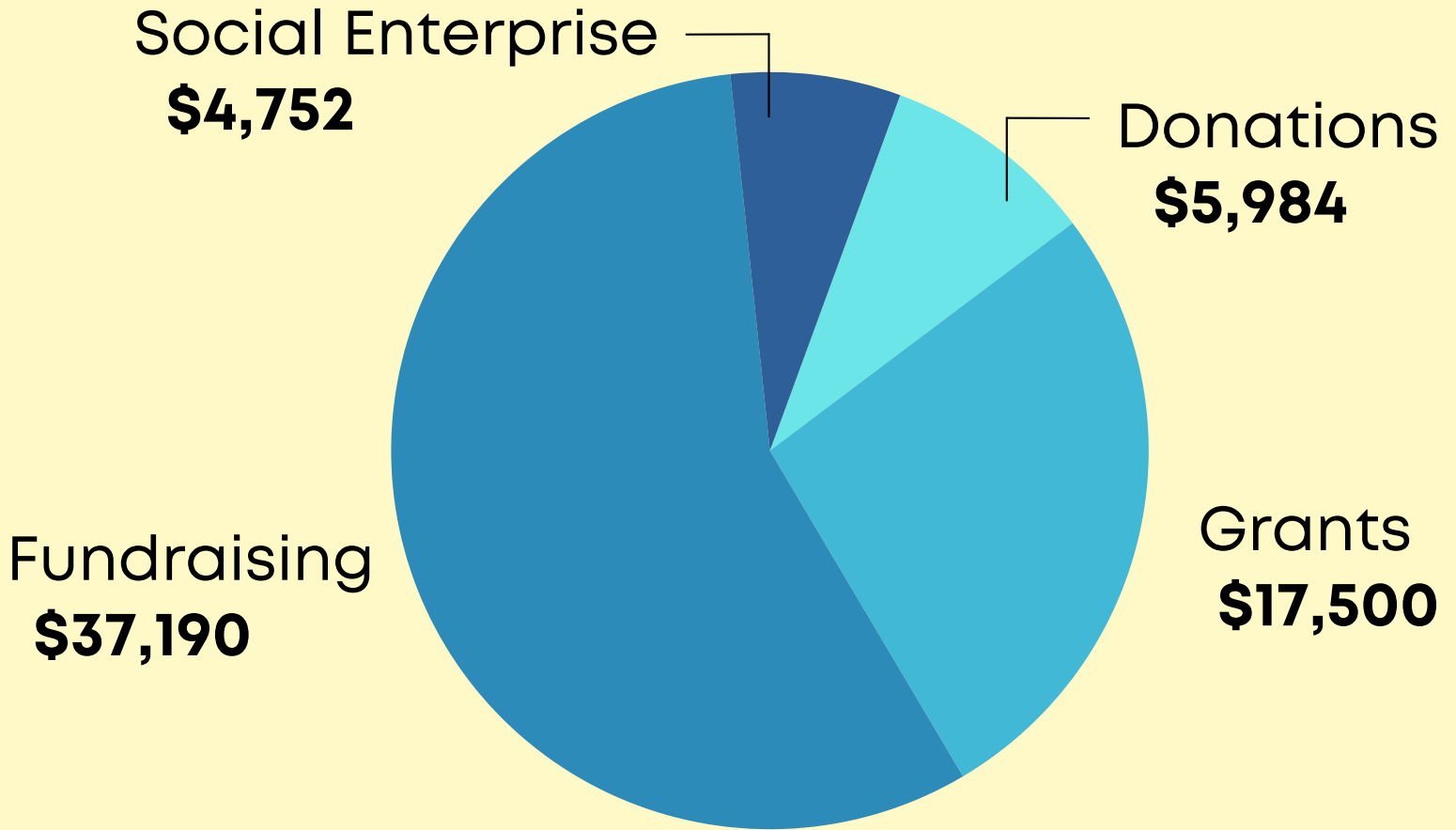
The purpose of this program is to create access to economic development and a safe, culturally informed environment for women to learn new skills, build confidence and have an empowered sense of personal agency. The women in the social enterprise work together to sew high-quality women's accessories and home decor items, which are sold on our website and at local craft markets.

WEL Institute

Our Women's Empowerment and Leadership (WEL) Institute is designed to empower refugee and migrant women in the Tampa Bay area through capacity building, education, and advocacy. Programs focus on leadership development, personal growth, and overall well-being.

Financials

Income by source



Total income: **\$65,426**

Total expenditures: **\$64,779**

Highlights

- \$10K increase in Spring fundraising efforts compared to 2023
- 150% increase in Giving Tuesday fundraising compared to 2023

Programs Highlights



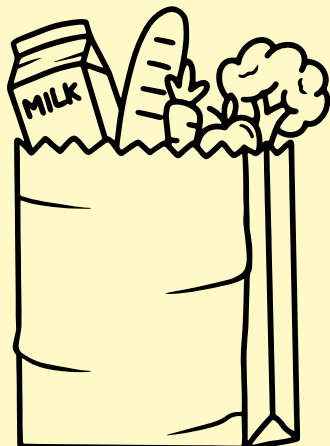
900 volunteer hours spent providing

120+ families with resources, supplies, interpretation, childcare, and more



3 R.E.A.C.H. sessions hosted in Arabic, Spanish, and Ukrainian, respectively, giving

19 women access to critical, therapist-led mental health support



300 essential needs kits distributed to families in need after Hurricanes Helene and Milton

Wellness Support Groups

Tailored programming to encourage and equip women with skills and knowledge to navigate cultural differences and norms, as well as gain confidence in their ability to achieve personal goals. Exposes participants to local resources while providing a sense of community and support.

270

people
participated
from

18

countries

55

volunteers
served
for

234

hours

9

 sessions
covering:

- Physical Health & Wellness
- Volunteering
- Mental & Emotional Health
- Dental Care
- Hurricane Preparedness
- Fire Safety
- Back to School
- Relationship Safety
- End of Year Celebration





REFUGEE EMPOWERMENT & ACCESS THROUGH COGNITIVE HEALING

R.E.A.C.H

Refugee Empowerment and Access through Cognitive Healing (R.E.A.C.H.) is a therapist-led cultural-adaptive group that helps women develop coping skills and a framework to identify trauma and its effects.



19

women
participated
from

7

countries

14

volunteers
served
for

75

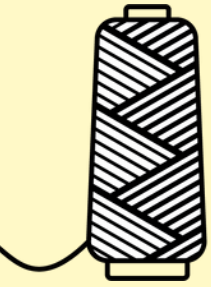
hours

3

 sessions
hosted in:

- Arabic
- Spanish
- Ukrainian

Programs



SEW MUCH
HOPE
A RAMWI PROJECT

Sew Much Hope Project is our collaborative social enterprise program which creates access to economic development and a safe, culturally informed environment for women to learn new skills, build confidence and have an empowered sense of personal agency.

129

paid
participant
labor hours

\$4,000

in total sales

298

products
made by
participants



Programs



Our Women's Empowerment and Leadership (WEL) Institute is designed to empower refugee and migrant women in the Tampa Bay area through capacity building, education, and advocacy.

10

women
participated
from

3

countries

13

volunteers
served
for

391

hours



This year we
provided 120+
families
with...



Transportation

Referrals

Hurricane
Preparedness

Interpretation

Food
Distribution

Resources

Mental
Health
Support

Disaster
Recovery Help

Essential Needs
Distribution

Care Linkage

Crisis Case
Management

Employment
Readiness

Resources

Hurricane Disaster Relief

This year, the Tampa Bay Area faced devastating hurricane damage after Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Refugees and Migrants were particularly vulnerable as language and financial barriers inhibited many from utilizing the resources available to them.

50+
families
served for
40
total
hours



- Distributing hurricane preparedness kits and safety information
- Providing interpretation & transportation services to refugees evacuating to shelters
- Conducting Rapid Needs and Damage Assessments and coordinating efforts with local disaster management partners
- Managing volunteer teams to assist in damaged furniture removal
- Supplying families in need with food after power outages

Special thanks to:

project
HOPE[®]

Urgent relief.
Lasting impact.

THANK

YOU

**to our sponsors,
donors, and
community partners!**

- Grace Family Church
- Eckerd College St. Pete Center
- The Junior League of Tampa Bay
- Pinellas Community Foundation
- 200 Muslim Women Who Care (MWWC)
- GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club
- Allegany Franciscan Ministries
- Tampa Bay Time Bank
- Lutheran Services
- Coptic Orthodox Charities
- Church World Services
- Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force
- Mission Hill Church
- Daystar Life Center
- Project Hope
- AMRoC Fab Lab
- USF College of Public Health
- MOSI
- Radiant Hands
- Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
- Good Neighbors
- Toyota
- Raymond James
- Cline Enterprise
- Temple Beth-El

Hope can, and will, change
the world!

Support Us

Your support is critical to the work we do. Thank you for working to create a more welcoming and empowered Tampa Bay.



VOLUNTEER



DONATE



SPONSOR



Learn more at ramwi.org or contact us at admin@ramwi.org