



**CHALDEAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

Chaldean Community Foundation – at a Glance

Overview: Chaldeans are Eastern Rite Catholics and Iraq and Syria's indigenous people. Metro Detroit is home to the largest Chaldean population outside the Middle East with an estimated 150,000. Since the United States' invasion of Iraq, more than three fourths (1,000,000+) of Iraq's Christian population has fled due to religious persecution and remain displaced as refugees all over the world. More than 30,000 of these refugees have entered Michigan. Additionally, many Syrian refugees are expected in Michigan in the next few years as Syria is home to the second-largest Chaldean community in the world.

Background/Mission: The Chaldean Community Foundation (CCF) is the charitable arm of the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce and a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to advancing the needs of the Chaldean American community and the communities in which they live and work through education, charitable giving and advocacy.

Services: Key programs of the Chaldean Community Foundation include:

- **Refugee Acculturation Sustainability and Training (RAST)**—helps refugees of the Iraq War and subsequent religious persecution to acculturate and become less dependent on federal and state subsidies and services
- **Project Bismutha**—provides free or reduced-cost healthcare to Iraqi Christian and Chaldean refugees without medical insurance through the Chaldean American Association for Health Professionals (funded entirely through community donations)
- **Refugee Mental Health Services**—supplies much-needed mental health referral services to refugees and others in Southeast Michigan
- **English as a Second Language (ESL)**—teaches individuals English through a partnership with Macomb Community College
- **Chaldean Loan Fund**—provides low-interest loans to help refugees purchase a car (funded entirely through community donations)
- **Breaking Barriers**—provides assistance and advocacy to the disabled and respite to caregivers
 - **B.E.A.M. Project**—helps better equip those with visual impairments to live independent lives
 - **H.E.A.L. Project**—helps better equip those with hearing impairments to live independent lives
- **Immigration**—helps individuals apply for lawful permanent resident status and to become naturalized citizens
- **Career Services** – provides job search, training and placement
- **Housing**— Creating long-term housing solutions for new Americans
- **Navigators**—on site to enroll individuals in the Affordable Care Act and Healthy Michigan Plan

2015 Accomplishments: Provided a wide variety of human (social) services:

- Served more than **18,000*** individuals
- Filed **4,034** immigration applications
- Conducted **1,343** job placement services and placed **425** clients in full-time jobs – placement rate of 32%
- Enrolled **180** students in English-as-a-second-language classes
- Breaking Barriers served **121** individuals with disabilities by providing respite, counseling and advocacy services.
- The Chaldean Loan Fund closed the year with more than **\$158,000** in outstanding auto loans. Funded entirely through community donations. | **Approximately 15% of clients served are non-Chaldean.*

Project Bismutha: Provided the following (Funded entirely through community donations):

- Approximately **\$95,000** worth of in-kind services
- **414** physician appointments and services to **231** patients
- More than **2,600** prescriptions valued in excess of **\$12,000**
- More than **\$63,000** worth of lab work thanks to a generous grant from St. John Health System

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