



inara

International Network for
Aid, Relief and Assistance

Annual Report 2017



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1 Introduction from founder and president, Arwa Damon



Arwa Damon met with Imad and his mother in September 2017.

“ Looking back on 2017, I am once again extremely proud of how INARA has been able to grow and extremely grateful to all those who continue to back us.

Syria had largely fallen from the news spotlight, and for many Syrians who I have spoken to throughout my reporting, the seeming global apathy towards their plight just added to their despair. And yet I continue to be heartened by what I am able to see through INARA's work.



The struggle for funding is being experienced by all humanitarian organizations. Despite this challenge INARA has not only survived but also thrived in 2017. We have grown from helping 42 children in 2016 to 112 children in total by the end of 2017. Our total funding for 2017 went up by 82% - an absolutely incredible increase.

We could only do this with the help of others. Firstly, our amazing team of doctors at the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) who donate their time and effort to us every single day. Secondly, our fantastic partners, like UNICEF, who awarded us over half a million in 2017. And last but not least, our supporters who not only donate, but also talk about us to their loved ones, write about us on their social media accounts, and help us by spreading the word about our amazing work.

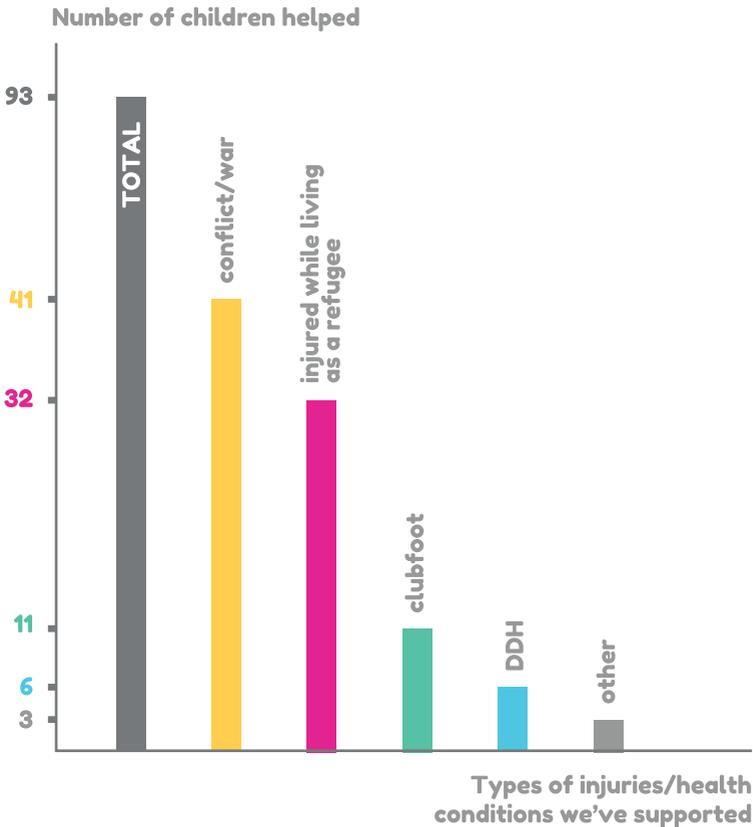
When I first thought about starting my own non-profit, I knew that I had one main goal in mind. Having spent years seeing innocent children wounded by the horrors of war, their parents struggle with accessing medical treatment, speaking to them about the trauma – both physical and psychological – I wanted to create an organization that could do its bit just to simply help.

Seeing our achievements this past year has shown me that this vision is on its way to becoming a reality. ”

2 Our strategy

In 2017 we launched our strategy for the next two years. Our strategic plan has the belief that we can change a child's narrative at its very heart. We can counterbalance the cruelty and violence of war by showing them that people care.

We laid out five goals that will underpin all of our work and enable us to be a stronger, better organization that can help more and more refugee children, turning them away from despair and towards hope.



Our five goals are as follows:

- 1 Reach more refugee children and ensure they get the needed medical treatment
- 2 Grow INARA's global recognition
- 3 Expand our network of partners - both medical providers and humanitarian organizations within Lebanon and regionally
- 4 Diversify our funding base
- 5 Grow our workforce to achieve these goals



Bassel (6) with his twin brother after an appointment at AUBMC. He has been receiving treatment for burns on his elbow.



Summary of 2017

Successfully raised over \$28,000 during our Christmas Appeal

JANUARY

- 1) Launched our new visual identity
- 2) Awarded \$500,000 as part of our partnership with UNICEF
- 3) Received an award by the Syrian American Medical Society

FEBRUARY

JULY

Awarded over \$80,000 by the Ohrstrom Foundation

Celebrated the second anniversary since we first launched

AUGUST

A fundraiser in New York raised over \$20,000

SEPTEMBER

- 1) Launched our second project, working with children with orthopedic deformities
- 2) Our founder Arwa Damon was presented with the first ever World of Children Crisis Award, and another award by the James F. Foley Foundation

Conducted an assessment of the medical needs of refugee children in Turkey, forming the basis of our expansion there

MARCH

APRIL

Reached our target of raising \$100,000, with The Secular Society doubling every single donation

JUNE

NOVEMBER

Provided medical support to the 100th child since we launched in mid-2015

DECEMBER

Assisted 93 children in 2017 alone

4 How we implemented our strategy

1 Reach more refugee children and ensure they get the needed medical treatment

By the end of 2017 we managed to provide medical assistance to 112 refugee children. This is a 211% increase on 2016, when we had helped 36 children by the end of the year.

This is in large part down to our incredibly hardworking Casework team, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that children referred to INARA are brought in to meet our doctors, and accompany these children throughout their INARA journey.

We also launched a new project for children with orthopedic deformities, namely clubfoot and developmental dislocation of the hip (DDH). We helped 17 children in 2017 with such conditions.

We spent 79% of our total expenditure on our program - an increase on 2016 when we spent 73%. This shows that we are working harder to ensure that more of our money goes on helping the children.

2 Grow INARA's global recognition

The successful implementation of both our Communications and Fundraising strategies have helped us to grow INARA's recognition across the world.

2017 saw us launch our brand new visual identity, helping us to better visually communicate our work. The introduction of this identity was received positively by both our supporters and partners.

We had press coverage in a number of international outlets in 2017, including Associated Press, the New York Times, TV3 in Spain, and Gulf News.

We ran numerous campaigns in 2017 to raise both awareness and money - including anniversary, Ramadan and Christmas campaigns. All of this resulted in a 30% increase in individual donations.

3 Expand our network of partners - both medical providers and humanitarian organizations within Lebanon and regionally

We continued to cultivate positive relationships with our network and medical providers. We worked with many more doctors and residents at AUBMC than in the previous year. We even worked on a small mission in the north of Lebanon with one of our resident doctors, Dr Hamed Janno.

Members of the team regularly attended Health Working Groups across Lebanon with numerous organizations, which helped to spread information, and cultivate new relationships.

We also began to get a better understanding of the health sector in Turkey by doing a needs assessment. This has informed our views of how we may be able to help refugee children access medical treatment in Turkey.

In Lebanon, we also started to work with Saint George Hospital University Medical Center on eye cases, and Dr Nadim Aboujaoude, a private dentist for children who need dental surgery.

4 Diversify our funding base

Funding from institutions and foundations has increased by 130%. It is the largest overall funding source for 2017, constituting 66% of the total organizational funds. This high increase shows that INARA's credibility among international institutional donors has increased.

While the majority of our individual donors come from the US, the number of donors from other countries across the globe has started to slowly rise – particularly in countries from the Gulf.

Events took place in locations across the world, including New York, Beirut, London and Washington D.C. – drawing in donations and awareness from those parts of the world.



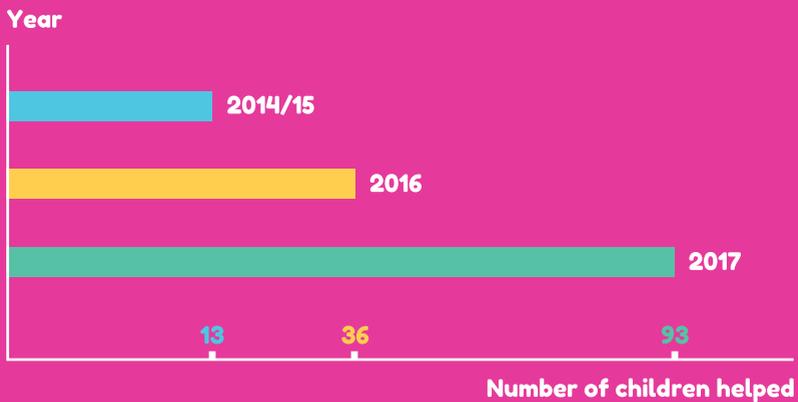
5 Grow our workforce to achieve these goals

Our workforce has grown in 2017. We brought on a new Caseworker in April to largely work on our new orthopedics project, although he has helped with our life-altering project as well.

In addition, we introduced a new internship to assist our Fundraising and Finance team. This began at the end of November.

Our current members of team were given numerous training opportunities to help them on their vocational development. Training was offered on a range of subjects including: accounting, HR, procurement, and internal control.

Our entire team attended a three-day training program on peace building, organized by the NGO House of Peace. This helped the entire team to analyze our existing program and identify any points of potential conflict, and come up with creative solutions to these. The team is in the process of implementing these changes.



Seif (5) was burnt when he knocked boiling tea over his arm. He is currently undergoing treatment to release scarring that restricted his movement.

5 Case stories



Sarab

Sarab was playing outside her house in her village in Syria when she heard the familiar sound of a jet coming. She was paralyzed by fear and didn't get into her home in time.

The bomb landed next to her, and she was punctured by shrapnel in her back, chest, and abdomen.

Sarab was in constant pain when she came into our offices for the first time. She clenched her hands together as she told us about how much the shrapnel in her body hurt her, and would often look down and avoid eye contact.

After completing her INARA medical treatment, she is much happier. "She used to be depressed because of her injuries and didn't want to do anything," her aunt tells us. "But now she's completely different. She's much more active and is going to school. She also has dreams of becoming a hair stylist in our area."

Two years ago Nada was horribly burnt in a terrifying accident. Her family was preparing tea outside. As the fire roared over the water, bringing it to a boil, embers of the fire caught the tent. Nada was inside, playing by herself. She came out covered in burns, particularly severe on her torso.

When we took Nada in to meet our team of doctors at AUBMC, they warned us that if she didn't get an operation at a young age, she would not be able to develop properly as she got older.

Nada had two surgeries that removed the excess skin on her torso, one in July of last year, and a further one in February. "You gave us hope again," Nada's father told us. Nada is now much more talkative and happy than she was when we originally met her, and she is looking forward to going to school.

Nada





Hadi

Hadi was born with clubfoot on his left foot and respiratory problems. After hours in labor, his mother couldn't even cradle her newborn son as doctors rushed him away to an emergency ward.

The family used up all their savings to ensure that their son beat his life-threatening respiratory problems – and didn't have the money left to treat his clubfoot.

The family was put in touch with INARA through Doctors Without Borders, who were informed about our newly launched orthopedic deformities project.

Hadi came in for five casting sessions at AUBMC to help fix his foot into the right position. After this he was fitted with a Dennis Brown brace that he will need to wear until he is three or four years of age.

The young boy's case is ongoing, and he will need regular follow-ups in the coming years to ensure that the brace is correcting his deformity.

66
Children helped in
2017

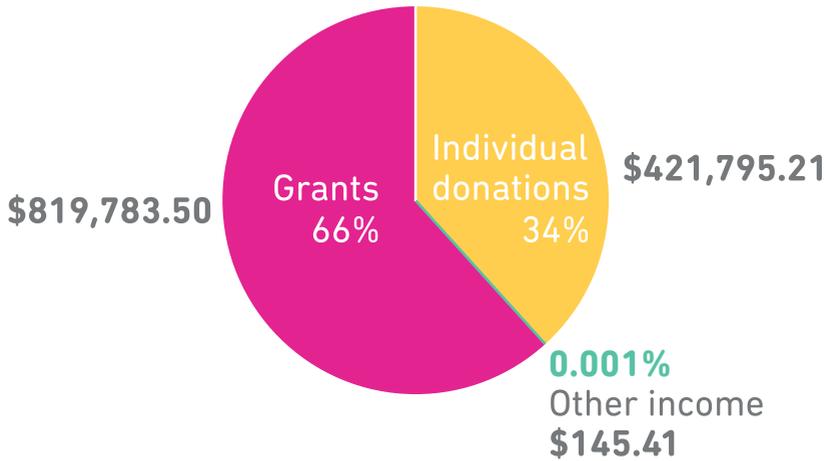
42 girls



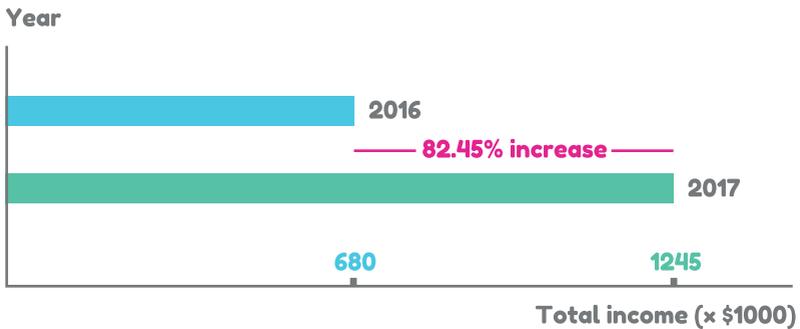
51 boys



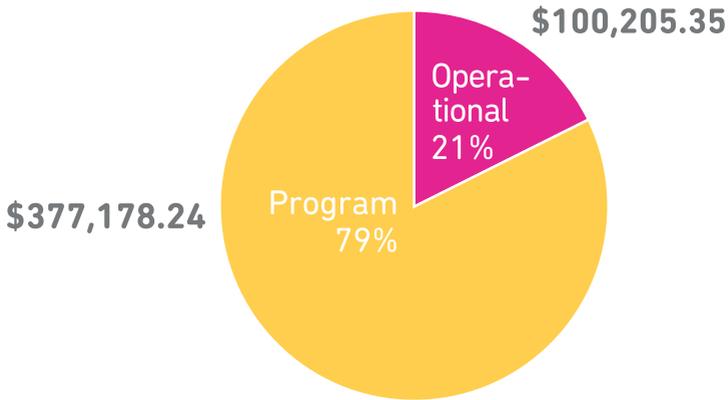
6 Financial statement - funding received



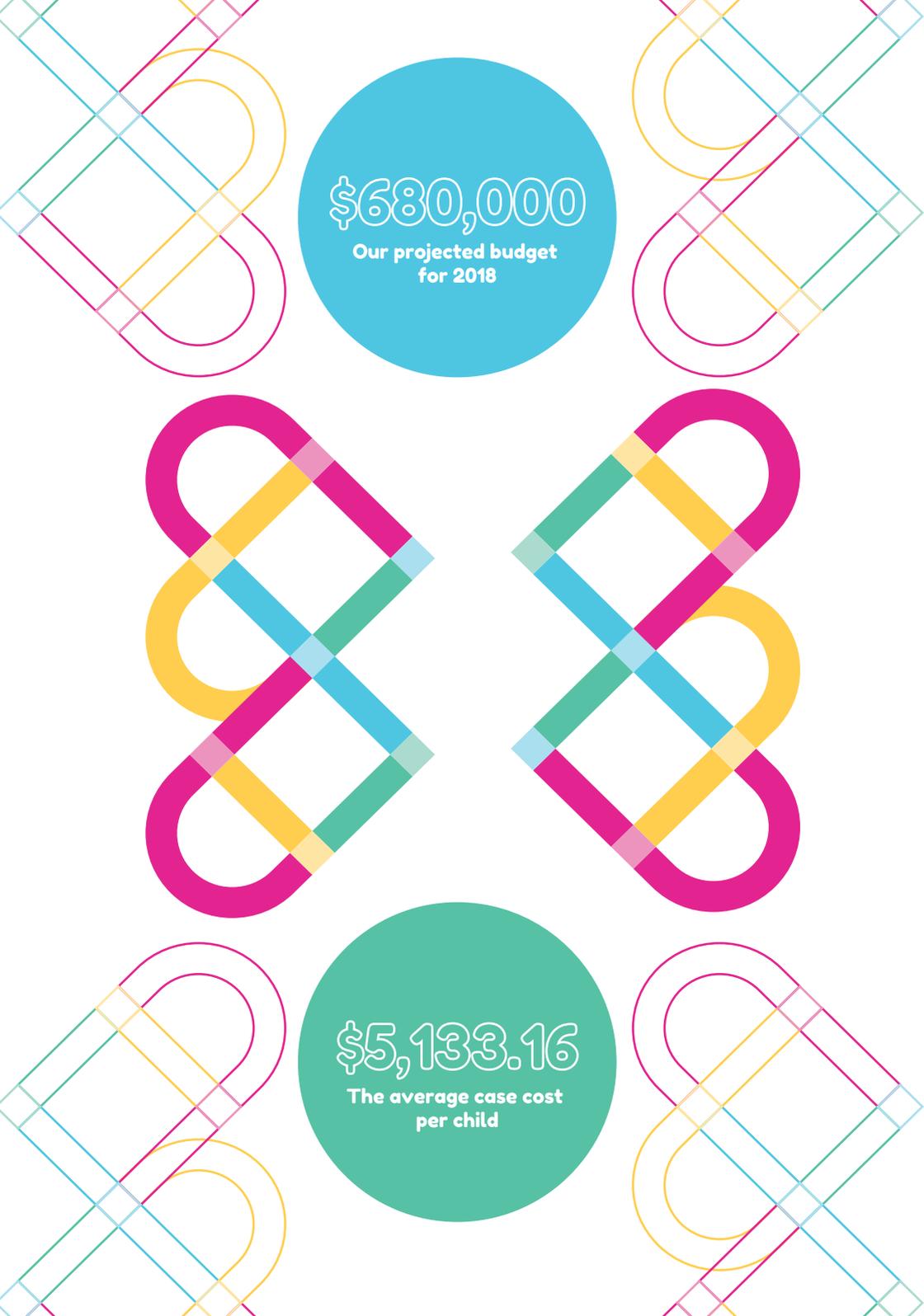
Total income \$1,241,724.12



7 Financial statement - expenses

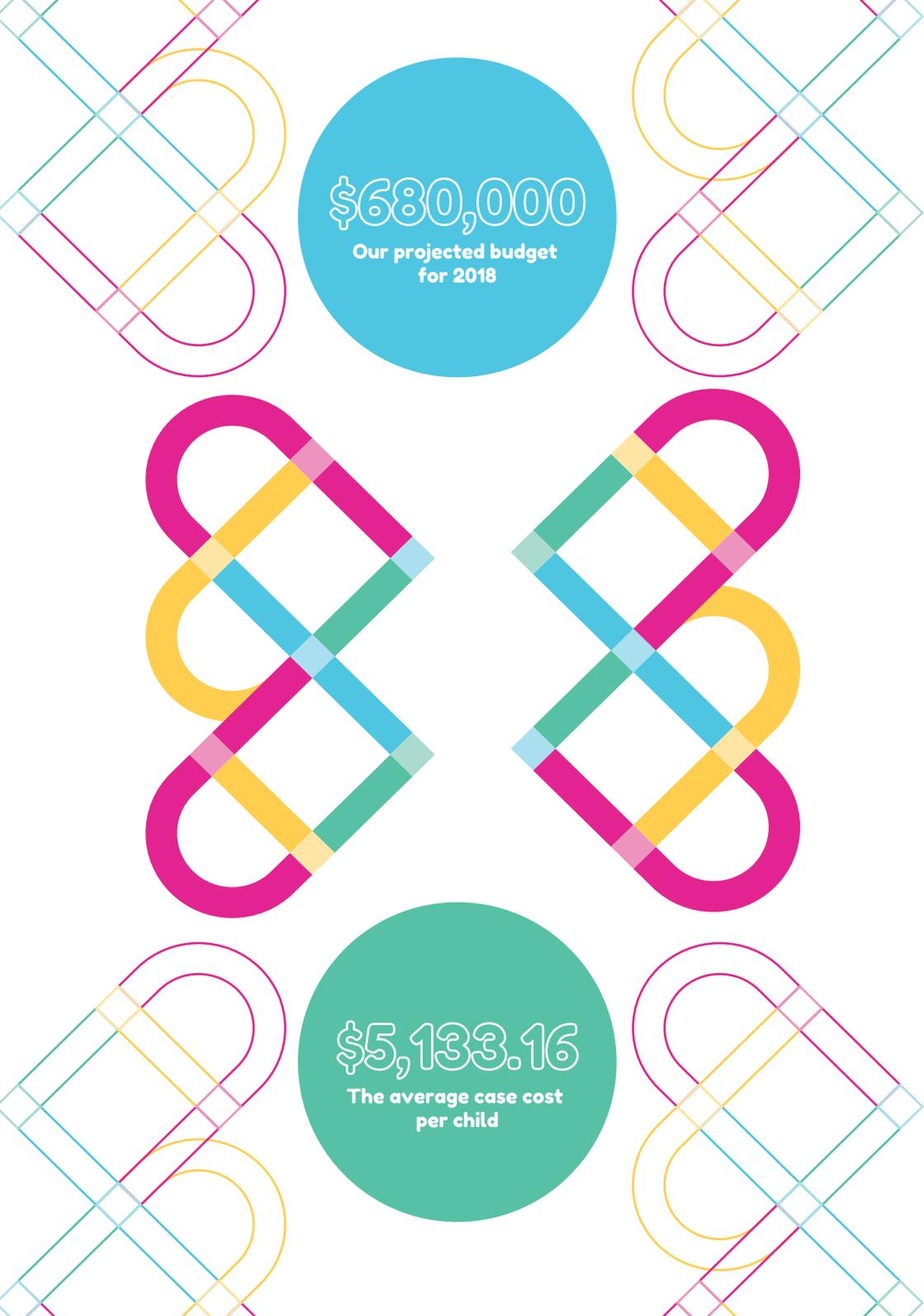


Total expenses	\$477,383.59
Medical costs	\$266,208.13
Caseworker costs	\$89,143.70
Non-medical costs	\$21,826.41
Total program expenditure	\$377,178.24
Personnel salaries	\$49,513.00
Office costs	\$32,645.67
Communication costs	\$7,008.61
Miscellaneous costs	\$6,623.94
Program management costs	\$4,414.13
Total operational expenditure	\$100,205.35



\$680,000

Our projected budget
for 2018



\$5,133.16

The average case cost
per child

8 Our partners and funders

Our funders

World of Children

UNICEF

The Ohrstrom
Foundation

The Secular Society

MaryAlice Fortin
foundation

Our partners

Amadeus

American University of
Beirut Medical Center

UNICEF

US Fund for UNICEF

Tait Weller

How you can help?

We can't do the life changing work that we do without the help of others. Together we can make a difference to the lives of refugee children in desperate need of medical help.

There are lots of ways that you can help. We've listed some of the main ways below.

Donate

Set up a monthly donation

Throw your own INARA fundraiser

Take part in a sporting event and raise money for INARA

Choose INARA on Amazon Smile and donate while you shop

Check to see if your workplace matches donations

Tell your friends and family about our work.

Tala (14) ran from an explosion and fell onto a knife, puncturing her right eye. We managed to save her sight in the eye.



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