



**CHALDEAN COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2024**

# 2024 IMPACT

MORE THAN

## 48,000

INDIVIDUALS SERVED FROM 70 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



**MISSION**  
*Improving the stability, health, and wellness of those we serve through advocacy, acculturation, community development, and cultural preservation.*

MORE THAN



**30%**

OF CLIENTS ARE NON-CHALDEAN

### BREAKING BARRIERS

## 5,512

INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL AND/OR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES SERVED

9,017 HOURS OF RECREATIONAL RESPITE AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

**PROJECT LIGHT**

LICENSED TRILINGUAL SOCIAL WORKERS PROVIDED

## 1,163

INDIVIDUAL THERAPY SESSIONS



### ATTAINABLE HOUSING

## \$60 MILLION

IN ATTAINABLE HOUSING PROJECTS IN MACOMB COUNTY

**THE MICHAEL J. GEORGE CHALDEAN LOAN FUND**

## \$511,974

IN OUTSTANDING LOANS

### EMPLOYMENT

## 1,884

JOB PLACEMENT SERVICES CONDUCTED

61% EMPLOYMENT RATE

53 COMPANIES HOSTED FOR JOB FAIRS

**IMMIGRATION**

## 2,060

IMMIGRATION APPLICATIONS FILED

HELPED 284 NEW AMERICANS FILE AN N-400 TO BECOME U.S. CITIZENS

### COMMUNITY CENTER

## \$20 MILLION

COMMUNITY CENTER BEING CONSTRUCTED IN WEST BLOOMFIELD



### PROJECT BISMUTHA

MORE THAN

## \$106,000

WORTH OF IN-KIND SERVICES

331 PHYSICIAN APPOINTMENTS

2,495 PRESCRIPTIONS VALUED IN EXCESS OF \$19,805

836 LAB TESTS VALUED AT \$36,447

### EDUCATION

28 SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED WORTH

## \$82,500

845 STUDENTS WERE ASSISTED IN SUBMITTING THE FAFSA AND NAVIGATING THROUGH FINANCIAL AID

689 INDIVIDUALS ENROLLED IN ESL, CITIZENSHIP, GED, AND PRESCHOOL



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	Mission Statement
4	CCF 2024 Board of Directors
5	Letter from the President and Board Chairman
6	Mission Campaign Update and Financial Report
7	Growth and Development
8	Educational Services
9	Early Childhood and Summer Sports
10	Acculturation
11	Scholarships
12	Career Services and Michael J George Chaldean Loan Fund
12	Project Light
13	Breaking Barriers
14	6th Annual Awards Gala

# OUR MISSION

The Chaldean Community Foundation is dedicated to improving the stability, health and wellness of those we serve through



## 2024 CCF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### Chairman

Sylvester Sandiha  
*Pinnacle Management Group*

#### Executive Vice Chairman

Kevin Denha  
*Vision Investment Partners*

#### Vice Chairman

Kevin Jappaya  
*KJ Commercial Real Estate Advisors*

#### Secretary

Haley Jonna  
*Jonna Properties*

#### Treasurer

Anthony Mona  
*Spartan Wealth Management*

#### Executive Committee Members

Andy Gutman  
*Farbman Group*

Jim Manna  
*Level One Realty*

#### Directors

Saber Ammori  
*Wireless Vision*

Nora Hanna  
*Christensen Law*

Frank Jarbou  
*Symmetry Property Management*

Jason Najor  
*Superfair Cellular*

Pierre Nona  
*Triangle Development*

Frank Toma  
*Clean View Auto Wash*

# WELCOME

*Dear friends,*

As we reflect on this remarkable year, there is an abundance of achievements and milestones to celebrate. From the historic visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to the significant strides we've made with the construction of CCF West, it is clear that we are not just envisioning a better future; we are actively building it. These efforts are not merely about progress; they are about creating a lasting legacy. Your continued support and prayers have made that possible.

One of the highlights of our ongoing mission to preserve and promote our Chaldean Catholic heritage is the forthcoming Bishop Ibrahim Library, which will be an integral part of the new community center. This library is not just a repository of knowledge; it will serve as a gateway for the public to deepen their understanding of our rich cultural and religious traditions. The library will reflect the impact that Bishop Ibrahim himself has had on our community. His love of neighbor, the church, and our Lord Jesus has inspired a new generation of servant leaders. We are blessed and honored to celebrate Bishop Ibrahim's legacy and leadership here tonight.

It's often surprising to many that the Chaldean Community Foundation extends its services far beyond our Iraqi immigrant roots. Over the past year alone, we have extended a helping hand to more than 48,000 individuals hailing from 70 different countries. We're humbled to be doing God's work.

Our dedication and contributions are gaining recognition on an international scale. The visit from Iraq's Prime Minister, along with several governors, mayors, and representatives highlights the global attention our initiatives are drawing. Furthermore, our community's engagement in the U.S. presidential election, has placed us prominently on the world stage.

It is good to know our work has not gone unnoticed, and we are proud to share that our initiatives are gaining national attention. The recognition of our C.H.A.I. Program by the ARCH National Respite Network as an "Innovative and Exemplary Respite Service" is a significant accolade that reflects the dedication and excellence of our team. Additionally, our staff has been nominated for local awards, and we were honored to participate for the first time in the National Civics Bee hosted by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. These achievements are a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in our programs.



*Sylvester Sandiha*



*Martin Manna*

In line with our mission to expand and enhance our services, we have launched several new initiatives. Our "Learn with A Leader" program, in collaboration with Saber Ammori and Wireless Vision, is now in its second session, providing valuable learning experiences for our community. The H.E.A.L. Program has also made significant strides by offering driver's training through the Auto Club Group Foundation, while our partnership with The Jewish Federation of North America has enabled us to provide engaging programs such as Zumba and Balance & Breathe at the Foundation Center, specifically targeting "active agers."

Our commitment to serving our community continues with our ongoing job fairs with various partners and mobile health screenings in association with Ascension of Michigan. These efforts are designed to support and enhance the well-being of our community members in practical and meaningful ways. Furthermore, our Youth Sports Camp has been a tremendous success, utilizing the Wireless Vision Gymnasium for a variety of sports, including basketball, futsal, pickleball, and volleyball.

As we look towards the future, it is clear that our greatest asset is our vibrant and dynamic young people. Their energy, creativity, and drive are shaping the future, and it is our responsibility to nurture and support their growth. Programs like Little Scholars are essential in this regard, providing young individuals with the skills and opportunities they need to thrive. It is crucial that we continue to foster leadership and development in the next generation, ensuring that they are well-prepared to lead and innovate.

Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Together, we are building a legacy that will benefit generations to come.

*Many Blessings,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sylvester Sandiha".

**Sylvester Sandiha**  
Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Manna".

**Martin Manna**  
President



\$19M

\$18M

\$17M

\$16M

\$15M

\$14M

\$13M

\$12M

\$11M

\$10M

\$9M

\$8M

\$7M

\$6M

\$5M

\$4M

\$3M

\$2M

\$1M

# MISSION CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to our 2024 supporters - The Chaldean Community Foundation launched its Mission Campaign in August 2017. The goal of \$8,000,000 was to be used for a much-needed expansion of the CCF center, The Michael J. George Chaldean Loan Fund which provides loans towards the purchase of vehicles, and a 135 mixed unit housing development to support long term housing for new Americans. The Mission Campaign has raised \$16,000,000 as of October 2024, has increased its goal to \$20,000,000, and has added the addition of a west side campus to its mission. The Michael J. George Chaldean Loan Fund currently has \$511,000 in outstanding auto loans.

## FYE 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

### Assets

Cash.....\$7,215,272

### Receivables

Grants.....\$966,484

Pledges.....\$1,374,312

Property and Equipment (net)..... \$36,764,938

Investments.....\$361,951

Intangible.....\$245,833

Other Assets.....\$171,267

**TOTAL ASSETS..... \$47,100,057**

### Liabilities

Accounts Payable.....\$4,249,431

Other current liabilities.....\$3,908,402

Long Term Debt.....\$12,314,271

**TOTAL LIABILITIES.....\$20,472,104**

**TOTAL NET ASSETS.....\$26,627,953**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS.....\$47,100,057**



## GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

### NEW CHALDEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

The CCF has been hard at work building its Oakland County Campus, located at Walnut Lake Road and Inkster in West Bloomfield. Housing the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce (CACC), the Bishop Ibrahim Library, the Chaldean Cultural Center, and a Business Incubator. It will also house a cooking demonstration kitchen, classrooms, gymnasium, 72-seat theater/auditorium for events, a Chaldean News studio for CNTV, and a radio studio for the Chaldean Voice and Chaldean News. Work on the project began earlier last year and the center is expected to open in April 2025.

### TIGRIS TOWER ATTAINABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The Chaldean Community Foundation has been building a 135-unit mixed income and mixed-use development at 43700 Van Dyke Road in Sterling Heights. Located in an Opportunity Zone, the new construction 4-story building has eliminated blighted commercial property along Van Dyke Road and replaced it with a development that features 135 attainable apartments and 9,000 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor. The total square footage of the building is 133,000 square feet, with 153 surface parking spaces located in a central courtyard. The front 3 acres have been developed and a wetland area has been established with access and amenities on the remaining 7 acres adjacent to the Clinton River. The 22-month construction period is expected to be completed in April of 2025. The project will provide much-needed long term housing for several hundred



new Americans and compliment the City's efforts to revitalize a distressed area. CCF has begun the process for phase II and III of the projects, which will develop two additional parcels just north of the current one.

# EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



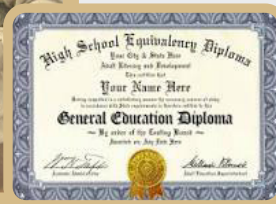
## CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION

CCF filed **2,060 immigration applications** this year, providing citizenship instruction to over 200 students, helping them achieve their goal of becoming a U.S. citizen.



## GED PROGRAM

Having the equivalency of a high school diploma can lead to further education and higher paying job opportunities for clients, changing their lives and leading families to financial stability. CCF provided **GED instruction to over 100 individuals**.



## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

English as a second language classes are offered in 4 sections: basic, beginning, intermediate and advanced. Part of American acculturation is learning the language, which also broadens job aspects and helps navigating everyday life in the United States. CCF provided over **700 hours of language acquisition classes to 150 adult ESL students**.





# EARLY CHILDHOOD



*“Children have systematically unequal chances of getting the experiences they need to grow up healthy due to unsurmountable forces that lie outside a family’s control, like systemic economic inequalities and soaring cost burdens for raising a family. Unfortunately, not all children in the U.S. are getting the early experiences they need to grow up healthy and to reach their full potential.”*

*– Acevedo-Garcia et al., 2020*

In response to these inequities, the Chaldean Community Foundation began early childhood education classes for children ages 3 – 5 years with their parents, to help them gain access to nurturing, developmentally rich, early care. The focus is on emergent literacy skills and ensuring they get the crucial and beneficial experiences needed to thrive in an educational setting. CCF **enrolled 60 children** in its Early Childhood programing in fiscal year 2024.

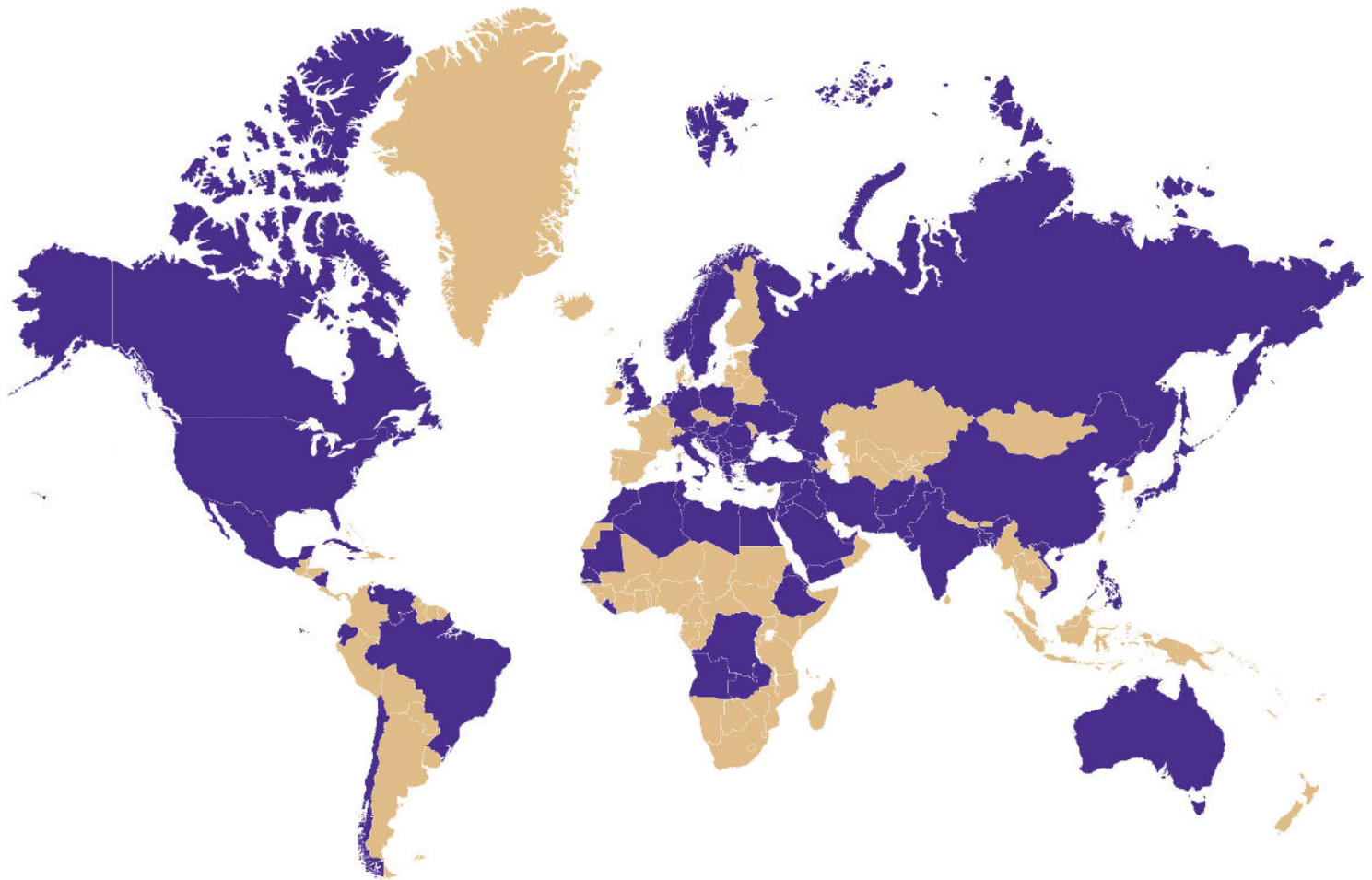
# SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Over **100 children** attended sports camps at CCF this summer.



# ACCULTURATION

The Chaldean Community Foundation is known for its inclusiveness, building racial equity and equality for all those we serve. This year, CCF served more than 48,000 clients representing 70 countries.



- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  Afghanistan                            |  Egypt    |  Malta           |  Serbia                         |
|  Albania                                |  Eritrea  |  Mauritania      |  Sweden                         |
|  Algeria                                |  Ethiopia |  Mexico          |  Syria                          |
|  Angola                                 |  Georgia  |  Montenegro      |  Tunisia                        |
|  Armenia                                |  Germany  |  Morocco         |  Turkey                         |
|  Australia                              |  Greece   |  Nicaragua       |  Ukraine                        |
|  Austria                                |  Hungary  |  North Korea     |  United Arab Emirates           |
|  Bangladesh                             |  India    |  North Macedonia |  United Kingdom                 |
|  Bosnia and Herzegovina                 |  Iran     |  Norway          |  United States of America (USA) |
|  Brazil                                 |  Iraq     |  Pakistan        |  Venezuela                      |
|  Bulgaria                               |  Italy    |  Palestine       |  Vietnam                        |
|  Canada                                 |  Jamaica  |  Philippines     |  Yemen                          |
|  Chile                                  |  Japan    |  Poland          |  Former Yugoslavia              |
|  China                                  |  Jordan   |  Qatar           |  Zambia                         |
|  Cuba                                   |  Kosovo   |  Romania         |  |
|  Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) |  Kuwait   |  Russia          |  |
|  Djibouti                               |  Lebanon  |  San Marino      |  |
|  Ecuador                                |  Liberia  |  Saudi Arabia    |  |
|  |  Libya    |  Senegal         |  |

# 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Chaldean Community Foundation's Academic Scholarship Program is designed to help Chaldean students achieve their academic goals and support their efforts at higher education. Thanks to the generosity of the w3r Consulting S.T.E.M Scholarship, Drs. Nathima Atchoo and the late Peter Atchoo Family Foundation Scholarship, the Yvonne E. Nona Memorial Scholarship, the Abdul Karim and Jameela Sesi Scholarship, the DA Advisory Group Scholarship, the Derek J. Dickow Scholarship, The Karim and Bernadette Sarafa General Scholarship, and the Alline Salon Group Scholarship, 28 recipients were awarded a total of \$82,500 in scholarship funds.



## **w3r Consulting STEM Scholarship**

Two \$5,000 scholarships were awarded to Chaldean undergraduate students at a Michigan college or university enrolled in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM). This year, W3r Consulting awarded scholarships to David Elias and George Ibrahim.

## **Drs. Nathima and Peter Atchoo Family Foundation Scholarship Fund**

Six \$2,000 scholarships were awarded to Chaldean students pursuing higher education, including community college, university, or graduate program in preparation for a career in the field of their choice. In 2024, the Drs. Nathima Atchoo and the late Peter Atchoo Family Foundation scholarships were awarded to Hannah Dawood, Amanda Essak, Faustina Husaynu, Fadi Koria, Mati Dawood, and Isabelle Zablock.

## **Yvonne Nona Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Ten \$2,500 scholarships for women pursuing higher education at a Michigan community college, trade school, university, or undergraduate program. Open to high school seniors and current undergraduate students. This year, the Yvonne E. Nona Memorial Fund rewarded scholarships to Maram Alkhareef, Merna Baqa, Natalie Dakki, Olivia Denha, Rogina Ibrahim, Milana Khemmoro, Sandra Rassam, Melak Salim, Angelena Youhana, and Wella Yatooma.

## **Abdulkarim and Jamila Sesi Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Four \$2,500 scholarships for candidates pursuing higher education including trade school, community college, and university studies in the field of their choice. The Abdul Karim and Jameela Sesi scholarship fund was awarded this year to Eemi Toma, Dominic Kesto, Mario Kezi, and Xavier Yousif.

## **DA Advisory Group Scholarship Fund**

Two \$5,000 scholarships for Chaldean undergraduate students pursuing a degree in the field of accounting. This exciting program will assist students who are residents and attending specific Michigan colleges and universities, to achieve their academic and professional goals. This year's DA Advisory Group Scholarship Fund award was awarded to Justin Khemmoro and Nihaya Hendi.

## **Derek J. Dickow Scholarship**

One \$5,000 scholarship for a candidate pursuing a degree in the field of their choice at Oakland University. This year's Derek J. Dickow Scholarship award goes to Meron Eeso.

## **Karim and Bernadette Sarafa General Scholarship**

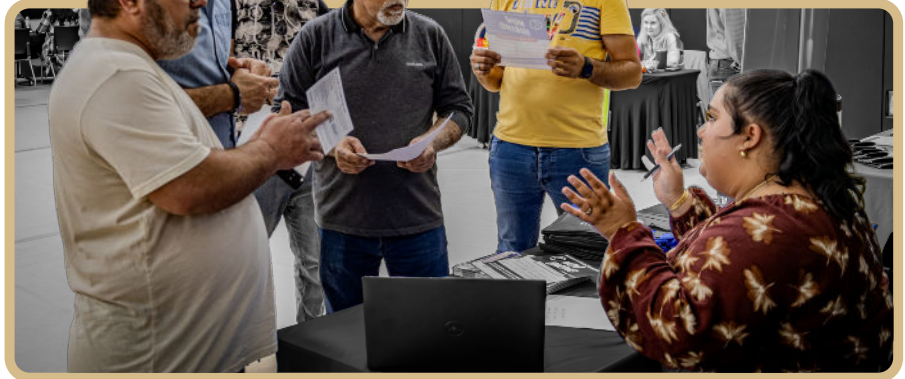
Offers a minimum of \$2,500 scholarship(s) for Chaldean undergraduate students pursuing education beyond high school. This year's scholarship was awarded to Sarah Jarbou.

## **Alline Salon Group Scholarship**

Provides financial assistance to High School Graduates pursuing a career in Cosmetology. This program assists eligible students applying to, or enrolled in, a Michigan barbering or cosmetology school to achieve their professional goals. This year's Alline Salon Group Scholarship was awarded to Yasameen Mubarek and Mervat Shukri.

## CAREER SERVICES

To even the playing field and to address the ever changing workforce, CCF provided job training courses to our otherwise job-ready, but currently under-employed new American clients with the language and technical skills needed to increase their accessibility to professional-track careers. The Chaldean Community Foundation's Career Services department assists immigrants in finding the right jobs for them. CCF career services include resume writing, job search, job placement and FAFSA completion.



Quarterly job fairs are held at the Chaldean Community Foundation to help create stability for those we serve. 53 companies in a wide variety of industries participated in job fairs this year with more than **1,884 job placement services** conducted with a 61% employment rate.

## MICHAEL J. GEORGE CHALDEAN LOAN FUND

The Michael J. George Loan Fund provides low-interest loans to qualified individuals to purchase a vehicle, giving them transportation to and from work, and helping them build up their credit score. The Michael J. George Chaldean Loan Fund provided **\$511,974 in outstanding loans**. It was created to address the transportation barriers many individuals encounter.



## PROJECT LIGHT

Chaldean Community Foundation's Project Light was developed to break the stigma on mental health within the Middle Eastern community. With local educational campaigns explaining the benefits of therapy assistance and the underlying effects of what many immigrants and refugees have been through, Project Light brings hope and relief to many. With **1,163 therapy sessions** conducted in 2024, Project Light has become just that, a beacon of light for those that have been struggling for so long.



## BREAKING BARRIERS

Breaking Barriers is a program geared towards individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. With programs for the blind, hearing impaired, intellectually disabled, developmentally disabled, and seniors with dementia, Breaking Barriers provides opportunities to both learn and socialize with individuals and families living with similar circumstances, offering support and a sense of community. CCF's Like Skills Center focuses on the independent abilities of each of these individuals, teaching them the life skills needed to navigate life in the United States. Breaking Barriers served **5,512 individuals with 9,017 hours of recreational respite** and educational programming in fiscal year 2024. CCF's C.H.A.I. program focuses on the caregivers that care for these individuals, providing respite, support, and education.



## 6TH ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

The Chaldean Community Foundation's 6th Annual Awards Gala, attended by nearly 900 people, took place on Thursday September 12, 2024, at 6pm at the Palazzo Grande honoring Bishop Ibrahim Ibrahim with the Lifetime Humanitarian Award

From an early age, Bishop Ibrahim Ibrahim cherished attending mass with his family in the vibrant community of Tel Keppe. Reflecting on his childhood, he said, "Our life was very simple in the village. Most people were simple farmers and laborers; there were no companies or major employers. As children we went to mass daily."

At the age of 14, two seminarians approached him with an invitation to join the Church. Ibrahim agreed, accepting an invitation to join the Patriarchal Seminary in Mosul. This marked the beginning of a remarkable journey that would lead Ibrahim to become a pivotal leader of the Chaldean Catholic Church in the United States.

In 1964, he was appointed rector of the seminary. During his tenure from 1964-1968, he was instrumental in graduating 17 new priests. From 1968-1970, he served Mar Yousif church in Baghdad. In 1970, he was tasked with establishing a new mid-level seminary in Tel Keppe. Two years later, he was sent to Rome to earn his PhD and returned to Baghdad in 1975.

In 1978 he was called to assist the emerging Chaldean community in California. Within a year, he was tasked with establishing a new parish in Los Angeles. He returned to Iraq and met with Iraq's government, which supported the establishment of churches for displaced Iraqis. A \$250,000 donation was made to support a new church in Los Angeles.

On January 26, 1982, Fr. Ibrahim was named the first



Bishop of the Chaldean Diocese of the United States. His ordination took place in Baghdad and his installation took place at mother of God church in Southfield, Michigan. Between 1980 and his retirement in 2014, the Chaldean church in the United States ordained 14 young priests, built or purchased a total of 16 churches including in California and Chicago, purchased the Chaldean Camp, many acres in Rose Township and Commerce Township, built senior citizen housing and a new chancery office. They also collected funds for the seminary fund and set up the priest's retirement fund.

Throughout his tenure, Bishop Ibrahim faced the complexities of a homeland that often overlooked his people while advocating for thousands of Iraqi refugees seeking asylum. He firmly believed in the Chaldean Catholic Church's moral responsibility to preserve its rich culture and history, attract new priests, and establish new parishes.

His conviction to maintain the Chaldean faith, cultural values, and the Chaldean language has led him to establish the Bishop Ibrahim Library, a new community center project designed to preserve invaluable documents and writings, many of which were rescued from destruction by ISIS during their invasion of Iraq. The library, a crucial cultural and historical reference, honors Bishop Ibrahim's dedication and commitment to the community he has so well served.



# Join us in making an impact!

Making a gift to the Chaldean Community Foundation can provide essential services to individuals in need, assist in advocacy efforts to support immigrant rights, foster a sense of belonging and integration to those we serve, provide scholarships, and educational opportunities for our youth, and ensure individuals in need have access to essential resources during challenging times. Overall, making a gift to the Chaldean Community Foundation can make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and families striving to build better futures in their new communities.

**[www.chaldeanfoundation.org/donate](http://www.chaldeanfoundation.org/donate)**



Like us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/ChaldeanFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/ChaldeanFoundation)



Follow us on Twitter  
[@ChaldeanCF](https://twitter.com/ChaldeanCF)



Follow us on Instagram  
[@ChaldeanCommunityFoundation](https://www.instagram.com/ChaldeanCommunityFoundation)



Join us on LinkedIn  
[Chaldean Community Foundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ChaldeanCommunityFoundation)

Chaldean Community Foundation  
3601 15 Mile Road  
Sterling Heights  
Michigan 48310  
586-722-7253  
[chaldeanfoundation.org](http://chaldeanfoundation.org)