



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

HAKI

Community Organization

Humanity | Assistance | Kindness | Interculturalism





2023 in Review

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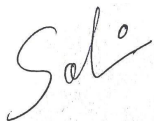
Letter from the Director

This has been a great year for HAKI and the community that we serve! We deeply appreciate all our many volunteers and funders, and we couldn't complete our work without every single one of you. In particular, I am especially proud of a few key accomplishments:

- We continued our rent assistance referral program throughout all of 2023. Since we began the program in 2020, we have partnered with the City of Portland to serve over 500 families, with rent assistance referrals of almost \$2 Million. This has exceeded our dreams of supporting the community through stable and safe housing, and reducing the burden of displacement for the families we serve.
- Food insecurity continues to be a major issue for the families that HAKI serves, and we have been able to distribute food boxes every single weekend throughout 2023. We have gathered volunteers and handed out fresh produce and non-perishable staples to about 30 families every month, helping to feed nearly 7,000 individuals over the course of 2023.
- We hosted the first Annual Holly Park Multicultural Fair, bringing together over 800 people and 30 local and small businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies to celebrate our unique cultural heritages, support emerging businesses, and have a great time with performances throughout the day and food from around the world. We look forward to future events and making the Fair bigger and better each year.

Please read on to learn more about our great projects and the impact we've had throughout 2023.

Thank you for being part of our successful year,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Salim', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mohamed Salim Bahamadi
HAKI Founder and Director

About Us

The HAKI Community Organization is a community center that aims to ease the transition to America for East African immigrants.

“Haki” in Swahili means rights: the individual right from birth to food, clothing, shelter, and life’s basics. The rights available by law so that individuals are free to seek their destiny. The HAKI Center is a supportive home for camaraderie and multi-cultural acceptance.

The HAKI Community Model centers on the power of one: if you give someone the tools and support, they will thrive and succeed. We at HAKI believe in individual dignity; that every person is precious, regardless of color, country of origin, belief system, or income. There is unity in community, and we strive for HAKI to become an umbrella of services and place for all to call home, with access to all. At HAKI, there are no barriers to services.



Community Impact

HAKI serves and coordinates with hundreds of families around Portland from a multitude of cultures and backgrounds.

We love when our community shares their own experiences working with us, and we're happy to share some feedback from this past year:

"Absolutely, positively this community has been helping a lot of different people. I just want to say keep doing what you have been doing. Thanks Mohamed for helping our community. 🙏" - Naarish

"Thank you HAKI Community for the free Tablet, Food Boxes and the Rent Assistance that you provide to the community." - Shir

"Mohamed and his family were amazing to work alongside with when we ran events for tablets. The work we do takes away negative stereotypes and nurtures community, a group of people who work together towards something that we can all get and enjoy." - Noelia





Food Box Distribution

HAKI received food from Neighborhood House, the Oregon Food Bank, and individual donors, and assembled volunteers each week to distribute food to local families experiencing food insecurity.

Impact: ~30 families/month, over 7,000 individuals fed over the year

Rental Assistance Programs

HAKI worked extensively throughout 2023 to connect low-income residents in Portland with available funding through the City of Portland for rent assistance.

HAKI worked with individuals to complete applications to pay rent arrears, as well as up to 3 months of future rent.

This work not only supported families in an effort to avoid eviction, but also assisted families so that they could use earned income for food and other necessities.

Impact: 257 families, over 1,000 individuals





The Holly Park Multicultural Fair

HAKI received a workforce development grant from Metro Regional Government to host the first annual Holly Park Multicultural Fair. The purpose of the Fair was to provide free space for local, multicultural small and emerging businesses and performers, and to bring the community together to celebrate the varied cultures represented in the South Metro region.

Impact: Over 800 people attended, and over 30 small businesses, non-profits, and government agencies participated

Coordination with SWEC

HAKI is a member of the Executive Committee of the Southwest Equity Coalition (SWEC). SWEC is a community-centered, coordinated effort between community organizations, residents, businesses, philanthropic partners, and state and local government bodies. HAKI Chairs the West Portland Town Center Work Group and participates in the Housing Anti-Displacement Work Group and a Workforce Development Work Group.

Multnomah County Commissioner Sharon Meieran and State Representative Dacia Grayber, supporting HAKI and the community.



Southwest Community Garden Committee

HAKI is a member of the Southwest Community Garden Committee, as part of the West Portland Town Center project. The group is working with the City of Portland's Parks and Recreation Department to identify a location for a new community garden in or within walking distance of the West Portland Town Center. Portland Parks & Recreation has dedicated \$1M to the purchase of land, and the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District has dedicated technical assistance and some funding to the design and construction of a new community garden.





Additional Events and Programs

Multicultural Center Needs Assessment with ECONorthwest

With funding from Metro Regional Government, HAKI hired ECONorthwest to conduct a needs assessment for a permanent Multicultural Center in the West Portland Town Center; the assessment looked at current and predicted future conditions, other similar projects, and strategies for moving forward.

Portland Civic Life Grant Project – Culturally Specific Food for Ramadan

HAKI purchased culturally specific food for distribution for Ramadan, a Muslim religious holiday where families and community celebrate each evening with prayer and meals.

Impact: 51 families, 333 individuals total

Weatherization Workshops

HAKI received funding from the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management and worked with Community Energy Partners to host weatherization workshops, and distribute materials to improve indoor air quality, keep homes warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer, and empower participants to save money on utility bills.

Impact: 48 households, ~240 individuals



Additional Events and Programs Continued

Tablet Distribution with 1,000 Tablets of Oregon

HAKI coordinated several events with 1,000 Tablets of Oregon to distribute free tablets to eligible households. HAKI provided translation services and assisted people with completing applications so they could receive free tablets.

Impact: Over 250 households received free, new tablets.

South Metro Racial Justice Project

HAKI partnered with Seeding Justice and other local nonprofit organizations to build capacity in addressing racial justice issues, supporting the community, and supporting each other as our organizations grow.

Small Business Training

HAKI brought in new and emerging small businesses to learn how to start a business in Oregon, and how to get the necessary permits required in Multnomah County and the City of Portland, particularly for food-based businesses.

Impact: Over 20 new and emerging businesses participated; 63 small businesses engaged.



Additional Events and Programs Continued

Youth Environmental Workshop

HAKI was chosen by community leader Laura Campos, recipient of the Environmental Leader of the year, to partner with the Westside Watershed Resource Center to host a Youth Environmental Education day with a walking tour of the natural area on the PCC Sylvania Campus. Youth learned about native plants and completed a nature treasure hunt and fun outdoor games.

Impact: About two dozen parents and children participated.

Tryon Creek Watershed Council Environmental Learning Day

The Tryon Creek Watershed Council provides environmental education and habitat restoration in the Tryon Creek watershed; HAKI's office and many community members live within the Tryon Creek watershed. TCWC hosted an environmental learning day with HAKI where the community gathered; walked through the woods and learned about traditional native plants, how Native American tribes used plants for medicinal purposes and how HAKI community members also used plants for medicinal purposes in their home countries in Africa.

Impact: About three dozen parents and children participated.

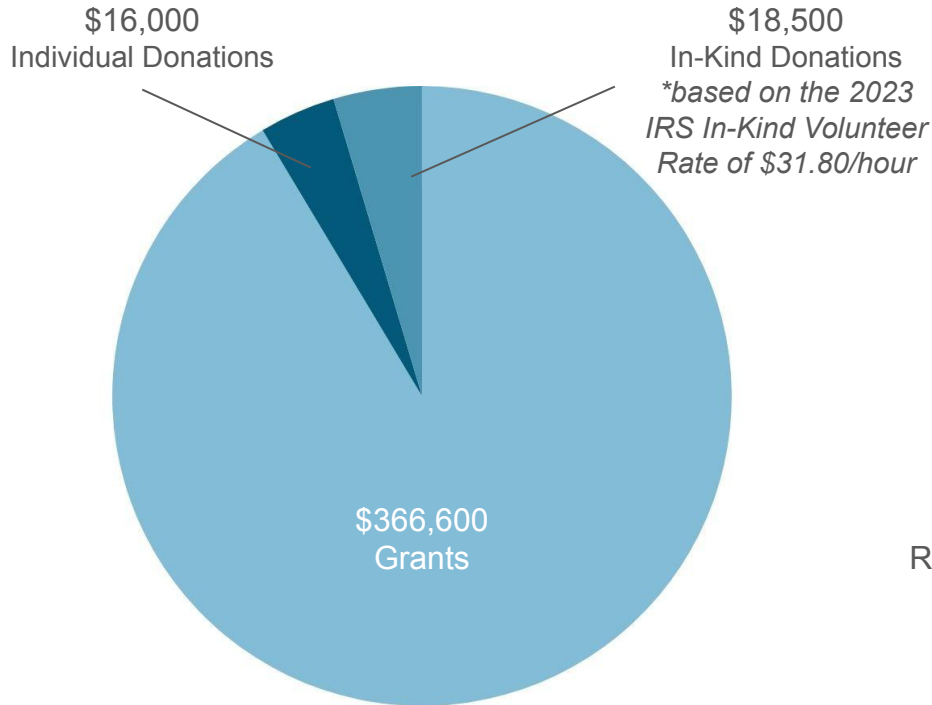
Oregon Food Bank Community Political Action for Oregon Food For All Campaign

HAKI assembled community members to learn about Oregon Food Bank's legislative campaign called Oregon Food For All; this campaign was to get state funding to ensure that no Oregonian goes hungry. HAKI assisted community members with submitting letters in support of Oregon Food For All.

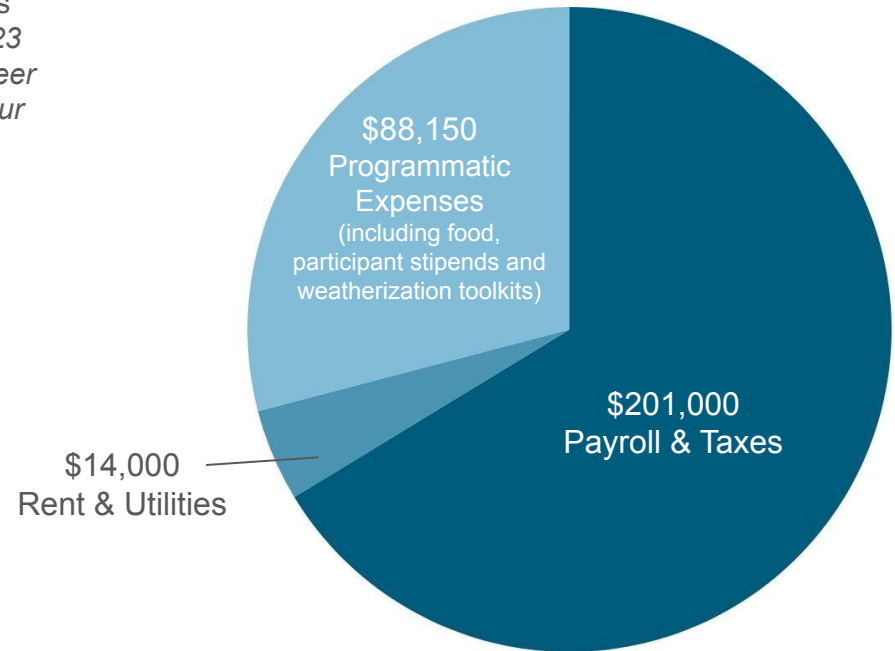
Impact: About 40 community members participated.

Financials

Total Income - \$401,100



Total Expenses - \$303,150



Our Team

Mohamed Salim Bahamadi

Mohamed Salim Bahamadi came from Kenya and immigrated to Portland, Oregon to join relatives and live in a place where he could receive guidance from the East African community. Mohamed founded HAKI Community Organization to support fellow Swahili-speakers and provide programming to ensure that other immigrants and refugees could access resources to receive life's basic needs of food, shelter, and clothing with dignity. As HAKI's Director, Mohamed engages deeply with community members to lift their voices and create multicultural acceptance.



Terri Preeg Riggsby

As the General Manager of HAKI with a background in auditing and nonprofit management, Terri works to help curate grant opportunities, manage the accounting for the organization, and the structure of community communications. She is inspired by HAKI's mission of humanitarian assistance and is excited to be part of HAKI's core team.



Our Community Partners

- City of Portland Bureaus of Housing, Planning and Sustainability, and Emergency Management
- Portland Clean Energy Fund
- Oregon Food Bank
- Community Alliance of Tenants
- Southwest Equity Coalition
- Neighborhood House
- ACEEE (Energy Equity for Renters)
- Tryon Creek Watershed Council
- Metro
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Community Energy Project
- Portland Parks Foundation
- Ten Thousand Tablets
- Seeding Justice
- Multnomah Village Business Association
- Community Partners for Affordable Housing
- Office of Community & Civic Life
- Trimet
- Prosper Portland
- ECO Northwest



Reach Out!

info@hakicomunity.org | (503) 515 8278

hakicomunity.org

Office: 11830 Kerr Pkwy Suite 205, Lake Oswego, OR, 97035