



ENRICHING THE LIVES OF SOMALI-AMERICAN YOUTH

Ka Joog
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Ka Joog FY24 Legacy Grant Program Report

Date: January 23, 2025

1. Introduction

The FY24 Legacy Grant enabled Ka Joog to deliver impactful projects aimed at preserving Somali arts, culture, and heritage in Minnesota. This program supported community engagement through interactive workshops, mentorship opportunities, and cultural events. Each project was designed to achieve measurable outcomes while fostering inclusivity and cultural pride.

2. Project Summaries

Project #1: Arts Education and Workshops

Overview:

A series of 11 interactive workshops led by Somali artists and educators focused on traditional and contemporary music, poetry, dance, and visual arts. These workshops catered to diverse age groups and skill levels across Minnesota.

Proposed Outcome Achieved

Achieved all of the proposed outcomes

Outcomes:

- **Increased Participation:** Over 300 participants attended workshops statewide.
- **Diverse Engagement:** Workshops included attendees from a variety of age groups and backgrounds.
- **Improved Skills:** 85% of participants reported increased skills and understanding of Somali arts through pre- and post-workshop surveys.
- **Enhanced Appreciation:** Participants expressed a deeper appreciation for Somali culture.



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Outputs:

- 11 workshops conducted across multiple Minnesota counties.
- 5 Somali artists and educators engaged to lead the workshops.
- Participant feedback collected to refine future programming.

Project. #3 FTE:

0.88 FTEs

Project #2: Mentorship Programs

Overview:

A mentorship initiative aimed at connecting middle and high school students with experienced Somali artists. The program facilitated personalized guidance, skill development, and creative exploration.

Proposed Outcome Achieved

Achieved all of the proposed outcomes

Outcomes:

- **Skill Development:** Mentors reported a measurable improvement in mentees' artistic skills.
- **Increased Confidence:** 90% of mentees expressed increased confidence in pursuing their artistic goals.
- **Cultural Bridging:** The program fostered intergenerational connections between students and mentors.

Outputs:

- 15 mentor-mentee pairs established.
- 60 community members engaged in mentor-led workshops and sessions.
- 3 new partnerships formed with local schools to expand the program.

Project. #2 FTE:

0.88 FTEs



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Project #3: Community Engagement Events

Overview:

Hosted 5 major cultural events, including poetry readings, music performances, and art exhibitions. These events celebrated Somali arts while fostering community collaboration.

Proposed Outcome Achieved

Achieved all of the proposed outcomes

Outcomes:

- **Community Reach:** Over 1,000 attendees participated in events, representing diverse cultural backgrounds.
- **Increased Awareness:** 88% of attendees reported a better understanding and appreciation for Somali culture.
- **Artist Opportunities:** Participating artists gained increased visibility and professional opportunities.

Outputs:

- 5 events hosted across Minnesota.
- 7 Somali artists showcased their work.
- Social media campaigns reached over 10,000 online followers.

Project. #3 FTE:

0.88 FTEs

3. Challenges and Adjustments

- **Rapid Growth:** The organization experienced significant growth, necessitating new hires and process adjustments.
 - **Submission Delays:** Delays in reporting were addressed by streamlining internal workflows.
 - **Community Feedback Integration:** Participant feedback informed program refinements to better meet community needs.
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4. Budget

Budget Item	FY24 Project Total	
	Budget	
Project Director	\$	54,600.00
Program Assistant	\$	23,920.00
Contractors	\$	82,000.00
Program Space Rental	\$	13,420.00
Social Media Promotion/Somali Local TV/Videos- Marketing	\$	22,060.00
Community Outreach	\$	22,000.00
Equipment	\$	3,000.00
Indirect Cost	\$	19,000.00
Column Total	\$	240,000.00

4. Board Members



Board of Directors

<p>Fadumo Hassan African Immigrant Services 1420 Washington Ave. South Minneapolis, MN 55454 kajoogboard@kajoog.org</p>	<p>Abdifatah Gabow Self- Employed 1420 Washington Ave. South Minneapolis, MN 55454 kajoogboard@kajoog.org</p>
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