



Impact Investing Insiders | November 2018

Culturally-Sensitive Financing Unlocks \$200,000 for Somali Family Service of San Diego



Hello *|FNAME|*,

For refugees and New Americans in San Diego--home of one of the largest refugee resettlement sites in the United States--entering the workforce in a new country can be extremely difficult and overwhelming.

Enter [Somali Family Service of San Diego](#), a City Heights nonprofit established in 2000 that provides holistic, culturally-sensitive educational and training programs for the 20,000 - 30,000 Somali and East African immigrant and refugee populations that call San Diego home.

In October 2018, **Somali Family Service acquired \$200,000 in culturally-sensitive bridge capital** from Mission Driven Finance to jumpstart their Transportation Microenterprise Program that trains and supports low-to-moderate income **refugee entrepreneurs in establishing and growing local businesses.**



To learn more about how [The California Endowment](#), a private donor, and [United Way of San Diego County](#) worked with us to ensure the transaction was **in accordance with Islamic financing principles and affordable for Somali Family Service**, [read the full story on our blog](#).



Innovation in Affordable Housing



[The Homebuilding Investment Fund \(HIF\)](#) is an exciting partnership between San Diego Habitat for Humanity and Mission Driven Finance dedicated to empowering low-income families to build equity and **intergenerational opportunity through affordable access to homeownership.**



In early November, investors, and civic and community leaders--including San Diego City Council President Pro Tem **Barbara Bry**, Jewish Community Foundation CEO **Beth Sirull**, and the San Diego Foundation VP **Brian Zumbano**--joined Mission Driven Finance and San Diego Habitat to discuss how this **\$2MM fund** can accelerate San Diego Habitat's construction of new affordable housing for low-to-moderate income families across four critical neighborhoods in the region: **Logan Heights, El Cajon, National City, and Encinitas.**

San Diego Habitat President & CEO Lori Holt Pfeiler led participants through a private tour of the most **recent phase of HIF construction at Comm22 in Logan Heights.**

To learn more about the Homebuilding Investment Fund or to schedule a tour of HIF construction, contact heather@missiondrivenfinance.com.

We make it easy to invest in your community.

Learn about recent investments :



[Friends of Willow Tree](#): \$100,000 to K-7 enrichment resource center makes Waldorf-inspired education accessible to the low-income population in rural North County. This bridge loan in advance of state payments and private tuition supports quality enrichment education and continuous employment of teachers and enrichment providers.



[Somali Family Services of San Diego](#): \$200,000 to Somali and East African refugee-centered NGO to jumpstart the Transportation Microenterprise Program in advance of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Some of these refugee entrepreneurs will become subcontractor drivers for non-emergency medical transportation and provide light translation services for others in their community.

We invest in mission-driven ventures with big visions for change.

News from our portfolio companies:



[LuckyBolt](#): Completed construction on new Sorrento Valley retail site in Q2 2018 and working to open second retail location in Q4 2018. Increased delivery sales enabled the addition of [Archi's Acres](#), a local farm that trains military veterans, to supply chain in Q3 2018 as part of core mission to source ingredients from local farms.



[All Across Africa](#): Added 200 new traditional African artisans to operations between Q2 2018 and Q3 2018, raising total human capital investment across five countries from 3,400 to 3,600 individuals. Continued strong business performance with Q3 2018 revenues up 22% over same time last year--deepening mission to provide rural African artisans with access to high-wage employment.

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