

ISLAMIC FAMILY AND SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008



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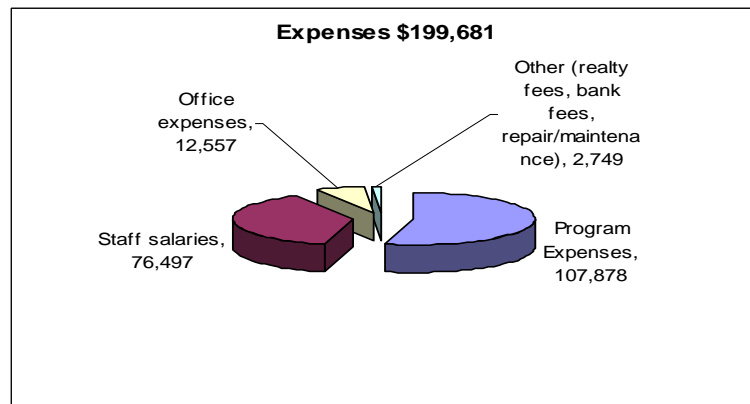
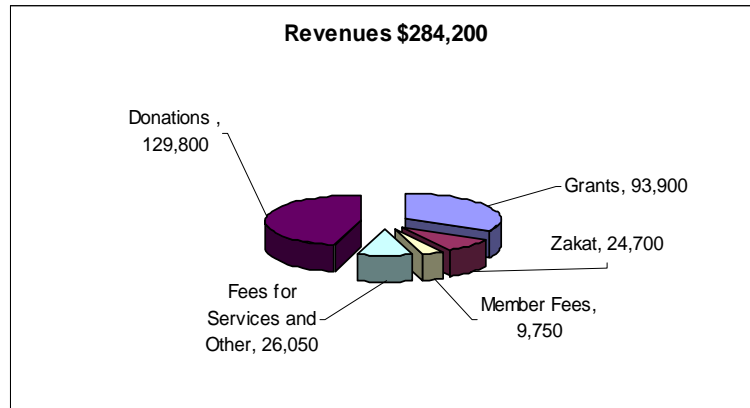


Healthy Muslim Families and Community

16 Years of Service to Edmonton

FINANCES

The charts below are the unaudited revenues and expenses for IFSSA's 2007-2008 fiscal year. Over half of the expenses for the year were for IFSSA's programs and services, including the food bank, Youth Development and Parent Education programming, counseling services and the Boyle Street dinner.



About IFSSA

Established in 1992, Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA), is a non-profit registered charity dedicated to providing services in response to the social needs of the Edmonton community within an Islamic context.

Vision

Healthy Muslim Families and Community.

Mission

To meet the basic physical and emotional needs of the community within an Islamic context.

Objectives

Provide basic necessities such as food, clothing and other emergency assistance to those in need to complement other community resources.

Help prevent individuals from forming destructive habits.

Provide appropriate, culturally-sensitive counselling services through qualified professionals.

Assist refugees, new immigrants and newcomers to Edmonton in integrating comfortably into the community and society at large.

Collaborate with community agencies and be a resource for culturally appropriate services.

Operate as a vibrant, professional and well-resourced agency in accordance with our core values.

Operate programs for youth and parents focused on strengthening the family.

OUR SERVICES

Food and Clothing Bank

Between August 2007 and 2008, IFSSA distributed 294 food hampers to families in need; this is a 60% increase from the previous year. In addition, 112 food vouchers were distributed in Ramadan 2007. For Eid-ul-Adha, meat was distributed to needy clients; IFSSA thanks the community for the donations that made this possible. These services benefited over 450 children and close to 200 adults in our community. As well, families that utilize IFSSA's food bank services often pick up items from our clothing and household items bank. These items are donated by community members and sorted by staff and volunteers at the agency. Unfortunately many donated items are thrown away because they are broken, soiled, or unusable. We appreciate all donations but need to continue to remind our donors that only reusable items, that are clean and sorted, are useful our clients.

Counselling

Between August 2007 and 2008, 21 clients accessed our contract counselor's services, with each client having approximately 3 in-person sessions, as well as 3 follow-up phone calls.

Youth Development and Parent Education (YDPE) Program

The YDPE program continues to host a variety of programs aimed at preventing destructive personal behaviour and educating the community on how to enhance relationships, particularly between parents and children.

In the last fiscal year, the YDPE program served over 150 unique individuals. The majority of the events were well attended and well received. Topics included:

- Family violence
- Preparation for a successful marriage
- Mother & daughter and father & son sessions
- Health Workshops for Women
- Career Development Workshops

In addition, the YDPE has begun regular weekly programming. Among the most popular programs are:

- Homework Club
- Yoga Classes for Ladies
- Girls Swimming Classes

Boyle Street Eid Dinner

For the sixth straight year, IFSSA co-hosted a very successful Eid supper for inner city needy at the Boyle Street Co-operative Centre in October 2007 with the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities. Over 500 people attended the supper. IFSSA would like to sincerely thank the many individuals, families and businesses that donated time, money, and food to make this event very cost-effective. We have been again awarded a grant from the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton to assist in the delivery of this Festive Dinner. We are thankful for the contributions of the Bureau. With the community's help, IFSSA hopes to continue this annual tradition of providing a healthy, hot meal to those in need.

Volunteers

This year 103 volunteers from the community donated their time and efforts to help IFSSA deliver its services. This amounted to almost 1000 hours throughout the year. IFSSA truly appreciates the contributions of all the volunteers and looks forward to seeing new faces in the coming year.