Dear friends and family,

We are happy to share with you our latest bi-annual report. In this document you will find a brief outline of our activities and engagement since the beginning of 2024. We share this report as our minds and hearts continue to be heavy, burdened with the suffering of too many peoples in the world, and locally with the ongoing genocides and travesties committed against people, especially in the Gaza Strip.

The first half of 2024 has been accompanied with continued sadness and shock as we witness the atrocities of war, genocide, and occupation. The lack of intervention internationally has signaled to every Palestinian that our lives, like too many in the Global South, are not equally measured nor protected. Instead, many have come to understand that our lives and livelihoods are an Israeli governmental issue, for its government and its international mobilizers to decide on alone. As such, we view the work of Wi'am and the continued resilience of the Palestinian communities, locally, nationally, and internationally as a direct form of resistance and action against this reality and injustice.

In the backdrop of these tragedies, we reaffirm our universal right to life and to selfdetermination. We further assert our beliefs in the transformative power of dialogue, and continue to call on all governments of the world demanding that they cease any acts of injustice, and that they understand that true security is found in ending oppression, not in monopolizing coercive power or partaking in the security dilemma of international politics. Finally, we add our voices to the masses already crying out, understanding that we are all born free. From Gaza to all corners of the world, we will all be free.

With this in mind, we hope you will enjoy reading about our work, and that you will consider further supporting Wi'am and its beneficiaries through volunteer opportunities and adoption of our programs and center. For those choosing to support our work financially, you will find some helpful links below:

## US tax-deductible donations

### Paypal donations

For Check/Mail donations, please send them to 534 Cherry St., Lansing, Michigan, USA, 48933.

For information on direct and wire transfers, please email us at <u>hope@alaslah.org</u> and place "Transfer" in the email title.

Thank you for your generous contributions and support. We look forward to welcoming you to Bethlehem, and look forward to sharing coffee and tea, conversations, and comradery. All are welcome.

With gratitude and steadfastness,

Wi'am: The Palestinian Conflict Transformation Center

## WI'am Semi Annual Report: Jan. 1st to June 30th, 2024

The first half of 2024 has witnessed a continuing and emboldened genocide against Palestinians in Gaza, as well as a marked increase in settler and military violence against the West Bank. These realities work to systemically reproduce insecurity, increase tensions, and add barriers to life for Palestinians. As a direct result of this, Wi'am has experienced a growing need for psycho-social support, safe spaces, and humanitarian assistance, either through food baskets and through income generating activities.

As such, the following report details Wi'am's work through the first half of 2024 and focuses on the psychosocial support programs, the building of a multi-purpose hall, humanitarian assistance programs, and Wi'am's staple programming as it relates to conflict transformation, the WPS, Women, Peace, and Security program, youth and children's empowerment, and citizen diplomacy programs.

### **Psychosocial Support for Men, Women, Boys and Girls:**

In Palestine, where the socio-economic and political turmoil is a constant backdrop, the provision of psycho-social support can be a lifeline. The deteriorating socio-political/economic environment in the region has left many in a state of vulnerability, impacting their mental health and overall well-being. Left to their own devices with challenges mounting, a growing number find themselves in dire need of psycho-social support to help navigate the complexities of life under occupation. The primary goal of our psychosocial support is the creation of safe spaces where all feel heard and understood, and where anxieties, stress, and pain may be aired out.

Since the commencement of this year, Wi'am has provided 130 women and girls (18-55 years old), largely from the Bethlehem and Hebron areas with psychosocial support activities. Wi'am has also welcomed gender mixed groups and has provided well-being and psychosocial support activities for 110 students and community members. These activities include counseling, group therapy, stress management workshops, and the building and expansion of community support. As an extension of this service, Wi'am also provides accompaniment, and one-on-one counseling, and conflict transformation on a need's basis.

Psychosocial support programs provide a structured environment where women and men can express their feelings, share experiences, and receive professional guidance. It is a holistic approach to address the mental and emotional needs of these women/girls and men/boys. These activities aid in mitigating the effects of trauma, reducing the prevalence of mental health issues, displacing and disrupting cycles of violence, and helps in fostering a supportive community environment.

Wi'am has also continued providing mindfulness exercises, yoga, creative arts, and different programs aimed at offering practical tools for the mitigation of stress. This year, Wi'am has offered weekly sessions for 60 women from the South of the West Bank. These

activities encourage self-reflection and mindfulness, helping all to stay grounded and present.



The impact of these psychosocial services on participants' mental states has been profound. By addressing anxiety, sharing pain, and providing coping mechanisms, these initiatives have helped participants build resilience and strengthen self-confidence. Participants of these programs have reported improved mental health, better relationships, and a more empowered outlook on life, leading to greater resilience and a more balanced and fulfilling life.



### The Wi'am Center Multi-Purpose Hall

As violence continues to increase, the fear and risks associated to travel and being outdoors increases. Settler violence and military violence have especially continued to threaten our ability to serve our communities and to welcome them to our center. Furthermore, Wi'am has been in need of an accessible and consistent meeting space that allows for the implementation of our activities with greater comfort, and safety for all beneficiaries. As such, Wi'am has, with the generosity of its supporters, been able to construct a multi-purpose hall. This hall stands beside the Walnut tree, beside the main entryway to Wi'am. till, we need to install air conditioning, new tables and chairs and some clothes to be on the walls to absorb chaos and echoes.



This Multi-purpose Hall will directly serve more than 5000 people every year, from the locals of the West Bank areas to the crowds of visiting internationals that our center. This hall will provide a consistent meeting place for the women, children, and youth beneficiaries, allowing for year-round programming unbothered by weather conditions, will welcome individuals, and families in a comfortable and private manner as they participate in conflict mediation and counseling sessions, and will be a safe space to talk and reflect on the rolling stones of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict with visiting delegations. As such, this multipurpose hall will serve and welcome diverse demographics as it relates to age, sex, religion, socio-economic status, and much more.

age<sup>2</sup>



More specifically, this is how the space will impact the following groups:

- 1. Youth: The hall will provide an engaging space for young people from all over the West Bank, as well as our international visiting youth to participate in civil society education and leadership development initiatives. Offering opportunities for social interaction, cultural exchange, and participation in diverse events and activities.
- 2. Women/girls: The hall will offer the participants in our various womenempowerment programs a safe and accessible space which will increase comfort and consistency, allowing for greater ownership and meaningful participation.



**3. 3. Children**: The hall will provide a safe and engaging space for children to participate in educational programs, and recreational activities, shielding them from various weather conditions, and political violence.

- 4. Local Organizations: The hall will welcome various local organizations to increase synergy and networking, as well as sharing what 'good' we have with our communities at-large.
- 5. Larger community: the space will provide the larger community and families with a space to meet, discuss issues of concern and meet with the younger generation and key actors to discuss ways of moving forward and facing societal challenges together. This will also be a space for welcome groups for conflict mediation and counselling sessions.
- 6. Hosting International visiting groups (citizen Diplomacy Program). The hall will be a welcoming roof for international solidarity groups as we orient them about the socio-political realities, history, and demography of the Land.





### Humanitarian Assistance:

As the deteriorating socio-economic and political realities unfold, many Palestinians are experiencing growing rates of unemployment and food insecurity. Bethlehem, and other 'tourist' destinations have seen a decline in tourism, increasing the financial burden experienced by families and individuals. Furthermore, resource scarcity remains a tool of warfare, as Palestinians face dwindling water resources, and suffer continuous habitat and agricultural loss due to settler expansion and violence. Thus, families face growing needs, with dwindling access to opportunities to meet their needs. As part of Wi'am's commitment to its beneficiaries and communities, it has explored the following programs:

<u>Food Coupons:</u> Since the beginning of the year, Wi'am has distributed 300 coupons for essential food items to 300 families in the southern areas of the West Bank. This initiative has provided much-needed relief to many households, ensuring they have access to their basic necessities during these challenging times. These coupons also follow research findings that posit choice in goods as increasing humanitarian assistance efficacy, by allowing families to choose the products and goods which they most need. In addition to our food distribution efforts, we have also focused on providing individual assistance to 30 families. This support has been multifaceted, including medical treatment, utilities support, and employment opportunities for women and men.

<u>Job Creation</u>: We continue to support women economically through supporting their businesses and entrepreneurship, such as pastry making, embroidery, and hand-craft creation. Furthermore, we have provided support and employment opportunities for women and men to gain and generate incomes for their families through cash-for-work programs, thereby affording families the agency to work for a living and take pride in their ability to provide for themselves and their families. In addition to individual assistance, we provided 42 men and women with temporary work in the garden and in the maintenance of the office and with other local organizations. These initiatives, although modest, have provided a source of income, empowering them to support their families and improve their living conditions. The impact of our work has been significant, and we believe that with your support, we could expand our reach and help even more families in need.



# Mediation and Conflict Transformational:

<u>"Indeed</u> this is the worst of times and not the best of times." Wi'am is proud of its ongoing daily mediation and conflict transformation work. Given the current economic and socio-political deteriorating situation we are inundated with at least 2-3 cases every day. Cases are divided into the following categories: Brawls, domestic violence, child abuse, husband-wife disagreements, youth infighting, car accidents, delinquency, discrimination against women including gendered inheritance, broken relationships at the family level, and many more. In Sulha, the Arab tradition of conflict mediation, we strive to reach a win-win resolution to reach and reestablish cordial relationships based on mutual respect. Through this practice we try to disseminate the culture of agape and community. As proverbs, 15:1 says, "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger".



Conflict transformation is a process that goes beyond resolving disputes to address the root causes of conflict and create positive change. It involves shifting the dynamics of conflict from destructive to constructive, focusing on long-term solutions rather than quick fixes. This approach recognizes that conflict is a natural part of human interaction and can be an opportunity for growth and transformation. As such, conflict transformation requires the transformation of relationships, systems, and structures to prevent future conflicts from arising. It requires a deep understanding of the underlying issues and interests of all parties involved, as well as a commitment to dialogue, empathy, and collaboration. By engaging in a transformative process, individuals and communities can move beyond entrenched positions and work together to create sustainable peace and positive social change.



Indeed, we are living in a pressure cooker situation where we witness a sharp rise in conflicts, deterioration on the socio-economic levels, instability and insecurity. Furthermore, the continued power imbalance between Occupied and Occupier persist and add to the experienced instability, increasing fear and adding to the pressure already faced within our communities. All of this reproduces and triggers new conflict. In response, we are active around the clock in tackling cases and conflicting issues using Non-Violence and grassroots diplomacy, solving and transforming conflicts.

In our conflict transformation, we use the synergy of Sulha and Western techniques of conflict resolution. This allows us to honor the traditional way of conflict Transformation, while strengthening it to meet the community members' growing and dynamic needs. Finally, these conflicts act as a litmus test of our society and inform our programming so that we may best tackle challenges and work towards justice- and peacebuilding. Since the beginning of the year, we have been able to complete 150 cases with an 87% successful conflict transformation.

## Women, Peace and Security:

Shortly after Wi'am's inception, it became quite clear that strengthening civil society, and mitigating conflict necessitated gender justice and mainstreaming. Palestinian women had shifting social engagement from increased civil society engagement up until the Oslo accords, to a diminishing engagement in great part to military exploitation of women and the weaponization of cultural notions of shame and honor through blackmail, and sexual violence, to the growth of fundamentalism locally, which is directly related to the deteriorating socio-economic realities suffered.

These shifting realities have strengthened patriarchal systems and have disproportionately marginalized women and girls, and this is evidenced through the high unemployment rates, and the greater rates of food insecurity and poverty suffered by women-led households. As such, Wi'am's WPS program looks to holistically strengthen women's participation and civic engagement through social, political, and economic empowerment. The social aspect of empowerment involves the creation of safe spaces where women can discuss salient topics, and organize around social change and support each other. The political dimension relates to supporting women in positions of power and working towards a more equitable

distribution of power, beyond the 20% quota, and focuses on mobilizing around structure change, such as with the family protection law. Finally, the economic empowerment portion targets bridging the earning gap, understanding that independence and empowerment must include economic considerations. Since 2024, Wi'am has had 12 group counseling sessions, as well as 26 individual counseling sessions, 8 trainings on gender sensitivity and mainstreaming, and 16 trainings and workshops on the psycho-social impact of war, and on UNSCR 1325, and CEDAW.



Furthermore, Wi'am's Women Weekly club has carried out various educational and cultural activities from workshops and lectures to discussion panels on a wide-array of topics including trauma, the psycho-social impacts of warfare and genocide, gossip and social stratification, migration and its impact on community, steadfastness and resilience, and intentional community-building. When able to, we have also organized recreational and leisure activities, such as trips to nature, preparing shared breakfast, playing thinking games, in addition to engaging in spiritual activities such as prayers, meditation, and interfaith dialogue.



## Youth Empowerment:

The Palestinian community is a young society with over 70% of the population under the age of 30. Youth are but one component of this large demographic, and yet are one of the groups most marginalized. The youth suffer high rates of unemployment and reap the cost of settler-colonial occupation through being unable to travel freely, through historically being one of the most targeted groups as it relates to military and settler violence and face an ever-dwindling supply of land with exorbitant prices, that far exceed their average capabilities.

Wi'am's involvement with youth centers its foundation in existence as the greatest form of resistance. Youth and children are our greatest social resource, and they are the leaders and champions of tomorrow. As such, our programming aims to create safe spaces to discuss important and salient topics to youth such as identity, tradition, politics, belonging, notions of justice and equity, the future, and much more. By having the space and time to discuss these topics we allow our youth to intentionally create and choose their futures, understanding that agency is devastated under occupation. As such, we create and instill a sense of agency and power through social ties and community building.

Our youth strengthening includes different activities, ranging from exposure visits to trainings and workshops in a multitude of fields, to volunteerism within our community and other forms of civic engagement, to recreational activities and cross-cultural visits. Since 2024 we have had various activities in the South of the West Bank, including capacity building in schools.

Training and capacity building in Schools:

Wi'am center has implemented a comprehensive training program in partnership with the AVSI Foundation. This program spans 10 sessions and has already seen the enthusiastic participation of 260 girls from Saint Joseph Girls school in Bethlehem.



The core of our program lies in fostering effective communication skills, leadership, understanding the nuances of conflict, and mastering conflict resolution and peermediation techniques. Through interactive workshops, role-playing, group work, case studies, and creative activities, our participants have honed their abilities to listen, express, and collaborate. We are witnessing the emergence of empathetic student leaders capable of mediating disputes in their schools, family, and community. The positive ripple effects of their actions are already palpable within their circles and beyond and focus on the following:



**Peer-mediation/leadership training**: the training program is meticulously designed to address the unique challenges faced by young girls today. Conflict mediation training equips them with the tools to resolve disputes amicably, fostering a culture of understanding and cooperation. Leadership training further instills confidence and empowers these girls to take on leadership roles within their communities, school and beyond.

Addressing the Challenges of Bullying: Bullying prevention is a critical component of the program. It educates girls on recognizing, addressing, and preventing bullying, both as potential victims and as bystanders. This aspect of the training is vital in creating a safe and supportive environment for all participants. The participants gained ample understandings/grasps of the profound impact of bullying on individuals and its negative effects and through these trainings have managed to create safe spaces where school children can openly discuss experiences and learn strategies to counter, report, and mitigate bullying.

**Life skills training**: it covers a wide range of essential skills such as effective communication, time management, and emotional intelligence. These skills are crucial for the personal and professional development of youth and prepare them for future challenges and opportunities.

The main strengths of this program include:

**Fostering Positive Growth/energy:** Positive reinforcement stands at the heart of our approach, encouraging children to recognize and reinforce good behavior in themselves and others. This method has proven to be a powerful tool in promoting self-esteem and motivation.

**Instilling Hope for the Future**: In a world that often seems uncertain and unpredictable, we emphasize the importance of instilling hope and critical thinking. Our sessions inspire participants to look at the bright side of life, think out of the box, equipping them with life skills, and empowering them to be the catalysts for change in their communities.

**Empowering Young Mediators:** The impact of this training is profound. These sessions have been a transformative journey for the participants. Girls who participate in the program report increased self-esteem, improved academic performance, and stronger interpersonal relationships. They are role models in their communities, inspiring other young girls to pursue their goals and dreams. Our program not only equips students with conflict resolution skills but also nurtures their emotional intelligence. We are fostering generations that are growingly more resilient, empathetic, and hopeful.



## Children:

Wi'am is active throughout the year working with children. Children are the future, and yet they are struggling to survive the present, as children suffer high rates of violence and continue to suffer the consequences of continued traumatic stress-disorders. The consequence of this is the continuous disruption of their sleep, of education, of their right to play, and enjoy life. As such, Wi'am's work with children is to afford children the right to a childhood, to be goofy and laugh, and to play without fear of violence. Furthermore, Wi'am employs trauma coping mechanisms to help our resilient children grow and lead lives characterized by their hopes and aspirations, instead of by the trauma that they've endured.

Our yearly program focuses on using the arts, including cultural dance and song, and playwriting as a means of communication, ventilation, and freedom of expression. Trained facilitators and social worker also provide trainings and workshops on stressmanagement, on peer mediation and on expression. When funds are available, our children enjoy going to the pool, and on various fieldtrips, including visiting educational institutions and other cities.



At the moment, Wi'am is fundraising \$10,000 so that it may continue its annual summer cap for children. During the 6-week summer camp students will participate in field trips to the pool and local and national museums, will be able to volunteer locally, and will participate in cultural and artistic activities aimed at expression and recreation. This Summer camp provides a safe space for over 100 children to come and play, learn, and visit places that many would otherwise find inaccessible. Furthermore, this year's focus is on the environment and will teach children what they can do to help protect the earth and mitigate pollution.

### **Citizen Diplomacy:**

Wi'am's Citizen Diplomacy program focuses on building Wi'am (cordial relationship with Agape) in community, whether that community spans Bethlehem, the West Bank, or th whole world. As such, Wi'am believes in building bridges and in unity in diversity through allowing diversity and pluralism to enrich our lives and experiences. Following pioneers of justice and peacebuilders, we affirm our interconnectedness and oppose all injustices, understanding that as the tide rises, all boats rise (even if we don't have permission to visit the sea).

Wi'am's citizen diplomacy includes welcoming visiting delegations, participating in local, national, and international advocacy initiatives, inter and intra-faith activities, climate justice, volunteerism, and other programming. Below you will find glimpses of some of Wi'am's key citizen diplomacy initiatives since the beginning of 2024.

**Zoom Meetings and welcoming of international visitors and delegation:** While tourism has continued to decline in 2024, Wi'am has continued to speak to and welcome international visitors and delegations. Wi'am's Staff, and volunteers have led various interdisciplinary sessions with people from the different corners of the World. These include Pax Christi, IFOR, Kairos Canada, Indiana Center for Middle East Peace, various schools and universities, UNSC1325 groups, and more. One of Wi'am's missions continues to be in advocating for justice and educating people on life under occupation. Wi'am loves to welcome people irrespective of their demographics and offers to help and welcome them under the Motto of "Come, See, Observe, Reflect and Act".



In addition, Wi'am continues to be active in networking and growing its capacities. During 2024, the staff took opportunities to further their education and engaged in capacity building. As such, we must thank all of our partners and the networks which we belong to. We would also like to express our gratitude and sincere appreciation to all the Spiritual Formation Center of the Seminary of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem for its enriching, didactic and thoughtful course: "the introduction to the New Testament Course". We are also grateful for the "The Social Teachings of the Church", "The Regional Network of Reconciliation in The Arab World"," The Middle East frum of Arbitrators", "The International Fellowship of Reconciliation", UNSC1325 Forum, "The Arab Dialogue Forum" and others, for their offerings, including courses and workshops.



**Run the Wall:** Wi'am director and staff participated in the 'Run the Wall' initiative organized by the Holly Land Trust in partnership with both the Wi'am Center and the Right to Movement initiative. This activity coincided with an international event organized by our partner organization Amos Trust under the title 'Run the Wall', which called upon the global citizens of the world to walk and run in solidarity with the Palestinian people, especially in Gaza, and to highlight the policy of wall construction and house demolitions in the West Bank.



 ${}^{\text{Page}}16$ 

**Volunteers:** The first year of 2024 has witnessed active volunteerism from Wi'am groups. Despite all the atrocities and violence, Wi'am has continued to welcome local and international volunteers. Together we volunteer in a range of fields from conflict mediation, to record keeping, to cleaning areas, and to helping with the various Wi'am and local civil society organization events. Our volunteers have also continued to engage in manual work, lectures, performing the arts, running workshops and more. Already we have volunteered more than 2000 hours and with a group of around 120 volunteers. We deeply appreciate their help, work, and commitment to justice, peace, and people.

Climate Justices- Hoot Not Pollute: Under the Slogan," Hoot Not Pollute" Wi'am has been hosting various environmental activities. Our rationale for focusing on climate change initiatives in Palestine is shaped by the unique socio-economic and environmental challenges facing the region. There is a strong historical and present link between indigenous environmental practices, including agricultural, and the securitization and restriction of these practices through colonialism. In Palestine, the Ottoman Empire and British Mandate are two historical examples of this connection, as both colonizers had a plethora of oppressive laws and practices which undermined Palestinian agricultural practices, and worked towards resource confiscation, which included land. This connection is further given life through a collection of ever-growing Israeli laws and practices which deny farmers rights to their land, limit and restrict Palestinians from resources, including water, over extraction, such as with the Dead Sea, and Pollution through denying Palestinians the facilities and machinery necessary for recycling and waste management, and through the continuous bombardment of sophisticated weapons of destruction and settler violence. Furthermore, as the Middle East is expected to suffer the climate crises at a disproportionately higher rate than the globe, climate change has become an increasingly critical issue for Palestine.



This program has already served the Bethlehem community, educating various classrooms and community members on climate change. In partnership with Kairos Canada, we hope to see this program grow and expand, with our main goal being the strengthening of community resilience to climate change through education. engagement and targeted environmental actions and initiative. Furthermore, in recognizing indigenous struggles with their right to protect and honor the earth, this program will also engage in active resistance through the protection of this ancestral connection and through reclaiming Palestinian agricultural traditions. Some families have already been provided with some tools and herbs and are being supported in maintaining victory gardens. We hope to add 10 more victory gardens in the coming 6 months. It is our future dream to further connect with indigenous communities around the world, understanding that we heal each other, and that there is a deep joy in honoring the earth together. Finally, we all belong to that same Earth and to the lands which nourish us, as such we join in the Walk with Land Alliance (The picture below is of two of our colleagues in Toronto Canada in October 2023).



**Vigils and Public Events:** Wi'am had continued to support and participate our local partners and initiatives, building synergies where it can. We believe solidarity to be a natural and powerful form of activism and resistance and thus express our solidarity and empathy with others, joining them in seeking reform and justice non-violently. This also includes community building; Palestine is a community-based culture, and the family is a viable socioeconomic unit. Therefore, as Romans 12:15 states," Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ... Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep." As such, Wi'am is also active in paying condolences and in joining

celebrations in the community, understanding that there is power and security in community.



**Faith Activities and the Intl Day of Prayers:** Wi'am is empowered by spirituality and faith to tread the less travelled road. Besides bi -monthly spiritual activity held on the premises <u>of Wi'am</u>, the staff take part in the different ecumenical spiritual activities in Bethlehem. Director, staff and friends of Wi'am attended the World Day of Prayer in which people from the Catholic, Armenian, Protestant, Syriac and Orthodox traditions prayed and reflected together. These prayers are an outcry and supplication that invite the world to pray for peace, justice and freedom. It is a call to be in solidarity and love with each other despite the difficulties and oppression. On this significant occasion, the World Day of Prayer, our hearts are filled with sadness and frustration; our voices are lifted in prayer, fervently invoking peace and justice to descend upon Gaza, Congo, Sudan, Haiti, and more.



Page 🗕

The plight of the people of Gaza/West Bank are reflected upon in our prayers. We ask that God hold them and all people struggling for justice and that their unwavering spirit in the face of oppression be empowered. As we concluded our prayers, our hearts grieving yet hopeful, we vowed to continue praying for peace in Gaza, Palestine, and the world in general. May our determined voices reach those in power and prod them to head our voices and to protect the marginalized who are helpless and hopeless. May God continue to bless the world and may our commitment to praying and acting together as a global voice ever grow.

Meetings with local Religious and civil leadership and the Struggle for Justice: Dialogue and healthy relationship are integral to Wi'am's success. Our work is as strong as our community's willingness to engage and to feel included. As such, monthly and bimonthly meetings between Wi'am staff and the local religious and civil leaders ensure that Wi'am is engaged and that it belongs to the community and receives community buy-in.



Other gatherings with local NGOs and individuals are also integral to gaining a holistic understanding of our community, its well-being, and needs. The purpose of such encounters is to build bridges for understanding based on mutuality, inclusivity with the values of respect, dignity, ecumenism, pluralism, as well as building a culture of acceptance, in which all are welcome as they are.



Wi'am is always willing to be a voice for the voiceless. At the same time, Wi'am believes that its voice must always work to empower those voices so that they are heard as they are. Whether women fighting for equitable rights in their families, or families fighting for the right to live together, whether it concerns public health, or the overall livelihoods of people, Wi'am believes what is needed is always best discovered in partnership with those we serve. As such, we always strive to use reflective decision making that is directly informed by our beneficiaries.



Page **-**



It has been a long bumpy road, but it is a road worth travelling. "The Arc of the Moral Universe is Long, but it Bends towards justice." May we always meet each other on this path.

Special Thanks and Gratitude to all of our partners who share with us in our pain, alleviate our suffering, talk our walk, and have compassion, and empathy, acting in solidarity with us, and empowering us on our less traveled road of struggle, suffering and sacrifice.



