



ARP FUNDING PROPOSAL

Amani Women Center
 UEI - VP9CYSYYMB6C1
 CAGE - 8PVY5
 Federal EIN # - 20-8795120

Program Narrative & Budget:

Amani Women Center (AWC) is requesting funding for the proposed budget to provide services and training under the Amani Sewing Program and rental assistance for program participants. AWC’s holistic approach allows program participants additional help in 10 different languages towards translation and interpretation.

AWC is requesting \$50,000 in funding to train and assist additional 12 women by end of 2024. Our objective is to assist this underserved population of mostly African and Afghanistan refugee women within Dekalb County gain life skills that translates to livable wages and improves their economic wellbeing.

Who- Amani Women Center- program targets African and Afghanistan women refugees with training and employment opportunities who have been impacted by the overwhelming impacts that encompass ramifications of COVID.

What-Total training cost per participant including all supplies per year is \$3,199.70

- $\$3,199.70 \times 12 = \$38,396$
- Rental assistance limit is \$967 per person.
- $\$967 \times 12 = \$11,604$
- No Administration cost included.
- **A Total Funding Request of \$50,000**

BUDGET:

Item Description	Amount
• Rental Assistance - 12 program participants @ \$967/month	\$11,604
• Program Training including all supplies cost per person per year (12 Months) - $\$3,199.70 \times 12$	\$38,396
• Administrative Fees/Overhead – None Included	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$50,000



When - December 2023 to December 2024

How - Overview and Need.

Most Refugee women are unable to work and contribute to their household income because they face several barriers accessing jobs and the lack of skills. AWC sewing program addresses these barriers in a holistic way and trains the women to be workforce ready by providing additional incentives as a (DeKalb Gateway Partner) assisting with applications and processing of public benefits such as childcare (CAPS), and Food stamps (SNAP) among others.

The program teaches ESL classes which addresses the language barriers, health promotion and education that focuses on their wellbeing and the ability to navigate the health system, financial literacy classes that promotes savings and self-sufficiency.

• **Training Activities Include a holistic approach:**

- a) Weekly classes. (Introduction, Intermediary, and Advance)
- b) Mornings (10am – 1pm) and Afternoons (2:30pm - 5:30pm)
- c) Program to provide sewing machines to participants.
- d) Machine Knowledge – Standard, Interlocks and industrial
- e) Supply all fabrics – needed for course work. (Practice and Practical)
- f) Supply all notions including sewing kits and first aid safety kits.
- g) Program director, coordinators, instructors, and assistants.
- h) Case workers to provide social and human services / screening and applications.
- i) AWC Community Ambassadors to provide interpretation and translation support.
- j) ESL (One on One coaching by AWC Volunteers) – When needed.
- k) Other incentives and resources to support women and their families.
- l) Documentation, evaluation, and reporting.



Opportunity & Resources:

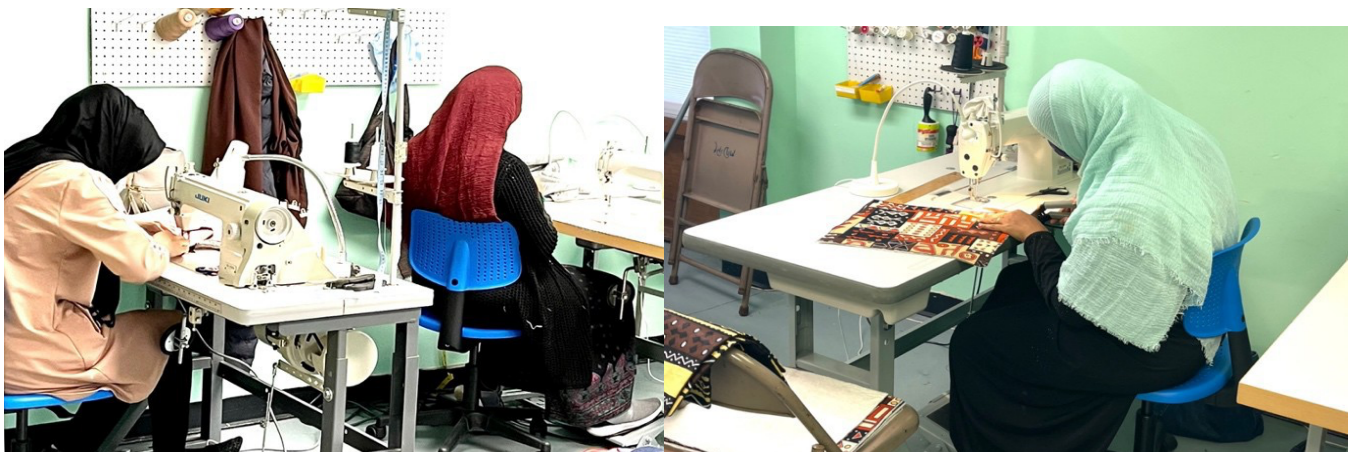
1. AWC has a team of Instructors/teachers within the program.
2. AWC Case Workers that assist with social, and human services.
3. AWC Community Ambassadors that help with interpretation, translation, outreach, mobilization and canvassing among others.
4. AWC has two locations in Dekalb County that are less than 8miles traveling distance for most of the women.

AWC Highlights:

- Last year, AWC awarded certificates of completion to 23 graduates from 8 different countries and gifted each woman with a new Singer sewing machine. The sewing program has a 98% Graduation rate. 74% started a home business. 87% say they now earn livable wages and have improved English speaking and coping skills – a powerful testimony and credit to our program instructors and ESL volunteers.
- We are proud of our manufacturing team of 14 workers from our workforce development efforts. - comprising students and alumnae who are earning income for sewing various items from contract orders: to name just a few....
 - * 2,000 high end pillow covers for a Marietta based company.
 - * 400 table runners for a Decatur small business owner.
 - * 100 make-up bags for an Alpharetta beauty accessories company.
 - * 2 graduates recently hired in the sewing department by a Decatur company with a pending MOU to hire more graduates from the program.
- Our team has been instrumental in developing our made in Clarkston line of products including, cross body bags, eye glass cases, pillowcases, table runners, aprons, and wine totes. These items made by the women are available for purchase online and at our showroom in Clarkston.
- AWC case workers assisted over 1,800 families with covid related emergencies since the pandemic with utility and rental assistance to avoid eviction or homelessness. They have screened over 2,600 families that were approved for Food Stamps - SNAP, Childcare-CAPS, MEDICAID, TANF, LIHEAP assistance – And this is still ongoing.



- AWC distributed over 625 pounds of food since the pandemic, over 600 test kits, over 4,200 diapers and wipes, 2,300 bottles of hand sanitizers and other PPE items. These donations benefited 300 households and over 3,100 individuals in Clarkston and surrounding cities.
- During the early stages of the pandemic, the women made over 6,000 face masks. Some were donated to the refugee community and some to essential workers. Others were sold and revenue from the initiative was able to put food on the table for many of the program participants and their families.
- AWC community mobilization and outreach efforts in partnership with Dekalb County, City of Clarkston, Dekalb County Board of Health, and CORE vaccinated over 975 adults & 370 children – some the highest Dekalb County vaccination data within the Clarkston zip code.
- We partnered with Clarkston Community Health Center to provide over 15 workshops on health, including BP, diabetes, and breast cancer screening. Our community conversations with other partners included awareness series on dispelling myths and fears about Covid-19.
- AWC is excited to announce that despite the challenges of the pandemic, we now occupy our own property in Clarkston which houses our administrative offices, a mixed-use space for classes and workshops and of course a showroom showcasing various items proudly made by refugee women in our program.









Please direct any questions:
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