



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

WHO WE ARE

Reclaim Childhood creates **safe** and inclusive **spaces** for refugee and local girls in Jordan to thrive by **playing sports**, **working with coaches**, and **building community**.

WHAT WE DO

RC gets girls out of the house and onto the field, working towards three main goals:

- 1) To provide a **safe space** where participants can “Reclaim Childhood” and just be kids.
- 2) To **empower and inspire girls** and young women, by employing the **positive impact of sport and play** to build socioemotional and life skills.
- 3) **To connect diverse communities that otherwise may not interact** - refugees and host community Jordanians alike.

All programs are held in female only spaces and led by local and refugee women who act as role models for participants.

HOW WE DO IT

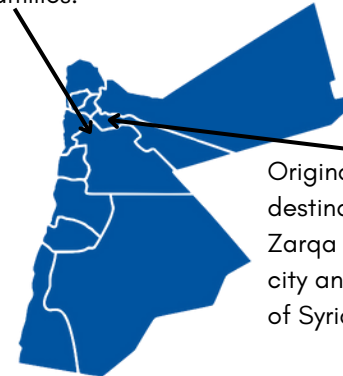
- Weekly afterschool programming
- Teen leadership program
- Summer camps
- Coach clinics

RC programs impact
15+ neighborhoods
across Jordan

WHERE WE WORK

AMMAN

Amman, the capital, is Jordan's largest city. It is also the most diverse: the Amman metro area is home to Palestinian, Iraqi, Syrian, Yemeni, Sudanese, Somali, Egyptian, and Jordanian families.



ZARQA

Originally a military hub and a destination for Palestinian refugees, Zarqa is Jordan's second-largest city and home to a large population of Syrian and Iraqi refugees.



NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2021-22 was another year that started deep in the pandemic, the impacts of which are still very much affecting the populations that Reclaim Childhood serves. When school schedules fluctuated to make up for lost learning time and avoid COVID19 surges, we adjusted too, ensuring that despite the disruption and stress, girls had a consistent outlet to turn to for fun and community.

As case counts dropped in Spring 2022, we were finally able to return to the expansion strategy designed in early 2020. RC's Jordan staff began to make site visits throughout the country, meeting with local community leaders and parents to share more about RC's programming. They heard the same thing over and over: "Yes, our daughters need this program. Yes, please bring your program here."

The following pages share the stories of participants, coaches, and even a participant turned coach that exemplify the amazing work of girls and women at the sites in East Amman and Zarqa. As we look towards next year, we are excited to build on this work to reach more girls while continuing to strengthen and invest in these hub sites.

We are grateful for the countless supporters that have helped us get to this point. Thank you for your commitment to RC's mission.

Best,



Anna Barrett, Executive Director



2021-22 IMPACT



700+ Total Participants Reached

380+ Participants Reached in Amman and Zarqa Hub sites

320 Participants Reached Through New Community Outreach



8 Nationalities Reached



580+ Program Hours



63 Hours of Coach Development

98%

OF MOTHERS FELT THAT THEIR DAUGHTERS MENTAL HEALTH IMPROVED AS A RESULT OF EXERCISE IN OUR PROGRAMS

100%

OF PARTICIPANTS REPORTED FEELING SAFE WITH COACHES

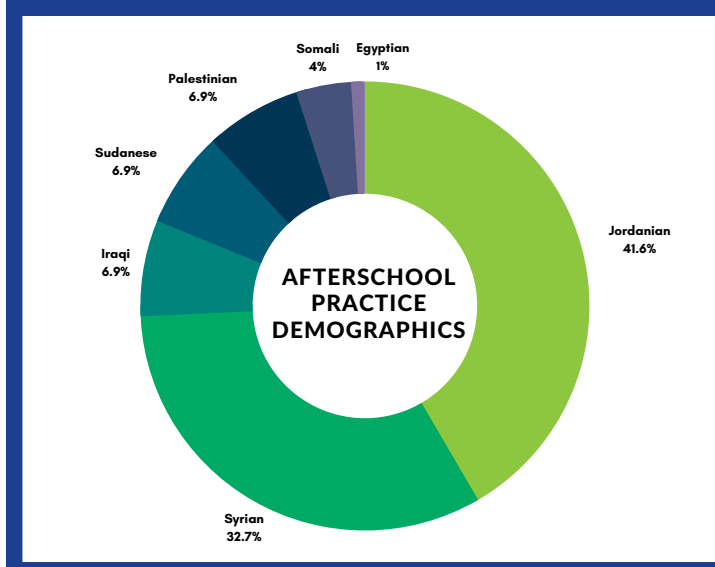
93%

OF MOTHERS REPORTED THAT THEIR DAUGHTERS SHARE INFORMATION AND SKILLS GAINED FROM RC WITH THEIR FAMILIES



AFTERSCHOOL PRACTICE

During the 2021-22 programming year, RC successfully returned to fully in-person programming. Coming off of the previous year of isolation and distancing, RC coaches worked diligently to foster community and support each participant. We led 28 weeks of afterschool programming for girls ages 5-18, with over 200 girls participating in each season. During the fall season, girls participated in outdoor soccer practices, moving to basketball practices in the winter and frisbee in the spring. Weekly practices combined technical sports skills and scrimmages with team building activities and emotional development exercises. Specifically, we highlighted themes of building self-confidence, sportsmanship, and respect for one another.



200+

GIRLS
PARTICIPATED
IN EACH
SEASON OF
AFTERSCHOOL
PRACTICE



PROGRAMS



MYRNA

"RC has changed me in various aspects; it made me more confident and social. My favorite thing about attending RC training is that it was my escape from all the pressure I have from my school, studies, and negativity in general. Many girls from various backgrounds participate at RC, and I was more than glad to interact with them all. They support me constantly, push me to follow my goals, and treat me with love and respect. Because of RC, I've had the opportunity to interact with people of many nationalities, and I've formed bonds with them all. My talents have been greatly shaped by RC, and it has given me the opportunity to connect with other communities that will help me develop them even more. I'm always appreciative of RC, and I'm happy to be a part of it."



Myrna is a 15-year-old participant in Amman. She has been in the program since 2016.



Rama is 15 years old and a former participant in RC's Zarqa program.

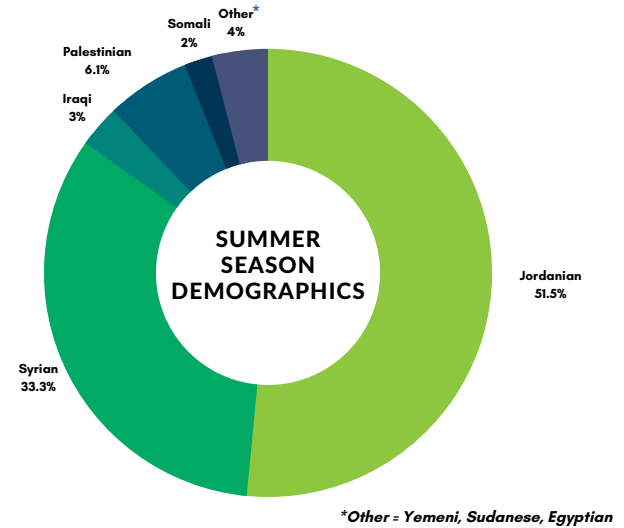
RAMA

"I enjoy playing football, and my father is my number one supporter. Coach Walaa was the first to notice my talent, and she encouraged me to join Reclaim Childhood because it's the place where I could develop my skills. I joined RC in 2019, and we began training twice a week. The coaches were extremely helpful, supporting me and developing my talents. Coach Walaa then suggested trying out for Amman FC, a local club, and I made the team. Later on, I was given the opportunity to play for Jordan's under-17 national team. Unfortunately, due to the intense training schedule I had with the other clubs, I had to cease attending RC training in 2022. However, I will always be grateful to RC and the coaches for what they did since they gave me a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that changed my life for the better."



SUMMER CAMP: Amman and Zarqa

For the first time since the start of the pandemic, we were able to return to our roots and run traditional RC summer camps for over 230 girls at our hub sites in Amman and Zarqa. During weeks 1-3, RC camp featured activities including soccer, basketball, frisbee, and Zumba. Participants rotated through stations, learning each of the sports, enjoying team building exercises, and playing a variety of games designed to help girls get moving and connect with friends while having fun. During weeks 4-6, participants engaged in RC's summer leagues where they had the opportunity to implement their new skills and practice fair play with regular sport matches against their peers.



230+

GIRLS
PARTICIPATED
IN CAMPS AT
RC'S HUB SITES



"I used to not have the ability to go outside in the streets and play because only boys were allowed to do that. Once I joined RC, I saw how girls play football. The coaches taught me and I began to love it."

- Dania, 13-year-old Iraqi Participant

PROGRAMS



SUMMER CAMP: EXPANSION SITES

Throughout the spring, the RC team visited communities throughout Jordan to introduce the program and evaluate potential expansion sites for the following year. From these meetings, RC selected 3 camp locations: Irbid, Mafraq, and Jerash, running weeklong camps in each site. Following RC's core methodology, local women from the neighborhoods acted as coaches, attending training clinics on sport and socioemotional topics and learning from RC's veteran coaching staff in preparation. Over 200 girls enjoyed the opportunity to play and build relationships with new friends and coaches.

Mafraq was chosen as an expansion site for the upcoming fall season, in response to strong community support, a diverse population, and extremely limited access to sport for girls.

IRBID

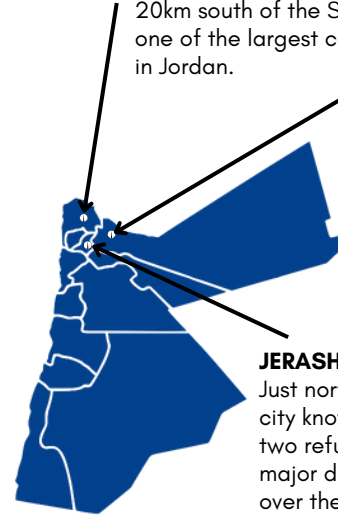
Irbid is Jordan's third largest city. Situated only 20km south of the Syrian border, Irbid is home to one of the largest communities of Syrian refugees in Jordan.

MAFRAQ

Al-Mafraq means "junction city" and is named for its location at the crossroads leading to Iraq and Syria. Due to recent conflicts in these countries, the Mafraq Governorate is currently home to tens of thousands of refugees.

JERASH

Just north of Amman, Jerash is a historic city known for its ancient ruins. Home to two refugee camps, Jerash became a major destination for Palestinian refugees over the past decades.



219

GIRLS FROM IRBID, MAFRAQ,
AND JERASH PARTICIPATED IN
RC'S EXPANSION CAMPS FOR
THE FIRST TIME



PROGRAMS



QUDRATI TEEN LEADERSHIP

29 young women participated in the Qudrati Teen Leadership Program. Qudrati, meaning "my ability," is a program for participants ages 13 and up to explore and expand on their own abilities. Participants met on the weekends to discuss topics important to their lives and communities and to strengthen their leadership skills. Facilitated by RC coaches, this year's curriculum contained topics such as identity, body image, and the complexities of gender roles. Participants also visited with local social entrepreneurs and talked about future plans for their lives.

The year wrapped up with service projects, as the participants put their leadership into practice. The girls divided into teams to brainstorm ways to address issues in their communities and the world. They then presented these ideas to younger girls from JOHUD, a local NGO partner.

100%

OF QUDRATI GRADUATES
STATED THAT THEY HAD RE-
ENVISIONED THEIR FUTURES
BY THE END OF THE
PROGRAM



PROGRAMS



COACH BUSHRA

"The issues discussed in the Qudrati program really impacted my life. It taught me how to enjoy life to the fullest, understand my rights, and learn how to say no. Qudrati provided me with the strength I needed to grasp life and grow stronger.

After four years, I was diagnosed with cancer. My health deteriorated, I lost my hair, and my self-esteem dropped. But whenever I had the strength to get out of my house, I would always attend RC training, because that place gave me the energy and power that I needed at that time. I wasn't able to move that much, but I really enjoyed the idea of being surrounded with those people and that environment. My mental health had deteriorated, but RC used to charge me with all the positivity needed to continue and to never give up.

When I recovered completely and was cancer-free, I came back to fully attend the training, to run, and practice sports. I'm always grateful for RC, because it played a major role in my life, especially at that phase. And now, after graduating, I am more than happy to be back as a coach, and it is indeed the place where I want to grow."

Bushra is originally from Syria. She joined RC in 2015 and was in RC's first class of Qudrati graduates the next year. A standout participant, we were thrilled to welcome her back to RC as a member of the coaching staff. Bushra and fellow Qudrati alumna Elham were the first former participants from Amman to become coaches, joining Razan and Yasmeen from Zarqa.



IMPACT



11

NEW COACHES
TRAINED FOR
EXPANSION
CAMPS

10

HOURS OF NEW
COACH
TRAINING



COACH TRAINING

This year, RC ran a total of 63 hours of training for its coaches. Returning coaches increased their development hours as they participated in training before each season and throughout the year, learning new sports skills and best practices in youth development. We designed and piloted a new coach training curriculum for 11 new coaches in our expansion camps in Irbid, Jerash, and Mafraq, who also benefited from mentorship from RC's veteran coaches.

GGWCUP EIR TRAINING

In the beginning of 2022, seven RC team members began their yearlong participation in the Global Goals World Cup's first EIR coach training program in Jordan. Our coaches and staff joined a group of 100 women working in support of the UN Global Goals and to close the "play gap" between girls and boys. Throughout the year, coaches ran service projects and participated in play days and training sessions focused on techniques for speaking up in a group, planning practices, and creating safe, supportive environments for women and girls. We're grateful to have had the chance to collaborate with so many women passionate about gender equality in Jordan!

2021-22 COACHES

Amman

Reem Nyaz
(Head Coach)

Walaa Al-Samarae
Bushra Hamki
Elham Khaled
Hanan Kudra
Fathia Musse
Afra'a Oahtan

Zarqa

Walaa Abu Shihab
(Head Coach)

Rasha Al-Ghuwari
Razan Gazawi
Yasmine Owaimer
Heba Sawaftah



COACHES

COACH REEM

"I'm Syrian. I came to Jordan at the beginning of the Syrian War, searching for a safe life. Immigration was so shocking and traumatizing; I lost my country, my family and my best memories. However, this shock is what forced me to depend on myself and become a strong woman. I set goals for myself and decided that I should be a person with a mission, a person with an impact. I joined Reclaim Childhood as a coach, and I always had the biggest belief that I'm not only a coach - it is all the other humanitarian work with children that survived war, but lost their innocence and the best years of their lives. After a while, I started seeing through their eyes, voices and laughter beautiful things that made me forget the haunting image of war and destruction. They became my family. I feel it's my responsibility to draw a smile on their faces during training, and help them forget the sad stories they carry from war.

What is amazing about my work at RC is that every day I am with children from all nationalities. They just get together in a safe inclusive space that is free of all discrimination, a space where we are all able to regain our strength, and eliminate all power imbalances."

This year marked Reem Nyaz's final year as a coach with RC as she left Jordan through the UNHCR resettlement process. Reem was scheduled to be resettled to the US in 2017 but was delayed for over five years after the ban on Syrian immigrants was implemented. In the following years, Reem became an invaluable part of the RC story - one of our longest-tenured coaches, she quietly commands a practice and is beloved by girls and coaches alike. In recognition of her work, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Jordan awarded her its 2017 Youth Empowerment Award.

While Reem is missed in Jordan, we are excited for this opportunity for her and her family and grateful for her incredible impact on so many RC participants, staff, and volunteers. Despite the formidable challenges of building a life in another new country, Reem continues to look for opportunities in the US where she can utilize the skills she gained throughout the past years with RC to help other refugee communities.



IMPACT





COMMUNITY PARTNERS

This year, RC worked with local partners to increase opportunities for our participants. Highlights included programming with 7Hills Skatepark and the Waldorf School. Every Saturday in the fall, 38 RC participants from Amman and Zarqa joined girls from the Waldorf School for soccer practices and games. The girls enjoyed making new friends and learning skills from new coaches.

We also expanded our long-running Amman partnership with 7Hills Skatepark to Zarqa! Girls were excited to try out skateboarding, which was combined with art classes in afternoon sessions.

AMIDEAST JORDAN

Over the summer break, RC coaches ran a two-day camp for AMIDEAST Jordan, a local branch of an international development organization using education and training to empower communities. The camp emphasized inclusiveness and equal play, with training in soccer, frisbee, basketball, community building games, and self-defense practice. The first day was for a group of young women, with the second day providing RC coaches their first opportunity to train male participants. While unsure at first, the teenage boys embraced the leadership and skill of our coaches and had a great day.



COMMUNITY



BRINGING AWARENESS TO MENTAL HEALTH

At the start of 2022, RC kicked off an initiative to bring awareness to mental health and wellness for girls and women. Funded by GIZ and ADP, with technical support by La Guilde, the project included coach training, workshops for mothers, and community events focused on improving awareness around mental health.

RC coaches engaged in a specialized training program where they worked with Dr. Razan Hajjiri on building their own psychological wellbeing and Lana Altaweel from BeWell Jordan on understanding sport as an intervention for psychosocial development and mental health.

The coaches then brought their learning to the wider community, hosting workshops for 64 mothers of participants from Amman and Zarqa. They engaged in discussions on their challenges as women and worked to normalize discussions on mental health, even more crucial in the aftermath of the COVID19 pandemic. Coaches also provided mothers with mental health resources to assist with needs outside of RC's scope.

Finally, RC hosted a spring community play day for 175 girls from Collateral Repair Project (CRP), the Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD), and our own programs. Each participant engaged in three wellness activities: a soccer tournament, yoga with volunteer instructor Sarah Haj Hassan, and a nutrition workshop with NutriCenter. It was an awesome event, and we are grateful for the participation of so many community partners!



COMMUNITY



GOALS FOR GIRLS

After a break due to the pandemic, RC re-launched the Goals for Girls campaign in the 2021-22 year with three participating teams: Williams College Women's Tennis, Emory University Women's Soccer, and Carleton College Women's Soccer. Teams pledged to collect donations for each goal scored or set won during their seasons, collectively raising over \$4,000.

INTERNS

RC was thrilled to welcome two interns to our 2022 summer camps! Andrea and Maya worked in the Amman office and trained with coaches to help prepare and facilitate programs. Over the course of eight weeks, they learned the inner workings of a small NGO, got hands-on experience with community engagement through sport, and practiced their Arabic. Interns are an essential part of RC's summer programs, bringing energy and new perspectives for the girls we work with.



DEAD2RED RELAY

Each year, Reclaim Childhood sends a group of volunteers to take part in the Dead to Red relay race. The 2022 RC team took second place in their division! Our 11 runners completed 150 miles from the Dead Sea to the Red Sea in only 16 hours and 35 minutes.

They then passed the baton to our virtual teams who completed an additional 582 miles in 2 weeks. A total of 28 runners participated virtually, making up 6 different teams.

\$50,000+

RAISED BY THE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL TEAMS TOGETHER



VOLUNTEERS



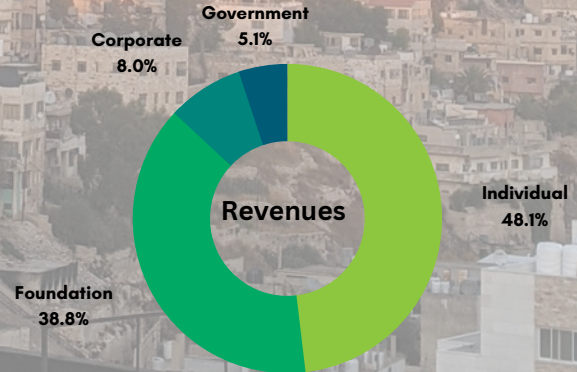
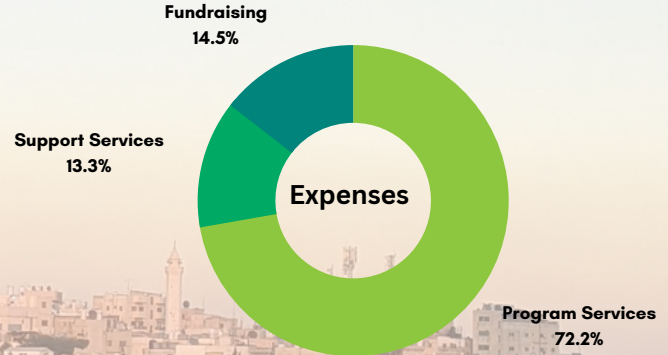
2021-22 FINANCIALS

Expenses

Program Services	\$258,505
Support Services	\$47,508
Fundraising	\$51,843
Total	\$357,856

Revenues

Individual	\$157,620
Foundation	\$127,162
Corporate	\$26,055
Government	\$16,700
Total	\$327,537



2021-2022 ROSTER

Thank you to everyone who made this year possible!

BOARD

Judith Dunbar (Co-chair)
Ladd Hamrick (Co-chair)
Katherine Fischer (Secretary)
Brandan Rivard (Treasurer)
Dalia Al Sharif
Matthew Conroy
Wendy McWeeny
Claire Spofford

INTERNS

Caroline Hess
Andrea Moore
Maya Jamroz

STAFF

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Reena Nimri (Program Associate)
Chelsea Fitton (Development Associate)

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La Guilde/ADP
MIMB and MLBF Foundations
Rise for Good/Global Goals World Cup
Sam Pegram Humanitarian Fund
Waldorf School
442 Football Park
7 Hills Skate Park

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