

## 2021 SSC Financial Report

### Annual Report

Bismillahi-r-rahmani-r-rahim. In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, Most Compassionate.

This past year has seen many changes for Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities. In 2020, we lost our Mother Center in Pope Valley to the wildfires, after which we have spent a significant amount of time managing the logistics of site clean-up, submitting insurance claims, supporting the local community of beloveds who were ravaged by the same fires, and weathering major transitions on the Board of Directors itself.

In 2021, The new SSC Board took on the mission of clarifying our role and making necessary changes to adapt to the evolving needs of our community. We contracted the services of Hamid Werder to help us with Board development. From these meetings we revised our Mission Statement and created a list of our Intentions to service, listed on the following pages. We began working on a new website with the intention of serving all of our local communities and promoting the teachings of our guide.

During this time we began to see our community as a living ecosystem in which the health or imbalance of each part benefits the whole. This paradigm shift guided us to begin to see the diversity of our people and the groups and communities they form as a whole, not just as distinct parts. From this perspective we can better understand what is out of balance and what is needed by applying the teachings of our guide, Sidi, with the knowledge of the holy Quran and the sunnah of our prophet Muhammad, may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

We began 2021 with the intention of purifying our relationship with our community, cleaning up our books, committing to clear transparency in all of our affairs, healing relationships and strengthening bonds with community leaders who carry the pure message of our guide. We received a generous settlement from the fire insurance, we paid off all of our debts, placed the bulk of the insurance payout in a secure halal investment account, and rectified all of our accounting and bookkeeping back to 2008 (a major undertaking). We improved the road leading up to the Land in Pope Valley, CA, all the way to the New Land. We are currently engaged with the local community and exploring options for its rebirth. We have hired a subcontractor who



*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

meets our administrative and financial needs and an independent bookkeeper and an accountant to keep our financial books up to date and audit-ready, insha'allah.

Now we are debt free, we have a new website (another major undertaking), and we have a clear vision of our commitment to our community moving forward. We are committed to keeping the money from the insurance payout invested and untouched until we have clarity for its best use.

Moving forward in 2022 we are committed to doing our part in establishing harmony, security, and hope within our Shadhiliyya Sufi Community ecosystem, insha'allah. Our intention is to continue transforming and healing our ecosystem until every beloved feels like they belong and that they have a unique place, where the ground is held in love and given safety and room to blossom. Insha'allah, this ecosystem will fully become a place of attraction and hope, where we are all brothers and sisters support one another and are all equal, regardless of rank or station. Insha'allah, it will fully become a place where our guide's teachings are actualized and applied and people are happy with hearts full of love and contentment and politeness, without any fear, only Love and increased proximity to our Lord and Sustainer. Amin.

With love and deep gratitude,

Abdul Latif Howard  
Chairman of the Board

## **.SSC's Purpose, Mission & Commitment to Service**

### **Why We Are Here**

We at SSC are driven by the taste of the Love each of us has experienced. This taste of pure Devine Love that our guide Shaykh Sa'id Muhammad al-Jamal ar-Rifa'l ash-Shadhili spoke about has compelled us into service. Service to the Source of this Love, watering the tree of this love and sharing the fruits of this tree. We long to see and hear the hearts of others opening to receive and be transformed by this Love for themselves and we wish to live in and support holy communities where this eternal Divine love is its foundation.

### **Mission**

To preserve and share the pure teachings of our guide Shaykh Sa'id Muhammad al-Jamal ar-Rifa'i ash-Shadhili. To care for and support the hearts of his students and the holy communities they build. To support and encourage their gathering and their continuing to walk with these teachings. To ensure that the legacy of our guide and his teachings are made available to future generations. To spread his message of peace, love, mercy, justice and freedom to all people without separation.

### **Intentions and Commitment to Service**

- **We serve Allah by caring for the community of beloveds whom He has gathered through the spirit of our guide**, fostering connections, listening to their hearts and responding to their needs as community facilitators and caretakers who honor our guide's message and fear only Allah.
- **We are a welcoming doorway for new students** who continue to be drawn by Sidi's spirit into the love of God, who are seeking the knowledge of Shadhiliyya Sufism as transmitted and revealed to us by our guide Sidi. For all students, we are committed to preserving and sharing this pure legacy and message of our guide that is kept in his books, recordings, and the hearts of his students.
- **We are a communications and support hub that serves the students of our guide**, weaving our communities and groups together as one heart and one united family, promoting collaboration and unity, forgiveness and healing, respect and appreciation for all.



# Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities

*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

- **We provide opportunities to gather for worship, healing, and deepening our understanding of the teachings**, for all those called by Allah and Sidi's spirit to taste and to walk in the Shadhiliyya Sufi way.
- **We encourage and support beloveds with their walking** within community as they travel by the Grace of Allah through the stations of the path, seeking truth, knowledge and healing on their journey out of fear and into the love of God, surrendering, moving closer into unity and arrival at the door of their Lord and Sustainer.
- **We will seek counsel and guidance from the teachings of our guide Sidi, the holy Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad**, peace and blessings be upon him, and the Murshids and elders of our community.
- **We recognize that any good that comes from our service is by Allah alone and that we have no power or authority beyond what He has already ordained. We offer ourselves in service to His creation expecting no reward other than His pleasure. We are His servants and He alone guides us and we will turn to Him in repentance and seek His forgiveness for any errors we may make in our attempts to serve. Amin.**

## 2021 Offerings

### Beloveds In Need Program

Our Beloveds In Need program offers financial assistance to community members in crisis. **In 2022 we were able to give \$118,608 to community members in the U.S. who were in financial crisis, which is an approximate 15% increase from 2020.** What a blessing! We also expanded the emotional and spiritual support we offer beloveds in these situations, as well. We are so grateful to Allah for all that He gives us.

### Jerusalem Projects

SSC was blessed in our second year of receiving your donations to support Sidi's legacy projects in Jerusalem. **We were able to send \$371,352 to Jerusalem to support beloveds in need there, an approximate 7% increase from 2020.** While we experienced some struggles in the process, in the end it was a blessing because it led to the development of a better system of serving Allah in this way.

### By-Donation Online Programs

**In 2021 we offered over 100 online classes accessible through Zoom, alhamdulillah!** Many of these classes center around the holy month of Ramadan, may Allah help us all to reach it, and other holy days. The ever-popular Mercy Circle, an ongoing group that runs twice a month, continues to thrive with new guest speakers each month. **In 2021 we were able to add several new ongoing classes to enrich and support your spiritual growth and transformation, including The Voice of Peace and Knowing the Names of Allah.** All of our programs are always by-donation, which means you offer the donation you can afford in gratitude for what you receive, insha'allah.

## Financial Highlights & Lowlights

On December 31, 2021, we had \$1,983,291.37 invested in Azzad Asset Management and a total of \$129,613.61 in our checking and savings accounts.

### Investing in the Future

SSC received \$2,787,837 as compensation for the fire damage, some of which was spent in 2020 on the mortgage. This money has allowed us to accomplish several major projects in 2021, including:

- We cleaned up the damage created by the fire and fixed the road leading from Pope Canyon Road to the former buildings (\$404,080).
- We cleaned up accounting missteps (\$39,430).
- We invested in a strong foundation for the future by investing in technology, board development, and people who will help us fulfill our mission (\$106,000).
- We made a plan to retire the debt we owed to the Mortgage Circle.

### Fundraising Shortfalls

In 2021 our operating costs exceeded the donations we received for this purpose and we paid the shortfall with insurance money. In 2021 our monthly donations averaged \$5,080 while our monthly costs were \$9,800. The largest increase in the overhead is due to hiring part-time bookkeeping help and full-time administrative help, which accounts for an expense increase of \$5,400/month.

We recently launched a new website which will, insha'allah, act as a multi-faceted hub providing new ways for beloveds to interact with each other and with SSC. Now that the website is live, we plan to initiate a dialogue with the community regarding the tariqa's ecosystem, the role SSC and each

individual plays in the ecosystem, and how we can support each other moving forward, including the offering of recurring monthly donations to support what SSC is providing for the community.

## 2022 Income

As you can see below, our 2022 projected income and expenses are balanced, by the Mercy of God, Most High. However, our projected income relies upon two factors which you cannot see in the charts below:

1. That by August 2022, our total recurring monthly donations have increased to \$4,200 from \$1,685, and
2. In 2022 we anticipate receiving at least one large donation that will offset approximately 10% of our expenses, alhamdulillah.

**Beloveds, we can state strongly enough how important it is for us to increase our recurring monthly donations. If 100 additional members of our community give just \$25 a month, we will meet our goal. [Make a recurring donation now.](#)**

## Projected 2022 Monthly Donations & Income

Recurring Donations	\$1,685
One-Time Donations	\$4,152
Admin Fees	\$5,762
Investments	\$4,650
Paid Programs	\$500
Amazon	\$137
Processing Fees	\$120
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,006</b>



*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

## Projected 2022 Monthly Expenses

Bank Service Charges & Fees	\$1,745
Insurance (all types)	\$541
Programs (by donation)	\$1100
Tariqa Support	\$150
Marketing & Website	\$700
Virtual Office & Postage	\$400
Legal, Bookkeeping & Admin	\$11,000
Property Taxes	\$500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,136</b>

**Projected Monthly Surplus: \$860**



## Acknowledgements

**Alhamdulillah, we thank and praise Allah for all that He gives us.**

And He gives us so much every single day.

We thank Allah for His Overflowing Mercy that enables us to exist and His Mercy that forgives and veils our faults.

We thank Allah for His Guidance, His Love, His Support, His Provision, His Truth, and His Healing.

We thank Him for every ease and the peace that it brings and for every constriction and for the growth and healing that it brings. We know all is from Allah and we are so grateful for the opportunity to serve and love and give to all of His beloveds in our community.

**We thank Allah for our beloved Prophet Muhammad.**

May Allah shower him and his family and his companions and his whole ummah throughout time with blessings and mercy and peace.

**We thank Allah for all of the prophets.**

May Allah bless all of them and their families and their companions with peace and mercy and blessings. We thank Allah for all of the saints, masters, qutbs, guides, and teachers who have helped us along the way, especially our beloved guide Sidi Muhammad al-Jamal ar-Rifa'i ash-Shadhili.

**We thank our murshids and all of the teachers and beloveds in the tariqa who have offered their assistance and guidance.**

We especially thank Rida Marz Attar for his vision, knowledge, and support.

We are grateful to Mahdi al-Jamal and Ahmed al-Jamal for continuing to teach from the wisdom of their father, and we are grateful to their family for continuing to manage Sidi's legacy projects.

**We thank those who have provided wise counsel when asked,** including Hamid Werder, Amina al-Jamal, Amany Shalaby, Imam Said Bin Yunus, and Imam Abdul Karim Pinckney.



*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

**We thank all of our volunteers,**

including Mahabbah Gavin, Yasmine el-Hadi, 'Aamina Maru Real, Latifa Cindy Carlson, Sara Madonna, Qamara Kurtz, and Rachida Fa'id for the selfless giving of their expertise, their time, and their love, and for their devotion to Allah, Most High.

**We thank the teachers who make our programming possible,**

including: Maryam Hand and the Mercy Circle team, Said Bin Yunus, Mahdi and Ahmed al-Jamal, Abdul Haqq Godlas, Mohamed Moosa, Abdul Karim Pinckney, and Amany Shalaby. May Allah bless you all for your knowledge, wisdom, and service.

**We thank Na'ama McCreedy and all of the worship call hosts**

for all of their loving care, day in and day out, for so many years. Your offerings are a precious blessing.

**We want to offer a special thanks to Yunus and Sabura Tierney**

for their ongoing support in helping us to manage business in Pope Valley for many years.

**We have so much to be grateful for and we thank Allah again and again and again. Amin.**

## Our Vision for the Future

We are so grateful to continue to serve the beloveds in the tariqa in the ways Allah guides us. Insha'allah, our vision for 2022 is to meet the needs of our community by:

- **Continuing to administer the Beloveds in Need program** to support beloveds in the U.S. who are in financial crisis.
- **Continuing to support Sidi's legacy projects in Jerusalem** by sending your donations to those who are managing them.
- **Continuing to create by-donation programming** so that all people can afford to deepen their knowledge, worship with other beloveds, and increase their proximity to Allah, Most High.
- **Creating free support groups, walking groups, reading and writing groups, and more** so that all beloveds can receive the spiritual and emotional and spiritual aid they need.
- **Initiating an archival project for the teachings and healing remedies** in which we will gather as many of Sidi's teachings as possible and put them in a searchable format online.
- **Increasing the support we offer local communities** by providing promise packets and other materials.
- **Continuing to ask for Allah's guidance** regarding the money from the fire and the best way to manage the options for the Land.
- **Continuing to improve the website** to meet the community's needs.
- **Continually ask Allah for guidance and healing in all of our affairs, manifest and hidden, so that in every moment of our lives we are serving Allah, Most High, in the highest way. Amin.**



*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

If you feel called to support our mission through volunteering your expertise and time or by making a donation, we would be extremely grateful. **Recurring monthly donations to the Support Our Mission fund help us the most.**

- [Email us to begin a discussion of your volunteering options](#)
- [Click here to make a donation.](#)

With love, blessings, and sincere gratitude,

The 2021 SSC Board & Staff