

# 2022

ANNUAL REPORT



Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities

## **2022 SSC Financial Report**

### **Annual Report**

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

Dear Beloveds,

This past year has been another very busy year for SSC with many new initiatives and improvements. We started 2022 with a much needed new website [suficommunities.org](http://suficommunities.org). The new site is beautiful, alive, packed with resources for all levels, and now has a whole section dedicated to beginners and those who are interested in Sufism that explains the basics of the path.

We also have new donation processing software which makes it easier for both the donor and for us. There have been overall improvements with streamlining our bookkeeping, which keeps our accounts clear, balanced, and up to date.

Along with these updates we also created an extensive AML (anti-money laundering) policy which brings us into compliance with all national and international banking requirements. The AML policy forms the cornerstone of our donation collection and distribution policies, which are transparent and contain checks and balances to ensure we remain clean and straight.

We worked with Regional Council Members to update the SSC Bylaws, making it easier for new members to join the board, along with other minor clarifications.

We also initiated the new Waliyy Support Circle, a group of board members and volunteers which focuses on the changing needs of community and creates responses to those needs. This group has been working on establishing the Fatiha Hotline where beloveds experiencing a moment of crisis can call and be heard and receive a prayer from a beloved brother or sister. They are also working on a weekly support group to serve beloveds with ongoing needs.

SSC collaborated with the University of Sufism to create new promise packets that include the Getting Started book, beads, and other resources. These packets are available to every new beloved at no cost.

بِسْمِ تَعَالَى *In the Name of the Most High*

 **Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities**

*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

We have begun migrating all of the Worship Meetings from the old conference call line to a Zoom platform, which allows free access to international and some U.S. students who are charged a per-minute fee on the conference line.

We began collaborating with the Sidi Archival Project and a link to the Sidi Audio Library on Soundcloud.com is posted prominently on our website. This library is a collection of Sidi's teachings in mp3 form that is available to everyone at no charge.

In October 2022, our board of directors participated in our first Board Retreat in Santa Fe, NM. We were able to get a lot of important work done that could not have happened during our regular board meetings. We connected more deeply and were able to unify our hearts for the work and challenges ahead.

For 2023 SSC's intention is to continue to expand our operations to support more beloveds and communities, including our growing International community. This will include incorporating a growth engine component that will be fed by increased programming, which we hope will nourish beloveds and help generate income. This is one part of our long range strategic plan to increase our service to community.

We are also looking at ways to expand our outreach to bring in new seekers who can taste the benefits of being a part of our community. If God wills, this will also help bring new beloveds into the fold of the other organizations and overall contribute to the growth of our community.

We also plan to keep working with teachers who have himma to serve to help them teach what is in their hearts to offer, including a few 3 or 4 day workshops. We have also budgeted to better compensate the teachers who do teach for SSC so as to make it easier for them to prepare and offer well-crafted content for beloveds.

We are also planning for more upgrades to our website, doing more direct work with community through the Waliyy Support Circle, and continuing to do our part to work towards more unity and harmony across our community.

We are excited about these new doors of service Allah Most High is opening up for us and are looking forward to a time of hope and prosperity for our entire community, inshallah.

Peace and blessings,

Abdul Latif Howard  
SSC Chairman

## .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 Divine Love that our guide Shaykh Sa'id Muhammad al-Jamal ar-Rifa'i 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

بِسْمِ تَعَالَى *In the Name of the Most High*

# Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities

*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

united family, promoting collaboration and unity, forgiveness and healing, respect and appreciation for all.

- **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.**

## 2022 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 \$173,504.17 to community members in the U.S. who were in financial crisis.** This includes money collected and distributed through our Beloveds In Need program, annual charity collected for and distributed to community members, annual charity that helps people purchase food and clothing for 'Eid al-Fitr, and a grant we received and distributed to victims of the Napa County wildfires that occurred in 2020. We are so grateful to Allah for all that He gives us.

### Sidi's Charities

SSC was blessed in our third year of receiving your donations to support Sidi's charities. **We were able to send \$278,811.19 to support beloveds in need around the world.**

### By-Donation Online Programs

**In 2022 we offered over 130 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 2022 we were able to add several new ongoing classes to enrich and support your spiritual growth and transformation, including How to Have Difficult Conversations.** Our programs are by-donation, which means you offer the donation you can afford in gratitude for what you receive, insha'allah.

## 2022 Financial Overview

On December 31, 2021, we had \$1,527,707.08 invested in Azzad Asset Management, \$267,306.39 in our primary checking account, \$54,946.80 in our supplemental checking account, and \$92,525.58 in PayPal.

### Investing in the Future

SSC received an additional \$158,250.00 in compensation for the fire damage, bringing the total insurance compensation we received to \$ 2,924,136.82. There are a number of one-time expenses that have enabled SSC to be debt-free and in a position where we can operate effectively and continue fulfilling our mission, God willing.

#### One-Time Expenses

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mortgage Circle               | \$400,000.00          |
| Land Clean-Up and Improvement | \$516,000.00          |
| Website and Marketing         | \$78,000.00           |
| Zakat Expense                 | \$65,000.00           |
| Accounting                    | \$40,000.00           |
| Legal                         | \$28,000.00           |
| Professional Services         | \$37,000.00           |
| Overhead and Staff Expenses   | \$118,000.00          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>\$1,282,000.00</b> |

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Net Cumulative Account Balances After One-Time Expenses | <b>\$1,642,136.82</b> |
|---|-----------------------|

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Investment Gains and Donation Increase | <b>\$207,824.00</b> |
|--|---------------------|



Net Cumulative Account Balances After One-Time  
Expenses plus Investment Gains and Donation  
Increase **\$1,849,960.00**

## Fundraising Shortfalls

In 2022 SSC had operating costs of \$240,247 and operating income of \$219,551. This created a shortfall for 2022 of (\$20,839). For a detailed breakdown of this overview please contact our Treasurer at [nurpreston@sscboard.org](mailto:nurpreston@sscboard.org).

## 2023 Income

In our 2023 budget our projected income and expenses will remain imbalanced so that we can invest in creating the infrastructure needed to fulfill our mission statement and attract new beloveds to our spiritual path, God willing. We have built into the budget the funds to offer additional educational programs and market them effectively and employ additional part-time subcontractors if needed, insha'allah.

**Beloveds, we want to open the door for you to join us in reaching more and more people around the world. If 100 additional members of our community give just \$25 a month, it will assist greatly in reaching our goals. [Make a recurring donation now.](#)**



بِسْمِ تَعَالَى *In the Name of the Most High*



**Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities**

*Connecting - Listening - Serving*

## Projected 2023 Monthly Income

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Montly Donations              | \$3,150         |
| One Time General Donations    | \$5,170         |
| Admin Fee Jerusalem           | \$2,500         |
| Credit Card Processing Income | \$500           |
| Halal Fixed Income            | \$4,100         |
| Programs                      | \$5,200         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>\$20,620</b> |

## Projected 2023 Monthly Expenses

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bank Service Charges & Fees        | \$800           |
| Insurance (all types)              | \$570           |
| Programs                           | \$2,950         |
| General Office & Tech              | \$1,680         |
| Marketing                          | \$1,500         |
| Legal, Bookkeeping, Subcontractors | \$13,150        |
| Board Enrichment & Training        | \$1,250         |
| Property Taxes                     | \$500           |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$22,400</b> |

**Projected Monthly Deficit: \$1,780**

## Acknowledgements

**Oh Allah, we praise You as best as we can, as close as we can to how You ought to be praised. We thank You for our very existence and all that You give to support our existence, seen and unseen.**

We thank You for Your Comprehensive Mercy that veils and forgives our mistakes.

We thank You for Your Guidance, Your Love, Your Support, Your Provision, Your Truth, and Your Healing.

We thank You for every ease and the peace that it brings and for every constriction and for the growth and healing that it brings. All is from You and we are thankful for the opportunity to serve and love and give to all of Your beloveds in this community.

**We thank You and ask that You bless our beloved Prophet Muhammad, sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam.**

Oh Allah, please shower our beloved Prophet, sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam, and his family and his companions and his wives, and his whole ummah, throughout time, with blessings and mercy and peace. Amin.

**We thank You and ask that You bless all of the prophets and messengers and ‘awliya.**

Oh Allah, please bless all of Your prophets and messengers, sallallahu ‘alayhim wa sallam, and friends of Allah, radiyallahu anhum, and their families and their companions. Please send them all Your peace and mercy and blessings.

We thank You especially for our beloved guide, Sidi Muhammad al-Jamal ar-Rifa’l ash-Shadhili and we humbly ask that you protect his secret always.

We thank You and ask that you bless all of the other shuyukh that have helped us along the way, including Shaykh Nooruddeen Durkee, Shaykh Ahmed Jamal, and Shaykh Abdul Karim Afghani. We thank You and ask that

you bless all of the saints, masters, qutbs, guides, and teachers who have helped us along the way.

**We thank You and ask that You bless 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 who continues to support our efforts in various ways and we are grateful to the family for continuing to manage Sidi's legacy projects.

**We thank You and ask that You bless those who have provided wise counsel when asked,**

including Hamid Werder, Amany Shalaby, Amina al-Jamal, Fawzia al-Rawi, Imam Said Bin Yunus, the Ansar Council, and Maria Arpa.

**We thank You and ask that You bless all of our volunteers,**

including Mahabbah Gavin, 'Aamina Maru Real, Jannah Godlas, Latifa Cindy Carlson, Sara Madonna, Qamara Kurtz, Maryam Hand, Shamsa Houck, everyone else on Mercy Circle team, Imam Said Bin Yunus, Abdul Haqq Godlas, Mohamed Moosa, Amany Shalaby, and Halima Rabiah Gibson. May Allah bless you all for your service.

**We thank You and ask that You bless Na'ama McCreedy and the worship meeting hosts**

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

**Oh Allah, please bless all of us and forgive all of us and heal all of us.  
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 2023 is to meet the needs of our community by:

- **Continuing to support Sidi's Charities** by sending your donations to those who are managing them.
- **Continuing to administer the Beloveds in Need program** to support beloveds in the U.S. who are in financial crisis.
- **Continuing to create programming that is accessible to all** so that people can more easily deepen their knowledge, worship with other beloveds, and increase their proximity to Allah, Most High. Insha'allah, amin.
- **Creating free support groups, walking groups, reading and writing groups, study groups, and more** so that all beloveds can receive the spiritual and emotional and spiritual aid they need.
- **Increasing the support we offer local communities** by providing promise packets and other materials, and finding ways to meet their needs.
- **Continuing to ask for Allah's guidance** regarding 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 we can. Amin.**

بِسْمِ تَعَالَى *In the Name of the Most High*



**Shadhiliyya Sufi Communities**

*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 2023 SSC Board & Staff

*Abdul Latif Daniel Howard, Nur Jeffrey Preston, Shams Tara Wesley, Sukayna Ronda Mau, Nura Melody Baughman, Rahim Jon Bushard, Amin Daniel Colman, Jamil Max Voce, Rachida Rabia Faid, Ruhayyah Andrea Ferrante, and 'Abdallah Andrew Houck.*