

2025



AMAL
Healing & Advocacy Center

ANNUAL REPORT

AMAL HEALING AND ADVOCACY CENTER



Women's
Leadership



Empowerment



Social
Justice



Equality



Democracy

TÜRKIYE | SYRIA

Message from the CEO

The past year has been both challenging and transformative for Amal Healing and Advocacy Center. Like many civil society organizations working in humanitarian and human rights contexts, we were significantly affected by international funding cuts that forced us to reduce our team and operate with only essential administrative capacity for a period of time. Despite these difficulties, our commitment to the communities we serve remained unchanged. We worked diligently to stabilize our operations, maintain critical services, and ensure that women and families who rely on our support continued to receive assistance.

At the same time, this year marked an important step forward for our organization. AHAC expanded its work inside Syria and established a new office in Homs, allowing us to bring legal and psychosocial support closer to communities affected by conflict and human rights violations. Through renewed strategic planning, diversification of funding sources, and strengthened program development, we were able to secure more than five new projects across Türkiye and Syria. This progress enabled us to gradually rebuild our team and strengthen our operational capacity.

While the challenges we face remain significant, this year reaffirmed our belief in the resilience of both our organization and the communities we serve. We move forward with renewed determination to continue advancing justice, healing, and women's leadership across the region.

Warm regards,
Amal Al Nasin
Chief Executive Officer
Amal Healing and Advocacy Center



Institutional Profile

Founded in 2014 and formally registered in 2017, Amal Healing and Advocacy Center (AHAC) is a refugee-led and women-led organization legally registered in Türkiye and operating across Türkiye and Syria. Established in response to the urgent needs of Syrian women and families displaced by conflict, AHAC has grown into a trusted cross-border civil society actor providing integrated legal, psychosocial, and empowerment services.

Since its inception, AHAC has focused on addressing the structural and immediate challenges facing Syrian women affected by displacement, gender-based violence, legal marginalization, and political exclusion. The organization combines frontline service delivery with advocacy, capacity building, and policy engagement to promote gender equality, social justice, and sustainable peace.

AHAC operates at the intersection of humanitarian response and rights-based development, ensuring that women are not only protected but positioned as leaders and agents of change within their communities.



Vision

AHAC envisions a world where the voices of Syrian women are raised and heard, and where they play an integral role in achieving equality in human rights, social justice, and democratic governance. The organization believes that sustainable peace and social cohesion are only possible when women participate fully and equally in shaping their societies.

Mission

AHAC's mission is to work with and for Syrian women to advocate, network, and empower them to build a peaceful society where all people live in dignity and safety. The organization advances women's leadership, strengthens access to justice and psychosocial support, and promotes meaningful participation in public and political life.



Key Achievements

Legal Department

The Legal Department at AHAC plays a central role in advancing access to justice for Syrian women and families affected by conflict, displacement, and human rights violations. Operating across Türkiye and Syria, the department provides legal assistance, awareness, and advocacy services designed to strengthen legal literacy, support survivors, and empower communities to claim their rights.

Many of the communities served by AHAC face complex legal challenges, including issues related to civil documentation, family law, housing and property rights, and accountability for past violations. Women in particular often encounter additional barriers when seeking legal support due to social stigma, limited information, and restricted access to legal services. In response, the Legal Department combines direct legal assistance with community education and justice-oriented programming to ensure that individuals not only receive support for their cases but also gain the knowledge necessary to navigate legal systems independently.

The department delivers a range of services including legal consultations, legal awareness sessions, transitional justice workshops, and legal advocacy initiatives. Legal consultations provide beneficiaries with guidance on their rights, available legal procedures, and potential pathways for resolving their cases. Legal awareness sessions aim to strengthen community understanding of rights, legal protections, and available support mechanisms. Transitional justice workshops focus on educating participants about accountability processes, rule of law, and the role of survivors and families in truth-seeking and justice efforts.

Key Figures:



Key Achievements

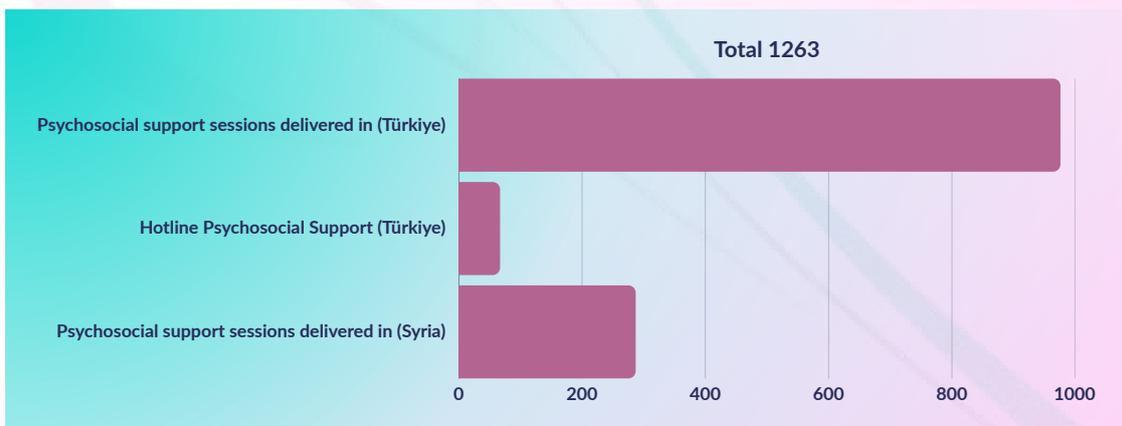
Psychosocial Support (PSS) Department

The Psychosocial Support (PSS) Department at AHAC provides critical mental health and emotional support services to women, families, and communities affected by conflict, displacement, and human rights violations. Recognizing the deep psychological impact of prolonged crisis, AHAC’s PSS programming aims to promote healing, resilience, and social well-being among individuals who have experienced trauma, loss, and instability.

The department focuses particularly on supporting Syrian refugee women and families in Türkiye as well as conflict-affected communities in Syria, many of whom face compounded stress due to displacement, economic hardship, family separation, and unresolved justice concerns related to detention, disappearance, and violence.

AHAC’s PSS services are delivered through a combination of individual counseling, group support sessions, structured psychosocial activities, and awareness sessions. These services create safe and supportive spaces where participants can process their experiences, strengthen coping mechanisms, and rebuild social connections within their communities.

Key Figures:



Key Achievements

Case Management & Hotline Services

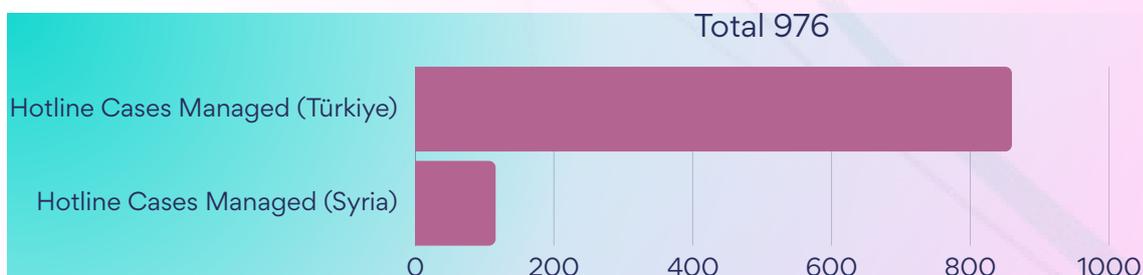
The Case Management and Hotline Unit at AHAC serves as a critical entry point for individuals seeking support and guidance. Through a structured and confidential intake system, the unit ensures that beneficiaries are able to access the appropriate services provided by AHAC, including legal assistance and psychosocial support.

The hotline operates as an accessible channel through which individuals can safely reach out for help, ask questions about their rights, or seek support for issues related to legal challenges, protection concerns, or psychological distress.

Once a case is received, the case management team conducts an initial needs assessment to identify the nature of the request and determine the most appropriate course of support. Cases are then referred to the relevant department –legal or psychosocial–while ensuring that beneficiaries receive timely assistance and follow-up. The team maintains confidential records, monitors case progress, and coordinates with AHAC staff to ensure that services are delivered in a coordinated and survivor-centered manner.

Beyond referrals, the Case Management Unit plays a key role in identifying high-risk cases and prioritizing individuals who require urgent support. Through continuous follow-up and documentation, the system helps ensure that beneficiaries are not only connected to services but also supported throughout the resolution process.

Key Figures:



Programs & Activities

1. Aswatuna – Syrian Women’s Voices for Justice

Funded by: U.S. Department of State – DRL

Led by: Synergy for Justice | Implemented by AHAC

Duration: October 2022– September 2025

Location: Türkiye

Program Goal

Strengthen Syrian women’s participation in truth, justice, and accountability processes while addressing the gendered impacts of human rights violations.

Objectives

- Strengthen the capacity of a women-led Syrian organization working on justice and accountability.
- Promote Syrian women’s leadership in human rights and accountability processes.
- Amplify women’s voices in formal and community justice platforms.

Core program components

Through legal awareness, psychosocial support, and transitional justice dialogue, the program strengthened Syrian women’s confidence and capacity to engage in accountability processes.



Programs & Activities

2. Hand in Hand to End Violence Against Women

Funded by: UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women

Duration: October 2023 – October 2026

Location: Türkiye

Program Goal

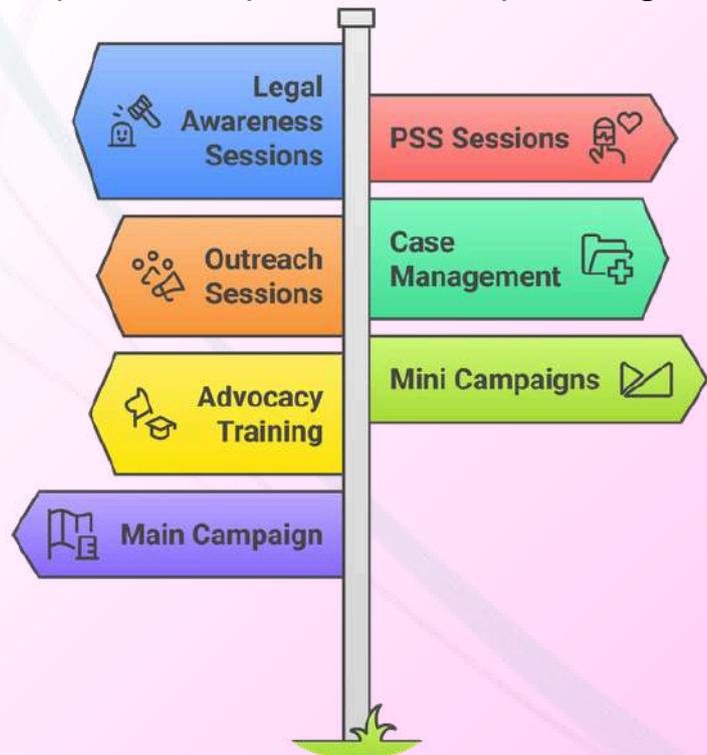
To strengthen protection, access to justice, and psychosocial support for refugee women survivors of gender-based violence while promoting community-led action to prevent violence and support survivor rights.

Objectives

- Improve access to legal aid and psychosocial support services for survivors of GBV.
- Increase legal literacy among refugee women regarding their rights and available protection mechanisms.
- Strengthen community-led advocacy efforts to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

Core program components

The project helped shift women from passive recipients of support to active community advocates. By combining direct services with advocacy training, AHAC strengthened grassroots resistance to gender-based violence and expanded safe spaces for reporting and protection.



Programs & Activities

3. Path to Peace

Funded by: U.S. Department of State – DRL

Led by: Synergy for Justice | Implemented by AHAC

Duration: October 2025 – September 2026

Location: Türkiye

Program Goal

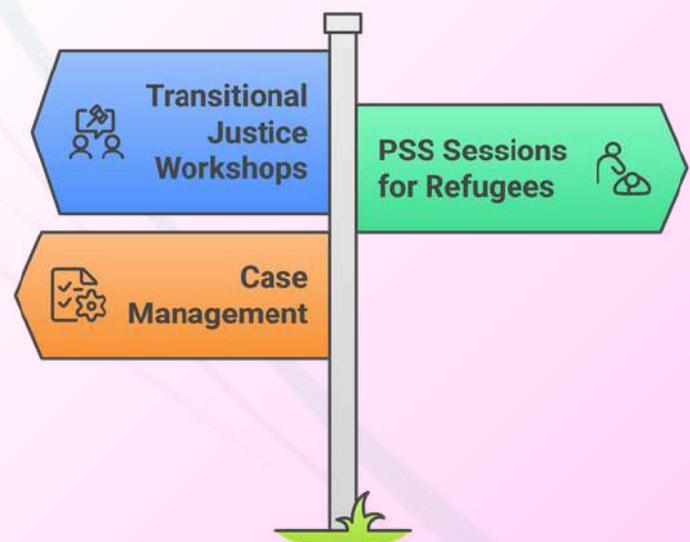
To promote refugee participation in rule of law and transitional justice processes while supporting community resilience through integrated psychosocial support.

Objectives

- Strengthen refugee engagement in discussions on rule of law and transitional justice.
- Provide integrated psychosocial support alongside justice-oriented programming.

Core program components

The project ensures continuity of justice-focused programming following the conclusion of Aswatuna while reinforcing institutional stability during a period of funding transition.



Programs & Activities

4. Women-Led Transitional Justice and Family Empowerment in Gaziantep

Funded by: International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)

Duration: December 2025 – April 2026

Location: Türkiye

Program Goal

To empower families of the missing—particularly women—to participate in transitional justice processes and contribute to truth-seeking and accountability efforts.

Objectives

- Support families of the missing in understanding transitional justice mechanisms and their rights.
- Strengthen women’s leadership and participation in truth-seeking and justice processes.

Core program components

The program created structured spaces for families of the missing to share experiences, articulate concerns, and contribute to justice-oriented policy discussions, reinforcing survivor-centered advocacy and women’s leadership in transitional justice processes.



Programs & Activities

5. Paths to Healing: Reclaiming Rights for the Victims and Their Families

Funded by: UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Duration: July 2025 – July 2026

Location: Homs, Syria

Program Goal

To expand access to justice and psychosocial support for victims of torture and families of the missing in Syria through integrated legal assistance, documentation, and community-based support.

Objectives

- Provide accessible legal assistance and consultations for victims and families of the missing.
- Strengthen community awareness of transitional justice and victims' rights.
- Support psychosocial recovery through structured support sessions.
- Build local capacity in documentation of human rights violations.

Core program components

The project marked AHAC's first permanent operational presence inside Syria, significantly expanding direct access to legal aid and psychosocial support while strengthening community capacity to document violations and pursue justice.



Programs & Activities

6. Restoring Rights: Legal Aid for Families of the Missing in Homs

Funded by: Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Human Rights Defenders

Duration: August 2025 – August 2026

Location: Homs, Syria

Program Goal

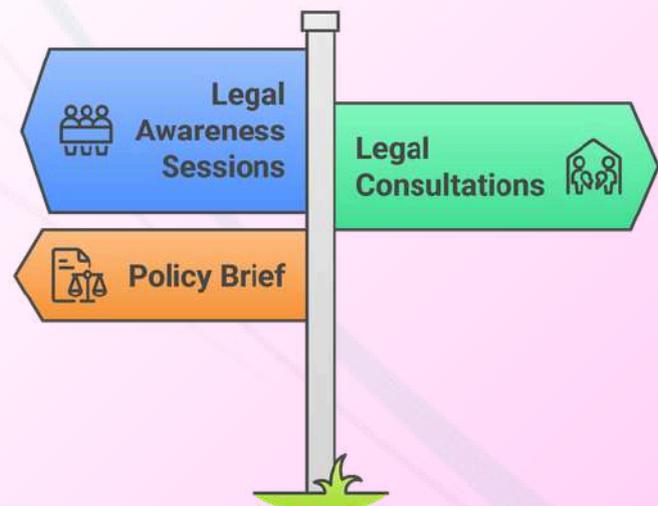
To strengthen legal awareness and access to justice for families of the missing while contributing to legal reform discussions related to accountability and human rights in Syria.

Objectives

- Increase legal literacy among families of the missing regarding their rights and available legal mechanisms.
- Provide accessible legal consultations and legal aid services.
- Contribute to policy discussions on legal reforms related to enforced disappearance and accountability.

Core program components

The project strengthened community understanding of legal rights and accountability mechanisms while contributing to broader discussions on legal reform and protection for families of the missing in Syria.



Programs & Activities

7. Institutional Development

Funded by: Asfari Foundation – Performance Excellence Program

Type: Capacity Building Grant

Duration: August 2024 – August 2025

Program Goal

To strengthen AHAC’s institutional capacity, operational systems, and management practices in order to enhance organizational efficiency and sustainability.

Objectives

- Improve internal project management practices and operational coordination.
- Introduce digital tools to streamline project planning and monitoring.
- Strengthen human resources systems and internal workflows.
- Enhance overall organizational performance and institutional resilience.

Core program components

The program significantly strengthened AHAC’s internal systems and management capacity, enabling the organization to operate more efficiently, respond strategically to funding challenges, and support the expansion of cross-border programming.



Advocacy & Research

Advocacy Campaigns Conducted in 2025

1. Truth and Justice Campaign



Focus: Accountability for victims of human rights violations and amplification of family voices. This campaign centered on preserving testimony and publicly highlighting the demands of victims' families for truth and accountability.

Awareness Sessions

Awareness-raising sessions held with affected communities.

Content Production

Production of:
- 9 infographics
- 10 hand-drawn illustrations

Artist Engagement

A professional artist visually translated survivor messages.

Testimony Publication

Testimonies collected from families and published.



Impact:

The campaign transformed personal grief into public advocacy, making family narratives visible in accessible formats and reinforcing the societal demand for truth.



Advocacy & Research

Advocacy Campaigns Conducted in 2025

2. SGBV Awareness Campaign



لا فبرر

للعنف الجسدي
والقائم على النوع الاجتماعي

Focus: Challenging normalization and justification of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in refugee communities in Türkiye.



Messaging Focus

The messaging confronts harmful social narratives that excuse or minimize violence.



Raising Awareness

This approach not only raises awareness but also fosters a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by women.



Impact:

The campaign contributed to reshaping discourse around SGBV by framing it as a rights violation rather than a private or socially justified matter. It strengthened public awareness and reinforced survivor-centered accountability.



Advocacy & Research

Advocacy Campaigns Conducted in 2025

3. Law for Life – No to Enforced Disappearance



Focus:

Advocacy for Syria to sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED). Emerging from community demands for guarantees of non-repetition, this campaign called on Syrian authorities to commit to international legal standards.



Statement
Launched a collective online statement.

Engagement Results
61 individuals signed the collective statement, including NGOs, family members, and supporters.

Production
Created 15 digital posters inspired by ICPPED articles.

Workshops
Organized 4 workshops with families to raise awareness about the Convention.

Impact:

The campaign directly linked grassroots demands with international legal frameworks, strengthening survivor literacy on treaty mechanisms while mobilizing civil society endorsement.



Advocacy & Research

Advocacy Campaigns Conducted in 2025

4. Justice Has a Memory



Justice Has a Memory

Focus:

Preserving collective memory and reinforcing women’s and families’ roles in transitional justice. This initiative emphasized the importance of remembrance as a pillar of post-conflict recovery and accountability.

Digital Posters
12 digital posters will be created to raise awareness.

Advocacy Videos
4 AI-produced advocacy videos will be created to enhance storytelling.



Impact:

The campaign positioned women not only as survivors but as guardians of collective memory and active participants in shaping transitional justice discourse.

Advocacy & Research

Research & Policy Contributions

In parallel with advocacy efforts, AHAC contributed to evidence-based policy dialogue through research outputs developed in partnership frameworks:



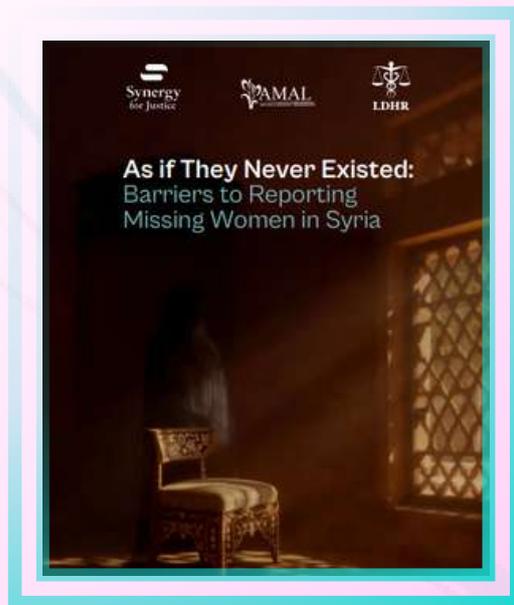
Barriers to Reporting

This report examines the obstacles that prevent communities in Syria from reporting missing women.



Housing, Land, and Property Rights

This report focuses on legal challenges and strategies for claiming housing, land, and property rights for missing persons.



These publications addressed structural barriers affecting women in accountability and HLP processes and informed dialogue with civil society and international actors.



Looking Ahead

Strategic Priorities for the Coming Year

As AHAC enters the next phase of its work, the organization will build on lessons learned during a year of restructuring and expansion. The coming period will focus on strengthening institutional sustainability, deepening cross-border impact, and expanding women- and youth-led participation in justice and governance processes.







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Stay Connected: We encourage you to stay engaged with our work and our community. Please visit our website, follow us on social media, and join us in our events and campaigns throughout the coming year.

Your voice, your support, and your action make a world of difference.



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