# Somali Health Board ANNUALREPORT



# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Somali Health Board supporters,

In 2012, the Somali Health Board (SHB) was formed to address the increasingly worrisome health disparities impacting the Somali population in King County. Today, the SHB has become a recognized and unique, community-owned model organization. The SHB manages multiple projects that address chronic diseases, holds annual and mini-clinic health fairs and conducts community based participatory research in collaboration with the University of Washington. Our unique grassroots effort has formed a strong liaison between the Somali community and the health systems that serve the community.

In the past year the SHB and its volunteers served nearly a thousand unduplicated community members in health insurance enrollment, peer-to-peer chronic diseases health education, youth empowerment, health fairs, and other community events. While we recognize and celebrate our accomplishments, we also realize that we have a lot of work to do. We truly appreciate the continued support from the Somali community and our friends within the health systems.

We look forward to continuing and expanding our roles as trusted, effective source of health education, advocates for equitable health policies, cultural awareness and community empowerment.

With gratitude for your continued support,

Ahmed A. Ali, PharmD Executive Director



# FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear friends,

I am so pleased to welcome you to the Somali Health Board's first annual report! We've come a long way in the past five years and we are excited to share accomplishments from 2016. The SHB continues to work hard to improve health outcomes for Somali community members. Our staff and volunteers, along with our many partners, are committed to systems change, and increasing health literacy and building capacity with Somali residents throughout King County. I invite you to celebrate SHB's success and to join us as the SHB advances this unique, community led model in King County.

Warmly,

Robin Pfohman
Executive Board President



# SOMALI HEALTH BOARD VISION STATEMENT

We envision a thriving and healthy Somali community in Washington State.

### SOMALI HEALTH BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

To reduce health disparities in King County's Somali community.

# SOMALI HEALTH BOARD GOALS

# Systems Change

- Establish and maintain partnerships with health systems and allied community organizations to advocate for system and policy change.
- Advise healthcare and governmental systems in communicating key health and safety information in a culturally appropriate and effective manner that serves the Somali community.

# **Community Empowerment**

- Prioritize and address identified gaps in health outcomes.
- Provide health education to Somali community members.
- Maintain a network for Somali health professionals to collaborate, share knowledge and mentor Somali youth to pursue health related careers.

# SHB 2016 ACTIVITIES

# **Quarterly Somali Health Board Meetings:**

280 attendees from Health systems, community members and Somali health professionals exchanged vital information on topics ranging from immunizations to mental health, hookah and shisha and the health effects of Islamophobia.



#### Annual Health Fair:

SHB provided health screenings and health education to 215 community members with the support of 37 clinics, hospitals and other service providers.

#### **Our Second Mini Clinic:**

SHB provided dental, blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes screening and health insurance enrollment support to 78 attendees.

# Peer-to-Peer Project:

SHB created a peer educator program, developed a training curriculum and recruited and trained our first cohort of 10 peer educators. Peer educators provided health information about chronic disease prevention and mental health to 250 community members.

# Community Based Participatory Research on Mental Health:

Hana Mohamed, MSW/MPH student spearheaded surveys of 90 participants and interviews with 13 key informants on Somali attitudes toward mental health and illness.

#### **Provider Education:**

SHB staff gave 12 presentations to health care providers and students at forums, staff meetings and conferences including the first annual Northwest Regional Conference on African Immigrant Health and the Health Alliance International Conference.

# Hepatitis C screening:

In partnership with the Hepatitis Education Project, at the last two health fairs, the SHB screened a total of 169 community members for Hepatitis C. This is the largest hepatitis C screening effort within the Somali community in the United States.



# **QUOTES**

"GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE as part of the emergency management in King County. However, we know that government cannot and should not do it alone. We know of the capabilities and resiliency of King County communities, which can be leveraged in the event of a disaster to provide a robust response".



MOHAMED ALI Board Member



"THE SOMALI HEALTH BOARD IS AN INSPIRATIONAL MODEL of what grass roots organizations can accomplish to improve the health of the community!"

SUZINNE PAK-GORSTEIN, MD Pediatrician, Harborview Children and Teen Clinic

# **MORE QUOTES**

"THE SOMALI HEALTH BOARD PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT VENUE where community providers or professionals can share, learn and network with Somali community members and professionals. The Board serves as a bridge or link to promote culturally and linguistically appropriate health information and resources to the Somali community. It also takes action to address important issues such as autism and women's health."

DENISE SHARIFY Public Health – Seattle & King County

"PARTNERING WITH SOMALI HEALTH BOARD (SHB) proved a deeply enriching experience. I learned a great deal from SHB's leadership team in regards to developing community educational materials that were both meaningful and relevant for the Somali community in King County. Additionally, I was moved beyond words by the incredible support our community engagement work received from the SHB members and supports, as well as King County's broader Somali community. Our carefully crafted community meeting was a complete success, with a robust turn-out, and most importantly made space for a rich dialogue about the critical intersection of public health, structural violence, community resilience, and government responsibility and accountability to communities of color and immigrant and refugee families. I am forever grateful to SHB and am committed to continue to partner with them and stand in strong solidarity with the Somali community."

DAMARYS ESPINOZA, PH.D. Community Engagement and Outreach Manager, Environmental Health – Public Health – Seattle & King County

"I THINK THE PROGRAM IS VERY ENCOURAGING. It is a very good experience for those who have limited language and who are mothers of children without much experience and education because of language limitation and who don't have access to different resources that enable us to navigate in the USA system. This program opens our dream to be able to serve and educate yourself and the women in our community."

RABEYA Peer-to-Peer Educator

# "THE SHB IS A TRUSTED ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE SOMALI COMMUNITY.

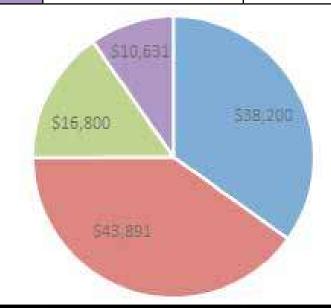


This organization has effectively advocated to address health disparities that specifically affect the Somali population and has partnered with organizations to provide culturally congruent services. As a pediatrician and a board member, I can proudly say that the work that SHB has done has lead to positive health outcomes in the Somali population."

ANISA IBRAHIM, MD SHB Executive Board Member Pediatrician, Harborview Children and Teen Clinic

# 2016 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

INCOME		
	Grants	43,891
	Contracts	38,200
	Donations	16,800
	SHB events	10, 631



# **TOTAL INCOME** \$ 109,522

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 GRANTORS

Pacific Hospital Preservation and Development Authority (PHPDA) Nimble Funds

Seattle Neighborhood Matching Grant
King County—Seattle Health Enrollment
Seattle Foundation—Neighbor to Neighbor
Group Health Foundation
Fresh Bucks Program—City of Seattle

EXPENSES			
Direct Programmatic Expense			
Staff, benefits, taxes	60,825		
Consultant/professional fees	540		
Travel and meetings	140		
Equipment and Printing	1,800		
Event Refreshments	3,800		
Paid out Donations	1,000		
	\$ 68,105		
Administrative & Fundraising Expense			
Insurance	450		
Occupancy (rent)	6,480		
Supplies	1,600		
Staff development	800		
IT/telephone	550		
Postage and delivery	50		
Fundraising fees	450		
Miscellaneous Expenses	420		
	\$ 10,800		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 78,905		

86% of our expenses went directly into SHB programmatic work.

# ADVISORY BOARD

MOHAMED ALI
MELISSA BURGESS
BRIA CHAKOFSKY-LEWY
ANISA IBRAHIM
SHUKRI OLOW
ROBIN PFOHMAN
HANNAH VAN DEN BRANDT

# **SHB STAFF**

AHMED ALI

**Executive Director** 

SAFIYAH ISMAIL

Vice Chair

JIHAN RASHID

**Programs Coordinator** 

**UBAH WARSAME** 

Community Engagement Lead

**FARDOUS GULED** 

Perinatal Committee Chair

HANA MOHAMED

Research Team Lead

**RAHMA AHMED** 

Office Coordinator



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http://somalihealthboard.org/

# **VOLUNTEERS**

THANK YOU to the 54 active volunteers who passionately served their community by giving their skills, effort and time to the work of the Somali Health Board.

Hamdi Abdi Yasmin Habib

Fouzia Mohamed Hamda Yusuf

Luul Abdulqadir Hibo

Dr. Muna Osman Zahra Osman

Dega Ibrahim Hawa Ibrahim

Rahma Rashid Ruwaida

Hodan Rage Naima Rashid

Bella Jaranow Asha Hani

Safiyah Ismail Ahmed Bashir

Faiza Osman Fahad Guled

Wehelie Roble Regina Elmi

Dirir Abdullahi Nasreen Ahmed

Junid Naveed Kowsar Abshir

Nasra Aden Roda Dhoble

Ayan Jama Hamdiya Ibrahim

Fadumo Ahmed Fartun Run Hibo Abdullahi Dega Sahal

Geni Sheikh Ladan

Roda Scego Nasra Gurbis

Suad Farole Nazmah Hassan

Rahma Ahmed Nafiso Egal

Nimo Ahmed Ramla

Farhiya Ahmed Hibo Abdiwahab

Sucdi Saharlah Hershi

Ayan Osman Hanie Mohamed

Nadia Ali Mia Ahmed

# THANKS TO OUR 2016 GIVEBIG DONORS:

Mohamud Yussuf

Lisa and John MacLean

**Mohamed Shidane** 

Meredith Li-Vollmer

Mina Halpern

Yusuf Osman

Alanna Beebe

Ahmed Abdille Ali

Julie Silverman

Willem Hanekom

Ben and Aisha Reuler

Rebecca Bartlein

Asha Farah

Ha Na Park

Genji Terasaki

**Richard Waters** 

**Melvin Sanicas** 

**Hannah Curtis** 

Julia Robinson

Bria Chakofsky-Lewy

Judy de Barros

Safia Farah

Muna Osman

**Ubax Gardheere** 

**Greg Wilson** 

Mohamed Ali

Melissa Burgess

Gail Thompson

Joseph Sebast

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**Arman Altug** 

Alex Stonehill

James Pfeiffer

Shukri Olow

Christine Wilson Owens

Fadumo & Abdiwalli Bulale

& Mohamed

Farah Ismail

Faiza Guled

Asha Hani Handulleh

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Leo Van Den Brandt

David Van Den Brandt

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