



The Funding Collaborative to Reduce Crime & Violence in Arab Society

In recent years, Israel's Arab society has experienced a steep rise in crime and violence. This escalation reached a tragic peak in 2025, with 252 Arab citizens murdered - more than double the figures recorded in 2022.

Recognizing this crisis, a collaborative of philanthropic foundations has taken bold steps to cultivate a civil society ecosystem. Several flagship programs have been launched and seeds of innovation planted. Its goal is developing innovative and effective models of intervention for crime and violence reduction through a participatory process involving the Arab community and multi-sector stakeholders.

The foundations are Yad Hanadiv, the Schusterman Foundation, Rayne Foundation, the New Israel Fund, The Pears Foundation, Social Venture Fund, Mubadarat/Bader Philanthropies Slifka Foundation, and more are expected to join.

In 2024 a participatory applied research process was conducted to identify and develop strategic models for effective intervention. This included over 130 interviews, numerous meetings, and study journeys with around 180 cross-sector participants, alongside desk research.

Summary of Research Findings and Recommendations

Through this process, AWTAD a multi-sector community of over 550 senior representatives from government ministries, municipalities, NGOs, business, and philanthropy was formed. This community has been meeting regularly for knowledge exchange and implementation.

Based on insights gained through the participatory learning process, as well as a study tour to the United States, the Funding Collaborative has integrated the following components into its strategy and core joint activities:

- Leveraging community as a resource
- Preventive outreach



- Financial inclusion
- Social reintegration

More on our theory of change and strategy

Implementation of the intervention models began in 2025 and is supported by ongoing learning and developmental evaluation.

Strategic Interventions:

Back on Track: A Community-based intervention to prevent the entrenchment of criminal careers among young people

Community Violence Intervention (CVI) - a local backbone organization operating at the municipal level to disrupt violence in real-time

Sulha Savers: Senior *Sulha* leaders combine traditional authority with modern professional tools to prevent violence and save lives focusing on the most dangerous and volatile conflicts. Developed in partnership with Mosaica organization.

Arabic-Speaking Therapists – Building a professional and community-based network of Arabic-speaking therapists in the field of loss, bereavement, and trauma resulting from crime and violence. Developed in partnership with Tamar organization.

Crime Dashboard – a comprehensive crime & violence data system to provide accessible, up-to-date, and analytically processed information for the public, policymakers, local authorities, researchers, media organizations, and civil society actors. In partnership with Abraham Initiatives, Aman Center and Women against Violence.

Awtad Multi-Sector Community – A thriving bilingual Arabic and Hebrew network established to address the critical challenges of crime and severe violence within Arab society, operating as a collaborative ecosystem.

ImpactHub – A community entrepreneurship hub for the development of innovative grassroots initiatives for crime & violence prevention and reduction. In partnership with HasoubLabs and the Kayma Center at Haifa University.

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