

Support Muslim prisoners during incarceration and after release

I want to ASK A couple of QUESTIONS and SPEAK on something very important. I am a muslim and I'm one of your students and I appreciate what you do for the INCARCERATED brothers, giving us this course for free. Tayba Foundation is important to a lot of us and inshallah we will learn alot and become teachers ourselves one day. The question I want to ASK IS Do muslims in the Free world look at us different because we are incarcerated? The reason I ASK this question is because we have large Islamic community's in And the system do muslims Real bad. The muslims Really don't give us any support behind these bars. We don't have Talim services or Quranic studies and they're

A real letter we received from one of our students

Will you help your brothers and sisters when everyone else has forgotten them?

Donations to Tayba Foundation are both tax-deductible and zakat-eligible.

Donate to:
www.taybafoundation.org/donate
finance@taybafoundation.org

Mail your donation to:
31080 Union City Blvd. Suite 208
Union City, CA 94587

TAYBA FOUNDATION FREEDOM THROUGH EDUCATION

info@taybafoundation.org | www.taybafoundation.org
510-952-9683



Thank you for remembering
the forgotten believers

TAYBA FOUNDATION
Freedom Through Education

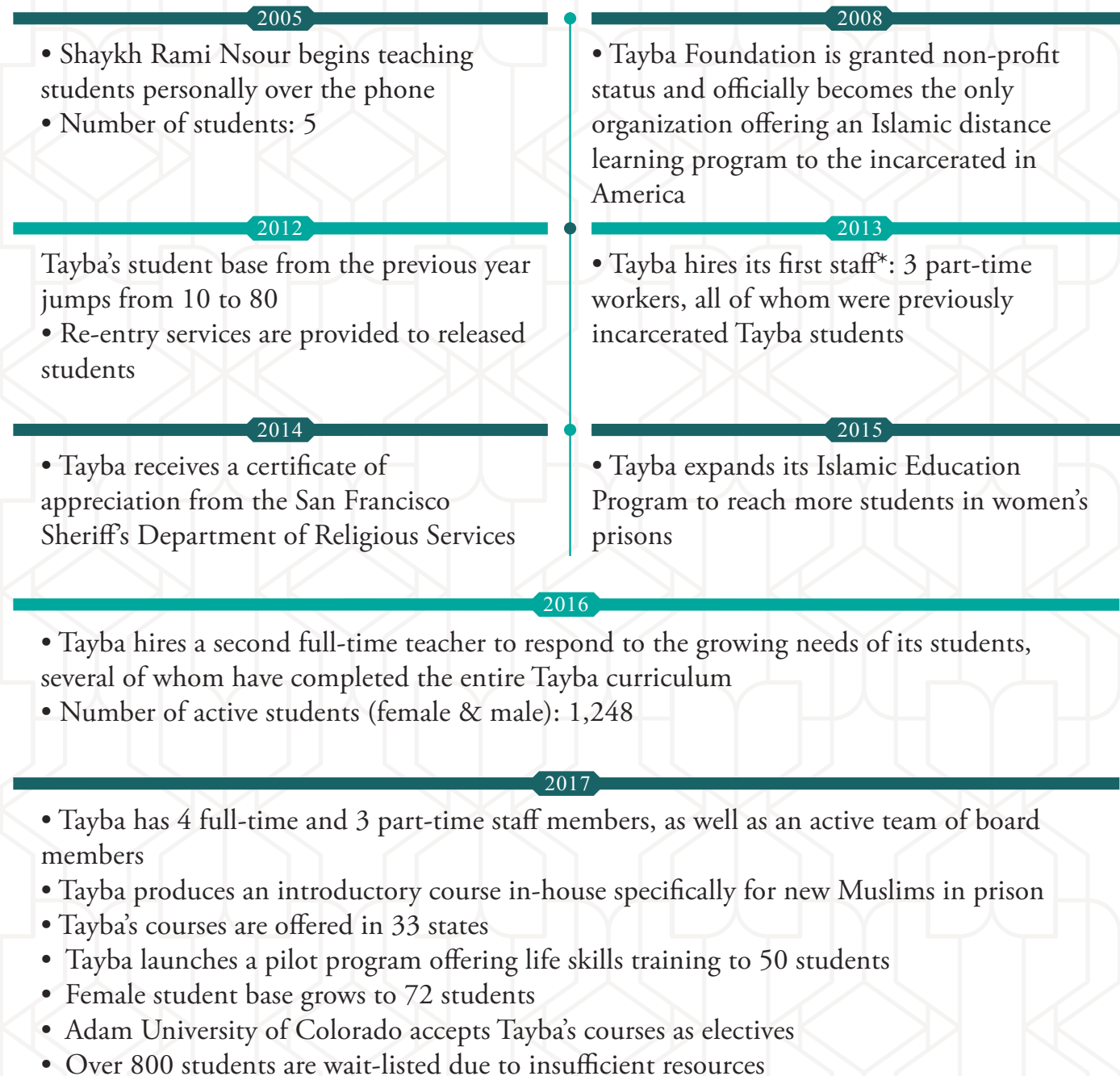
2017

2017 was another remarkable year for Tayba Foundation. Through your support, we expanded our programs, developed textbooks in-house, and reached more students than ever before.

In this booklet, we hope you'll see just how much you've helped change the lives of the most neglected segment of America's Muslim community.

Thank you for believing in our work, and in our students.

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY



* Outside of the Director

A GREAT YEAR BEHIND, A GREATER YEAR AHEAD

MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Appreciation Brunch for Bay Area locals, with a screening of the documentary "13TH" [Amendment] 	APRIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New textbooks developed in-house: Commentary on Aqeeda Tahawiyya, and a companion reader for 'Ascent to Felicity'
MAY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit dinner with Dr. Sherman Jackson, Amin Rafiq, and Shaykh Rami Nsour • Ramadan fundraising campaign, with formal announcement of our Life Skills and Re-entry Programs to the public 	JUNE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "2000 Books Behind Bars" campaign, providing 2000 copies of "Revelation" to incarcerated students • Tayba booth at ISNA convention, where 4 released students represented Tayba Foundation and met Muslims from across America
SEPTEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "ISLAM99" fundraising campaign, raising money for an "Introduction to Islam" textbook specifically for prisoners, which is now in its final stages of production 	DECEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of new website

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR

- We improved our student success rate, meaning more students are mastering courses in the Tayba curriculum than ever before.
- We also improved our re-enrollment rate.
- We reached a record high of 800 wait-listed students, meaning that word is spreading about Tayba's programs.
- We served a total of 2000 unique students in prisons across America.
- Our student, Amin Anderson, has joined the group of those who've successfully finished the Tayba curriculum with outstanding performance. He is such a highly valued member of his prison facility that they have included his name in the prison mural.

2018 GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Develop a media department to adapt our courses for all media platforms available in different prisons
- Develop a preventative program for youth
- Open a branch in Los Angeles
- Launch an online component to Tayba's Education Program
- Open and operate the first halfway house for Muslim parolees
- Provide extra support and attention to advanced students, to transition them into teaching roles
- Develop and deliver an education program designed specifically for female students
- Recruit another full-time teacher to enable us to meet the ever-growing demand for our courses
- Produce regular audio and video content to bridge gaps between those impacted by incarceration and the larger Muslim community
- Provide online resources for people working with Muslim prisoners, based on over 15 years of experience
- Actively engage in different seminars and conferences offered to benefit Tayba's program
- Further develop the Life-skills and Re-entry Programs



ABDUL MUHAYMIN

I come from a family of people who dedicated their lives to improving the lives of others, but I took another path in my early life. It took 20 years, three prison sentences, and experimentation with Christianity, Black Nationalism, Rastafarianism, and Five Percent theology until Allah opened my heart to Islam in 2004.

It was through Tayba Foundation that I became the Muslim I am today. They didn't just help me learn my religion - they enabled me to teach it to others.

After I was released, Tayba helped me secure housing and facilitated opportunities for me to continue counseling members of the local community. Today, I am blessed with being one of Tayba's teachers. Allah has granted me the opportunity to gain redemption for my previous path in life and to serve others, the way my family has always done. Alhamdulillah.



ISA

I was raised as a Catholic, and early on in my life, my African American Muslim friends invited me to a mosque, where I became Muslim. Throughout the next couple of decades, I came to know a lot of Muslims, but not a lot of "Islam"; they were miseducated in the religion, and I came under their influence. However, it wasn't until I lost my temper, shot two individuals, and landed in prison with a life sentence, that I realized there was a gaping hole in my spiritual development. In 2008, Allah blessed me with an opportunity to fill that void. I met one of Tayba Foundation's foremost

students and started soaking up the rich spiritual teachings of our Prophet ﷺ. I had long been Muslim, but it wasn't until I began the Tayba program that I was able to grow as a human being. Through Tayba, I gained critical life skills and a deep concern for the Umma that has led me to where I am today: granted parole due to the clear transformation of my behavior; a coordinator for the local mosque's outreach (da'wa) program for non-Muslims; and a full-time office manager at Tayba Foundation, allowing me to give back to the brothers and sisters, just like me, who are often forgotten by Muslims in free society.

AMIN



Years into my long prison sentence, one night I sat in my cell and prayed: God, if Islam is for me, make me a Muslim and if Christianity is for me, keep me a Christian. I awoke the next morning and had no doubt I wanted to be a Muslim. I was 22.

It's hard to learn about Islam in prison. For years, I had to self-study with the few resources I could. It was Tayba Foundation that gave me the chance to go further. I've been studying with them and doing private lessons with [founder] Shaykh Rami Nsour for the past 10 years.

Today, I'm an inmate-instructor and head clerk in my prison facility's Chaplaincy department. I've gone beyond Tayba's curriculum, but continue to pursue my private studies with Shaykh Rami, teaching other inmates what I learn and helping develop the Tayba curriculum further. I even advise non-Muslims. I'll vaguely say, "a great saint did this or said that", and people are more open to taking the lesson on board to improve their lives. What I'm learning - and teaching - deters our past from dominating what we have the potential to be, once we are released from prison.



JABIR/CHRIS

In many prisons, running your mouth isn't just a sin, it's a likely death sentence. Verbal sparring between people in prison is a game that is used to show one's superiority over others, so it hardly ever stops. This is the situation that I found myself in. Often being at the butt end of mockery and insults, I just couldn't keep quiet. I would cuss and say foul things when returning an insult. I would even lie and make things up about the other person just to make myself feel better. But it wasn't safe. A wrong word to the wrong person, and I could've found myself in a confrontation that would

lead to serious injury or even death. Taking Tayba's course "Prohibitions of the Tongue" changed my life. Realizing that lying and cursing was a sin, and understanding their consequences in this life and the hereafter, I set about changing the way I handled confrontations. To implement the knowledge gained from studying this course, I now stop talking and walk away. I truly feel that this course has changed my life in countless ways. It has helped me become more humble and has given me more time to remember Allah and focus on myself.



ADEEB

I have spent 36 years behind bars. While incarcerated, I realized that my prison life was a simulation of the life I lived on the streets. Hoping for change, I turned to faith. My inquiries eventually led me to Islam -- a tradition that values studying as a means for transformation. But my problems were far from over; after becoming Muslim, I struggled to understand the infighting in prison between splinter groups who all claimed Islam was their source. I needed to find the truth.

When I learned about Tayba Foundation from one of its students, I jumped at the opportunity, and it proved to be a life-changing process. Tayba has not only provided my Islamic education; After hearing my story through a fellow student, Shaykh Rami Nsour drew attention to my case at a conference and a donor quickly stepped up to cover the legal fees for a trial. Soon after, my lawyer felt so strongly that I deserved freedom, that she fought and won my case pro bono at the second trial. Tayba Foundation refused to leave me behind, and because of them, I have a new life.

TAYBA'S HOLISTIC APPROACH TO REFORMATION

Our Programs:



EDUCATION

- Islamic education covers all major subjects.
- Paralegal studies and other professional programs also offered.
- Specific focus on character development and change.
- Effective assessment methods that reflect real understanding of course material.
- Close interaction between teachers and students via phone calls and mail.
- Offered in collaboration with higher education institutions with established correspondence programs.



RE-ENTRY

- Over 5 years of practical support to released students.
- Evidence-based parole plans for clients approaching their release dates.
- Facilitating networking, career, and housing opportunities.
- Coaching and peer-mentoring are offered following release, often by those formerly incarcerated.



LIFE SKILLS

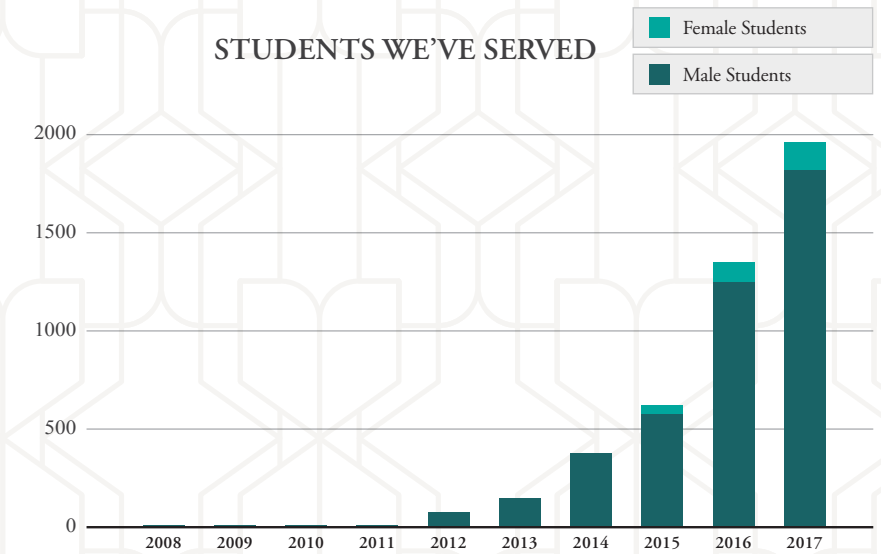
- Addresses central causes of imprisonment, creating real, lifelong change.
- Based on the foremost distance learning programs in life skills for prisoners.
- Courses in contentious relationships and parenting help mend social networks that may have been lost through incarceration.
- Courses in employment open the door for released prisoners to earn a living and become contributing members of society.

After a period of rapid growth between 2013 and 2016, we spent 2017 consolidating our processes, ensuring that our students receive a consistent quality of instruction, and setting up our Life Skills and Re-entry programs to be able to accommodate many more people.

We are now ready to launch into 2018 and continue our growth.

- + Serving 296 federal and state prisons in 34 states
- + 9 students supported through re-entry
- + 50 life skills courses to be delivered

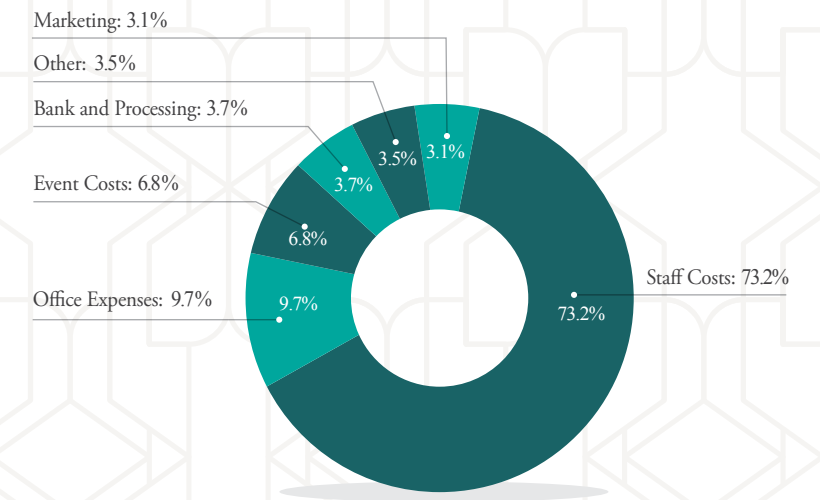
STUDENTS WE'VE SERVED



TOTAL RAISED IN 2017: \$362,489

EXPENSES BREAKDOWN

Salaries are our largest expenditure due to the academic nature of our services. Preparing course materials for prison (which often ban audio/visual materials) as well as answering students' questions and grading their exams and essays requires multiple teachers and grading teams. Since most prisons do not allow electronic communication, the bulk of our communication occurs by regular mail. Given the 1000+ students we serve, this creates a large administrative load on our team as well.



OUR CURRENT STAFF CAN BE BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

- Academy team: 2 full-time, 3 part-time
- Administrative team: 2 full-time (with consultants filling gaps if necessary)

2018 PROJECTED EXPENSES: \$540,000, WE NEED THE INCREASE IN FUNDS TO:

- Significantly expand our life skills and re-entry programs
- Expand our religious education services to the rest of our waitlist
- Increase our financial buffer (currently sufficient for just four months of operations).