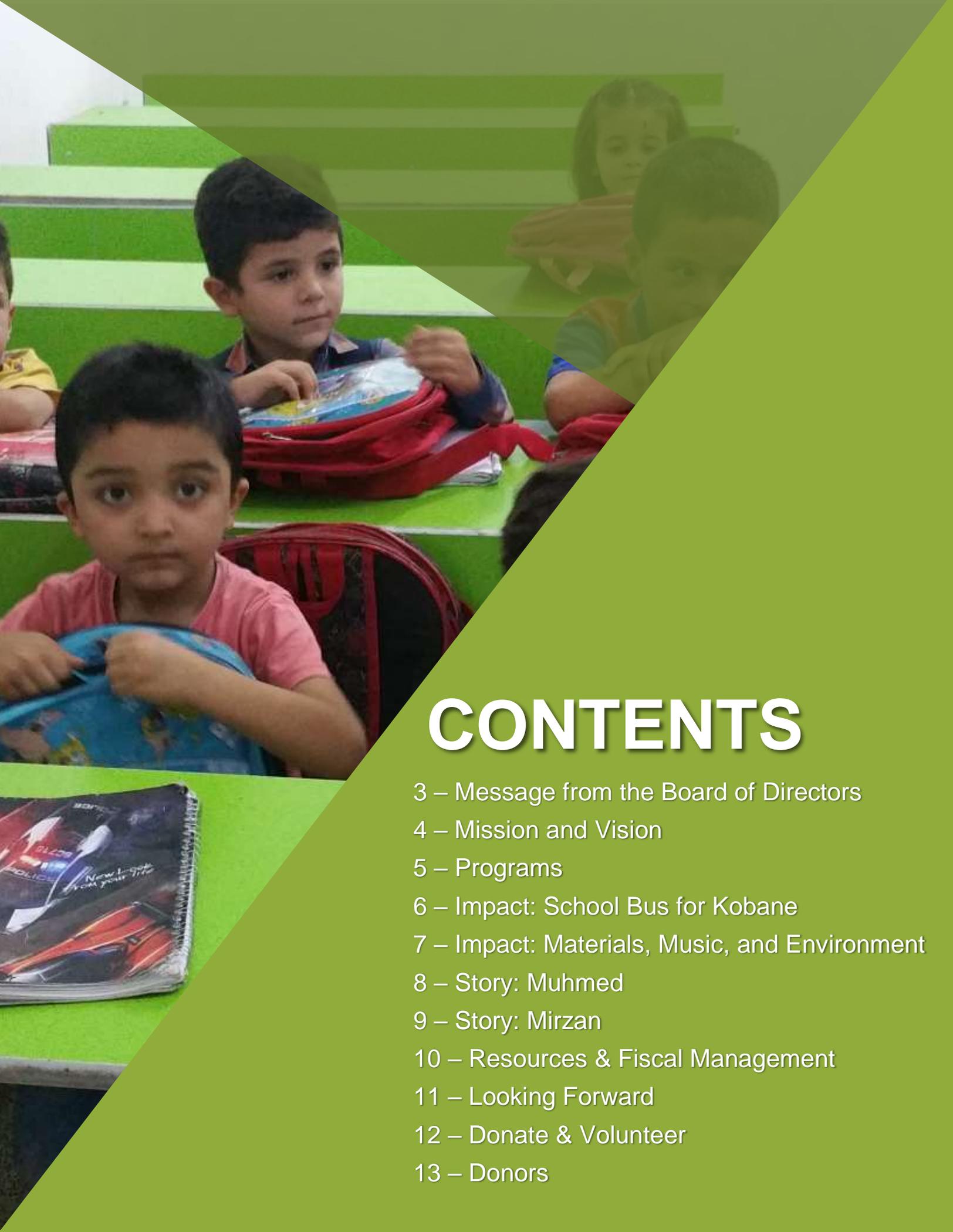




<http://www.helpkobane.nl>



**ANNUAL  
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2016**



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## Message from the Board

*Dear Friends,*

*This year Stichting Help Kobane has been able to grow our wonderful network of friends, supporters, partners, and sponsors, and take part in rewarding projects that have had immense impact on the communities we support.*



*Our mission to support women and children through education and healthcare has been incredibly successful this year. 2016 saw us focus on young children's education, and we worked on programs to increase the capacity of schools in Kobane, a city largely destroyed by the Islamic State. We have completed a series of projects with elementary schools and schools for disabled children in the area, and we look forward to working together with local organizations to create even more positive progress for the families of Kobane and other parts of North Syria.*

*As the board of Stichting Help Kobane, we would like to thank all of you who have joined our efforts to rebuild Kobane, and who continue to support our work in making the world a better place!*

*Here's to another year of hope, growth, and great achievements.*

*Thank you!*

*Board of Directors*

*Stichting Help Kobane*

## Mission

*Our mission at Stichting Help Kobane is to aid reconstruction efforts in conflict-affected regions following disaster, both man-made and natural.*

## Vision

- ❖ Stichting Help Kobane takes a holistic view of society in order to assess where the greatest potential for impact lies
- ❖ We view women and children as the foundations of society
- ❖ Through supporting programs and projects that focus on education and healthcare for women and children, Help Kobane supports the reconstruction of a healthy and functional society
- ❖ Stichting Help Kobane believes that through taking a supportive role in local projects and initiatives, local communities will be able to build their own futures in a sustainable way, with little to no reliance on international aid following initial reconstruction

# Programs

## School Bus for Kobane



In the city of Kobane, where most of the community still struggles to meet their basic needs, attending school is only a dream for many young children due to distance and danger. Now, with the help of Stichting Help Kobane and our supporters, the number of children able to attend school has been increased from 150 to 500 with the provision of two school buses for the city.

## Backpacks on Buses



We raised more than aimed, that's is why we provided the school not only with a bus but also with packages including school bags, notebooks, pens and pencils, toys, sweaters, socks, and workbooks!

## Music in the Air



In order to support the revival of formerly oppressed cultures and artistic traditions in North Syria, Stichting Help Kobane sent sets of musical instruments to schools in Kobane for children to learn music and dance.

## Educational Environment



Access to education is the first step, but safe and healthy educational environments are also crucial to ensuring that children learn and thrive at school. In order to improve elementary school settings in Kobane, Stichting Help Kobane bought and installed eight large scale ventilation systems, three smaller rotator fans, and six large water coolers with built-in filters.

# Stichting Help Kobane 2016



## SCHOOL BUS FOR KOBANE



ACCESS TO  
EDUCATION



SCHOOL  
MATERIALS



SAFE  
ENVIRONMENT

THE MAGIC OF CROWDFUNDING

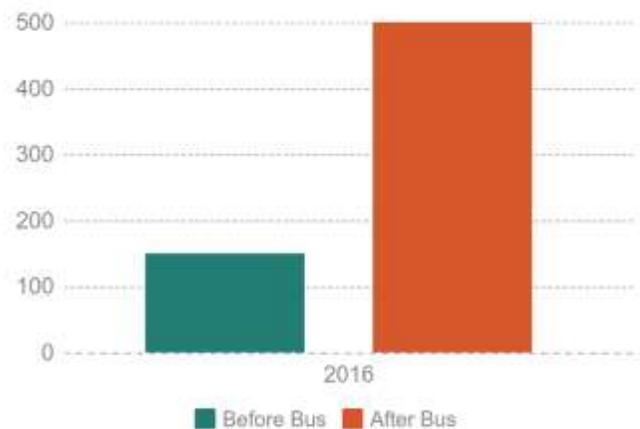
### BUYING THE BUS



### PROJECT: SCHOOL BUS

- We bought a school bus for the children of Kobane, which has increased the number of young students able to attend school from approximately 150 to 500
- The bus also serves a school for disabled children who otherwise would receive no education at all

Number of Children Attending Elementary School



### LEARN MORE:

[www.helpkobane.nl](http://www.helpkobane.nl)



Follow us and stay updated to the latest events and celebrations.

Research and compiled by:



Stichting Help Kobane

# SUPPORTING SCHOOLS



## Music in the Air:

We provided schools in Kobane with instruments to support music and cultural education at schools in Kobane:

Drums

Guitars

Traditional Ouds

## Backpacks on Buses:

We provided 500 backpacks full of school materials like pens, pencils, notebooks, toys, markers, and warm jumpers and socks to elementary students in Kobane



Writing Materials



Toys and Learning Supplements



Clothing



## Educational Environment:



3

Small Rotator Fans



8

Large Ventilation Systems



6

Water Coolers with Built-In Filters

HELP  
KOBANÉ  
Stichting Help Kobane



Stichting Help Kobane

## Impact Story: Muhmed Hiso



**Muhmed Hiso, Pictured with his mother, Khanim, and his father, Mirzo**

Muhmed has problems with his spinal column, and has only four fingers on his right hand. His body is underdeveloped, and due to these issues his education suffered greatly. He attended school for three years, but was kept enclosed, and could not do anything with his friends.

However, now that the Women's Board has opened the disabled kindergarten, Muhmed receives a specialized education and loves to go to school, even asking his parents to teach him more when he comes home. His mother says she is so happy that her son can attend school and join society, but it would not have been possible without the use of the school bus donated by Stichting Help Kobane!

## Impact Story: Mirvan Nesan



**Mirvan Nesan, Pictured with his mother, Nisrin, and his father, Muhmed**

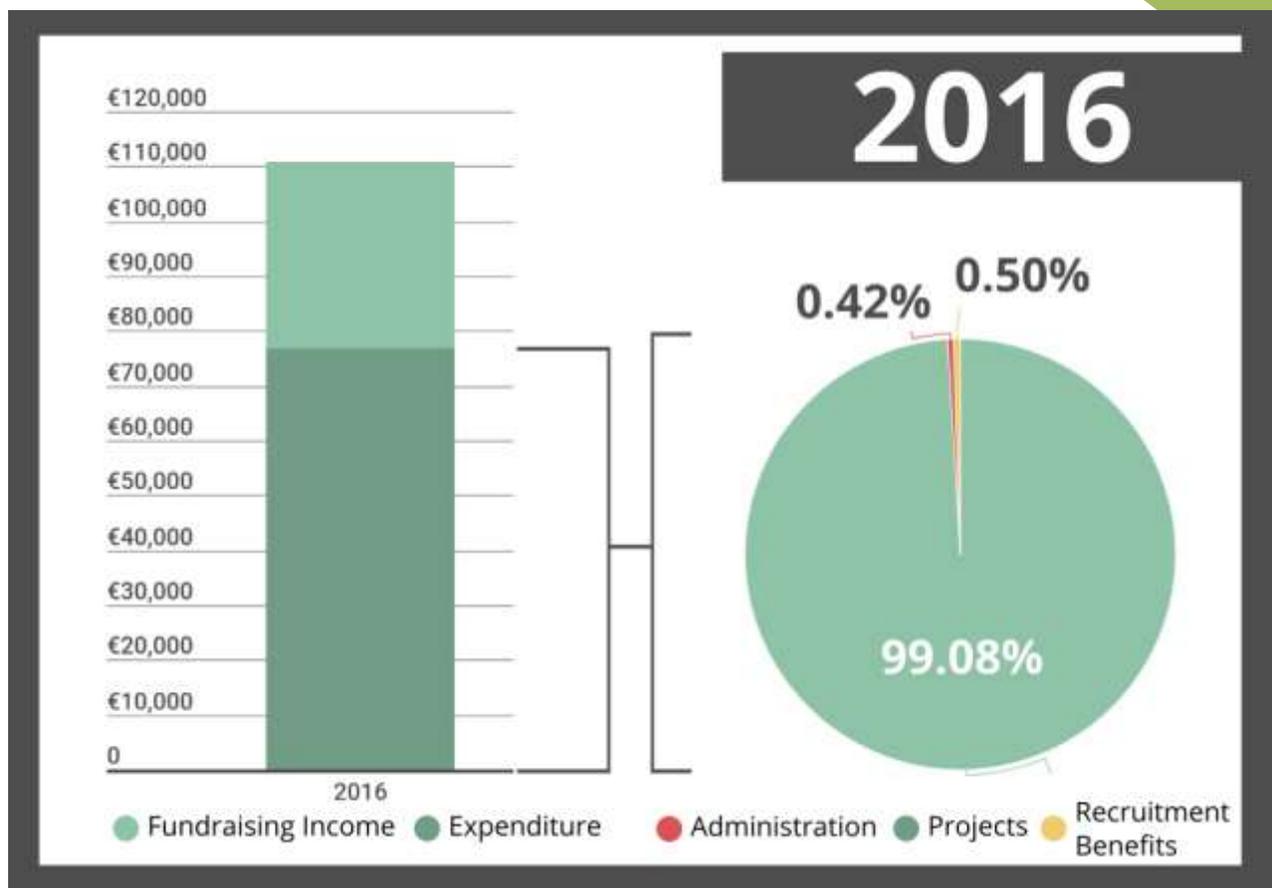
Mirvan's mind is fine, but he has only partial use of his hand and leg. He cannot control his bladder and must use a diaper. When he first came to Hêvî Kindergarten for Disabled Students, he was aggressive, had trouble making friends, and could not speak. But over time with the help of dedicated teachers and staff, he opened up, and now can speak and has many friends.

His mother says the kindergarten is a wonderful gift for her and her family, and it has helped her son's speech and mobility improve greatly. The school bus donated by Stichting Help Kobane has been an important part of these improvements, as he could not attend school without this transportation. She hopes that humanitarian INGOs will continue - and increase - their support for the school.

## Resources & Financial Management

Stichting Help Kobane aims to put as much of our funding as possible directly towards our projects and programs. We maintain a small amount of our annual budget for administrative costs, logistics, and project management, but do our best to ensure the vast majority of all resources go where they are needed most: the recipients of our projects.

Stichting Help Kobane works hard to document all transactions and make sure our financials stay as transparent as possible, because we believe you deserve to know exactly where your heartfelt donations are going.



## Looking Forward

In the coming year and beyond, we are looking forward to creating a long term plan to ensure that Stichting Help Kobane will continue making an impact for years to come. Following our successes this year, next year we will be slowing down a little to focus on internal growth and structure in order to strengthen and solidify our core team, goals, and strategies when it comes to program planning and management.

However, we will still be working on new and ongoing programs! Keep an eye out for projects on:

- ❖ Learning in Native Languages: Translation of Literature

## Executive Leadership



## We Need Your Help

Stichting Help Kobane relies on you, our wonderful base of supporters, for our continued success. With your help, we can continue to make lasting and positive impacts on the lives of vulnerable populations in conflict-affected areas in the Middle East and all over the world.

Every cent counts – it takes only a small contribution to give a warm sweater, send a backpack full of school supplies, plant a tree, or put a desk in a classroom. Your financial contributions have direct impact: when you give today, a life is improved tomorrow.

Your donations help local communities revitalize their lives. It's as easy as clicking a button!

### Thank You!

You can find donation information on our website, [www.helpkobane.nl](http://www.helpkobane.nl), or you can donate directly to our account:

**Name:** Stichting Help Kobane  
**IBAN:** NL22TRIO0391013432  
**BIC:** TRIONL2U

### Volunteer and Help Make a Difference

If you'd like to become even more involved, join us as a volunteer! Please visit our website to check for new volunteer positions: [www.helpkobane.nl](http://www.helpkobane.nl)

For inquiries about openings with Stichting Help Kobane, please email us at: [info@helpkobane.nl](mailto:info@helpkobane.nl)

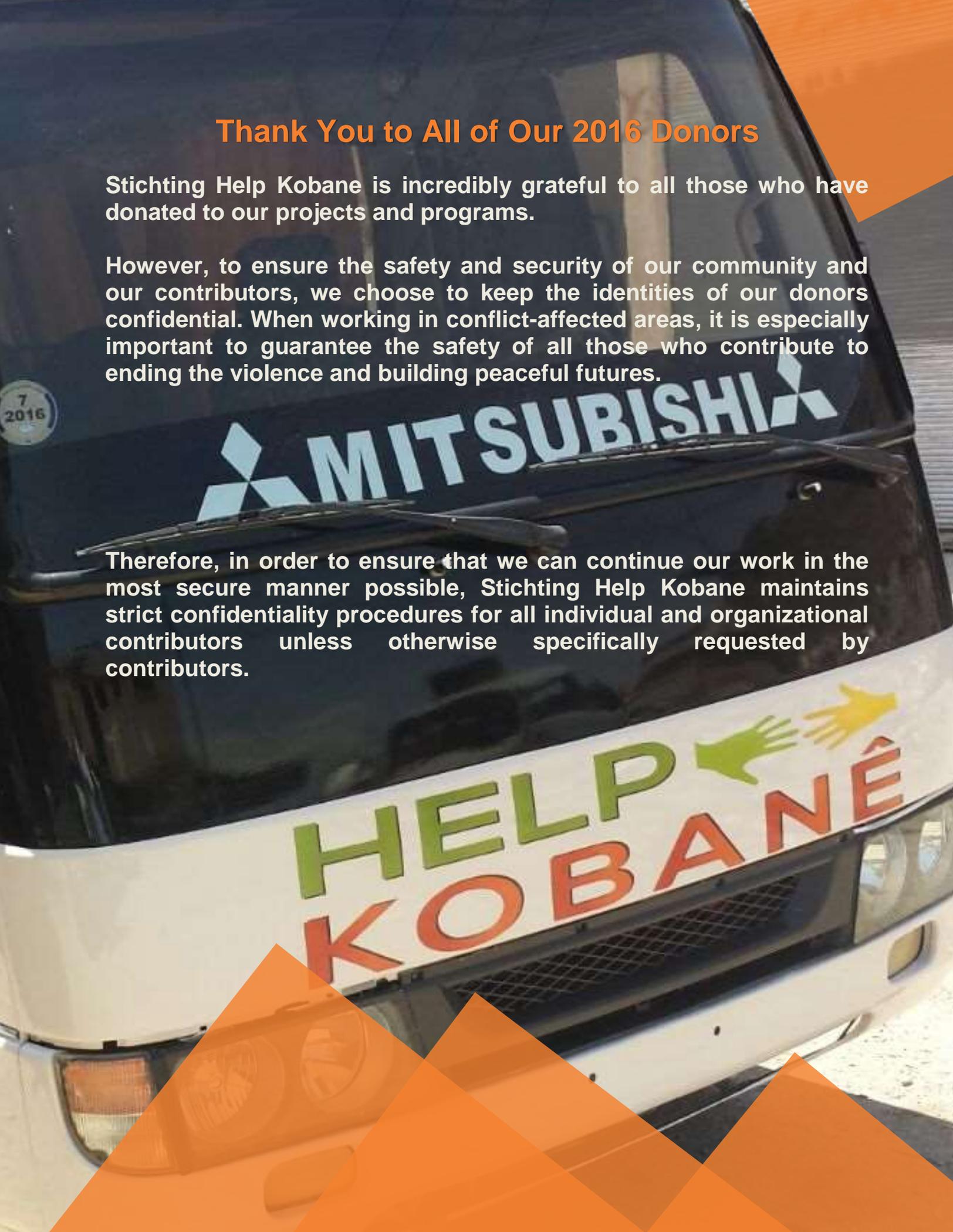


## Thank You to All of Our 2016 Donors

Stichting Help Kobane is incredibly grateful to all those who have donated to our projects and programs.

However, to ensure the safety and security of our community and our contributors, we choose to keep the identities of our donors confidential. When working in conflict-affected areas, it is especially important to guarantee the safety of all those who contribute to ending the violence and building peaceful futures.

Therefore, in order to ensure that we can continue our work in the most secure manner possible, Stichting Help Kobane maintains strict confidentiality procedures for all individual and organizational contributors unless otherwise specifically requested by contributors.





<http://www.helpkobane.nl>



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

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