



Dear Friend of the Path,

What's it like to work on peace in a year when the news from the Middle East makes peace seem very far away? In all my experience working on conflicts for nearly half a century, I have never found the news to be a reliable guide to what is actually possible. Over the years, I have learned to look past the headlines and toward the people on the ground, where the real story is usually found.

In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, this past year has shown us both the promise and fragility of the Zagros Mountain Trail. In the fall, participants walked mountain paths together and encountered a region whose generosity and richness rarely appear in the international imagination. In the months that followed, regional disruption reduced visitors and income for the communities who helped bring this route to life.

Yet the Path has not disappeared in the difficulty. It has revealed itself more clearly as a web of human relationships, sustained by Fellows, guides, and friends who keep preparing for the future even when it feels uncertain. Their hospitality reminds us that peace often begins in gestures that seem small: tea offered to a stranger, a story shared slowly, a meal across difference.

Abraham's story, too, is about movement across boundaries. Again and again, the stranger became a host. The Abraham Path is a wager on that ancient possibility: that when people walk at human speed and meet face to face, something real begins to shift. Thank you for making that wager with us. Your support helps sustain the Path through a challenging year, and it has helped the people who carry it forward. They are the reason we keep walking.

With deep gratitude,

William Ury
Founder and Chair Emeritus



Abraham Path

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Dear Friends,

2025 was a year of great uncertainty, and the many challenges the world faces—especially in the Middle East—are now visible in stark contrast.

Despite these obstacles, I am pleased to report to you a successful year on the Path. As you will see in the pages ahead, API deepened its impact by engaging with more local communities, starting more ground-based initiatives, and most importantly, bringing international visitors back to the Path.

Our message of hope, along with the tangible work done on the ground, has resonated widely. In a time where many NGOs are contracting, thanks to you, our organization grew by 40% and even ended the year with a healthy surplus for us to start 2026 with momentum.

Thank you for standing with us, for imagining a brighter future for the world, and for helping us connect with the place where it all began.

Christopher McLaurin
Executive Director



2025 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launched our Donor Membership Program, creating new opportunities for supporters to engage and sustain our work.
- Invested \$100,000+ directly in communities along the Ibrahim Yolu and Zagros Mountain Trail, empowering local economies and cultural initiatives.
- Partnered with the Kurdistan Trails Organization, strengthening the management and impact of the Zagros Mountain Trail.
- Funded regional Fellowships, supporting projects in Lebanon, Palestine, and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.
- Kicked off new initiatives in southeastern Türkiye, including the Ibrahim Yolu Culture Guide, Mesopotamia Oral History Project, and API Music Fellowship



API TOURS 2025

In October 2025, the Abraham Path Initiative (API) led two journeys along the Path: walking the Ibrahim Yolu in southeastern Türkiye and the Zagros Mountain Trail in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Together, these walks brought more than 40 travelers from 15 countries to experience landscapes where stories, hospitality, and cultural memory continue to shape everyday life.

The API trips delivered powerful participant experiences, fostered deep intercultural exchange, generated significant community impact, and enhanced API's strategic visibility, making a positive difference to all three pillars.

These two API-led experiences were the first since COVID-19 struck the Path and API's first group trip on the officially opened Zagros Mountain Trail. The positive momentum and feedback from participants is leading API to embark on a new annual walking tour program aimed at bringing international visitors to trails we have catalyzed that are not yet internationally known tourist destinations.

GRANTS PROGRAMS: FELLOWSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS

2025 marked our second year of API's Grants Program, building on the momentum of our inaugural 2024 cohort. This year's Partners and Fellows continued to exemplify API's vision of the Path as a global destination for world-class walking trails, hospitality, and cross-cultural connection. Their projects have been instrumental in uplifting communities, preserving local stories, and inspiring visitors from around the world to experience the Path.



KURDISTAN TRAILS ORGANIZATION



HELEN ZUGHAIIB



MOHANAD SALAHAT



ZAGROS MOUNTAIN TRAIL FELLOWS



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SUPPORTERS

\$25,000+

Flora Foundation
Lionel Sauvage
William Ury

\$10,000–\$24,999

Kenneth Baca & Isabelle Guy
Louisa Chan–Boegli
Kari De Burgh
Peggy Dulany

\$5,000–\$9,999

Crooked Trails
Geurt Jan de Heus
Donnie & Kathryn Edwards¹
Everett Love
Roger Low
Prem & Susan Manjooran
Adam Moyer²
Jennifer Steele
Jeff Strauss
Keith Troutman³
Elizabeth Ury

\$1,000–\$4,999

Mufaddal Adeeb
Cynda & Marcel Arsenaault
Joseph Balat*
David Baum
Mark & Karen Biddle
David Calder
Diana Chambers
Pierre and Florence
Chapgier
Leo D'Acerno
John Farkas
Michael Goldstein
Susan Hackley
Ricardo Jabra Daud⁴
David Lesch
AnnaRose Lopez
Katie Lunday
Steven & Diane Lyman
Jimmy Maldonado
John & Susan Collin Marks

Douglas Dobbs McSpadden & Carmen McSpadden
Marion Pillsbury
Oliver Pospisil
Robert Ronus
Richard Rosenberg
Jean and Barbara Runel
Jay Sarno
Bruce Scott & Anna Kunzler*
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Barbara Sherman⁵
Jeff Stoke⁶
Timothy Sullivan
Joshua & Ellen Taxman
the Chambers Group Sarl
Mark & Elizabeth Tinglof
Dave von Beck⁷
Jeff Wagner
Gordon Watson
Joshua Weiss & Adina Elfant*
Barry Wind
John Zweig

Up to \$999

Rabia Aamir
Osama Al–Nouri
Emanuella Amichai
Elias Amidon*
Joe Bamberg
Jeffrey Bernstein
Stephanie Bollenbacher
David Briggs
Patrick Burns⁸
James Carty*
Dillon Coleman
Julie de Gongre
Laura De Seroux
Eric Delbaere
Theresa Dufresne⁹
James Patrick Finerty¹⁰
Chris Flynn
Wanda Garner
Jack & Janie Godbold*
Morton Goldfein
Benina Gould

Rachel Haller¹¹
Nohad Toufic Harati
Jeff Hasenfratz
Tim & Frances Hester
Alix Hopkins
Herbert Jordan
Raafia Khan¹²
Ravenel Khashram¹³
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Sylvia Hast Newcomb
Paul Newfield
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Martha Patrick*
Christophe Pla
Donald Proby
Judy Raiffa
David Rapkin*
Jon Robertson
Bruce Rosen
Robert Rosenberg
Shelley Ruddock*
Elish Sari
Martin Spitaler
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Bernhard Stengele
Patricia Stocker¹⁹
Sharmeen Tariq²⁰
Jocelyn Tetel²¹
Rande Turner
UK Friends of the Abraham Path
Katherine Weisberg
Jerry White

Robert Whiteside
Mark & Shirley Yolleck*

Dedications

In Honor Of

^{12, 20} Emran Akhtar
^{1, 2, 6, 18} Kenneth Baca & Isabelle Guy
¹¹ Birthday Sister
⁵ Arazu Hassab
¹⁷ My Friends in Syria
⁹ Paul Ryan
^{13, 21} Lionel Sauvage
^{10, 19} William Ury

In Memory Of

⁴ Associacao Comendador Assad & Corgie Haddad Abdalla
⁸ Andy Day
¹⁵ Rev. Dr. Dwight L. Kintner
^{14, 16} Sharon McLaurin
³ Heidi Rauscher–Troutman
⁷ Gabrielle Hanna von Beck

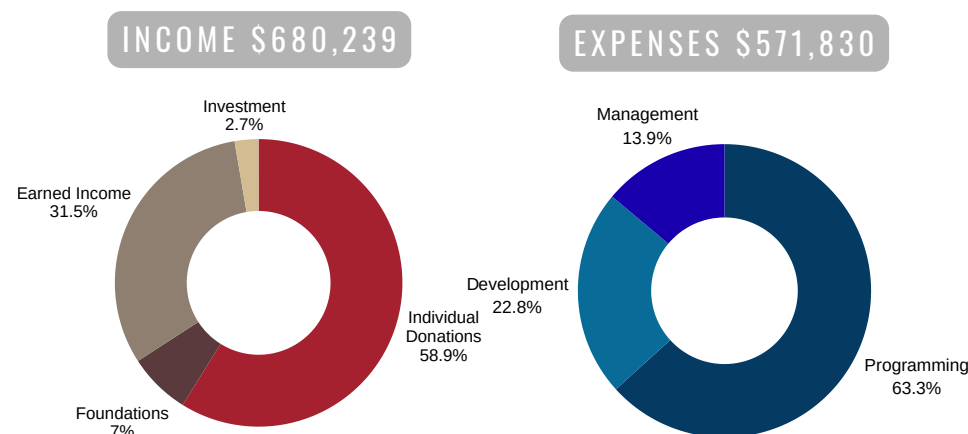
* denotes a monthly donor
^{superscript} denotes a gift was given in honor or memory

Gold
Transparency
2025

Candid.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The 2025 financial year has been a period of heartening support and steady growth for the Abraham Path Initiative. Our financial position reflects a community deeply committed to our mission, allowing us to end the period with a healthy operating surplus.



Here is a more detailed look at how your support translates into impact:

A Community–Powered Mission

Our strength lies in our people. Individual donors remain the heartbeat of the Initiative, contributing nearly 60% of our total income. This personal level of investment, alongside foundation grants and tour revenue, provides a solid foundation for our work on the ground.

Investing in Connection

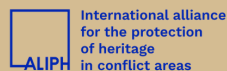
We believe in the power of the path. This year, we channeled our resources into the experiences and programs that define us:

- Tours & Programs:** We dedicated over 63% (combined) to our tours and program awards. While our tours are a significant undertaking, the investment ensures that these transformative journeys remain high-quality and impactful.
- Operational Care:** We strive for efficiency, keeping management costs to just 14% of our spending, ensuring that the vast majority of every dollar goes directly toward fostering connection and development along the path.

Looking Ahead

Ending the period with a surplus isn't just a "number" to us—it represents resilience. It means we have the resources to keep the paths open, support local communities, and dream bigger for the coming year.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



DONATE TODAY!



ABRAHAMPATH.ORG/GIVING



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