



Dear friends of Solid State

Hope everyone is well, warm and healthy. With luck you are hanging in there and getting some good time to relax and rest over the holidays.

Just a quick end-of-year Solid State newsletter!

1. As always, thanks so much to everyone for all your kindnesses, generosity and support for this project. The end of 2021 was kind of amazing – so many cohorts are blowing up in really substantive ways, we have hired a couple of amazing new staff (including bringing on a new co-director) and Solid State as a whole was fortunate to receive some really generous new funding to end the year. More to come on all.



Our end of year holiday party, happily pulled off just before the new round of

2. Attached is our 2021 [annual report](#) to stakeholders. Many thanks to Arwaa Khan for the design and creation of this.

2021 Annual Report

3. We have recently received some heartening news regarding our good friend and Solid State staffer Mohammed Zaqout.

He is from Gaza and has not been able to see his family for five years now due to the blockade. But there is a newly-available window of opportunity that we are trying to take advantage of - we are able to obtain a medical exemption for his father who is in need of surgery - and can get his whole family (six still trapped in Gaza) to join Mohammed in Jordan for a month of reunification.

We are raising funds for him to travel and support his family in this critical time. Mohammed is a great guy and works so hard here helping so many other families and refugee claimants in Canada - at Solid State and with Kinbrace.

We are hoping you might be able to help and contribute to this community fundraising campaign.

We have a high fundraising goal so we can cover all expenses - including the surgery - for the family and so they can spend a month together and his father can get bullets removed from his knee and recover properly.

If you are able to help at all we'd be so grateful and if you feel like passing it on to anyone else, that would be awesome.

https://fundrazr.com/e1viu4?ref=sh_4Audx7_ab_Ax6g6PBiowiAx6g6PBiowi

[Link to Fundraiser](#)

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4. Finally – by acclamation, this picture won Solid State’s coveted 2021 Photo of the Year award. It is, of course, our beloved co-director Vanessa Fajemisin emoting on the Holmes show. It is a fitting end to this berserk year.



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