Acknowledgments

This book began as a research paper authored by the two of us. What started as a simple idea from Shariq turned out to be a well-received conference paper at the Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA). This led to other ideas and papers, and eventually blossomed into a proposal for a book. This project has as much to do with serendipity as it has with patience and persistence.

We met at the Lilly School of Philanthropy in 2013, during Sabith’s research stint at the Center on Philanthropy. We have both benefited from the scholarly community at the Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), which could be considered our “intellectual home” of sorts. All the wonderful scholars and practitioners there have provided us with the inspiration, guidance and support to enable us to be scholars of philanthropy. We have benefited from this association immensely.

The scholarly community at ARNOVA is another big source of guidance, support and inspiration. This core group of scholars has shaped, and continues to shape, the discourse of voluntary action and giving in the US and around the world. As one of the most intellectually engaged communities, we have both learned a lot and remain grateful for our friendships with scholars at ARNOVA.

Finally, the friendships that we have formed during our doctoral education are worthy of mention. In no particular order, Khalidoun AbouAssi, Una Osili, Peter Frumkin, David King, Daisha Merritt, Arjen De Wit, Greg Witkowski, Lehn Benjamin, Dwight Burlingame, David Craig, Safaa Zarzour, Basharat Saleem, Mukhtar Ahmad, Joyce Rothschild, Marc Stern, Yang Zhang, Reza Aslan, Paul Schervish, the Islamic Society of North America, the Council of Islamic Schools in North America, the Sister Clara Muhammad Schools Foundation and the Islamic School League of North America have been extremely generous with their time and feedback.

Our editor, Alan Sturmer, deserves a particular debt of gratitude for his patience and guidance as we worked through the various stages of this book – from a proposal to the first draft and then the final version. Finally, we are grateful to the editors of the series, Dennis Young and Bruce Seaman, for their willingness to further our field by shining the spotlight on an understudied area of philanthropic studies.