



## ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2023

SINCE 19 11 Refugees.org

#### **Our Mission:**

To protect the rights and address the needs of persons in forced or voluntary migration worldwide and support their transition to a dignified life

#### What We Do:

The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), established in 1911, is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit international organization dedicated to addressing the needs and rights of refugees and immigrants. USCRI, working with nearly 200 affiliates, provides legal, social, and health services to refugees, unaccompanied migrating children, trafficking survivors, and other immigrants in all 50 states, El Salvador, Honduras, Kenya, and Mexico. USCRI advocates for the rights of refugees and immigrants both nationally and globally, helping to drive humanitarian policies, practices, and law.

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#### Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are living in unprecedented and challenging times. Today we are witnessing war and suffering all over the world, with more than 100 million refugees and internally displaced people–historic displacement we have never seen before. Since USCRI's inception 113 years ago, we have advocated for equality, dignity, and justice for all refugees and displaced people regardless of their country of origin.

Unfortunately, we are seeing globally the normalization of injustice, apathy, and selective outrage. Against this backdrop, USCRI is focused on serving and advocating for all refugees and immigrants without prejudice.

In Fiscal Year 2023, the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) reached over 74,000 clients in all fifty states, El Salvador, Honduras, Kenya, and Mexico. That includes over 20,000 unaccompanied children, 1,500 survivors of human trafficking, and 18,000 refugees.

As you will see in this report, USCRI continues to grow our services and advocacy internationally, particularly in our work with children and youth. This year, our Children's Services program expanded to provide home studies and post-release services to 20,000 unaccompanied children (up from 12,000 last year). We started our Aspire program, which serves foreign national child survivors of trafficking by providing comprehensive case management services. Our Policy and Advocacy team conducted international field visits, such as to Kakuma and Dadaab, the largest refugee camps in Africa. This visit to Kenya inspired our Keep Girls Dreaming initiative, which was planned at the end of FY 2023 and executed in FY 2024. Through this initiative, USCRI purchased, delivered, and distributed over half a million sanitary pads to Kakuma and Dadaab to support 5,000 girls for one year.

We invite you to follow our work this year on our website (refugees.org) and social media. Your support and commitment to USCRI have directly and positively impacted the lives of refugees, unaccompanied children, trafficking survivors, and other immigrants, and we truly appreciate your dedication.

With much gratitude,

#### **Eskinder Negash**

President & CEO

#### **Board members**

USCRI is governed by a volunteer, unpaid Board of Directors.

**Diann Dawson** Chair

**Earl** Johnson Vice Chair

**Katharine Crost** Secretary **Gene DeFelice** Treasurer

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#### **Board of Directors**

- Kevin Bearden
- Helen Kanovsky
  - Jeffrey Kelley
- Katharine Laud
- **Regis** McDonald
- Jeffrey Metzger
- John Monahan
  - Loc Nguyen
  - Sam Udani

## **TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED: 74,000+**

## Children's Services

USCRI provides home assessments and case management services to unaccompanied migrating children.

#### Cases served 20,273

(1,548 Home Studies and 18,725 Post-Release Services)

## **Residential** Care

USCRI's shelters, in Florida and California, provide a safe and welcoming temporary home to girls who have arrived in the U.S. unaccompanied by their parents and without immigration status.

**909 girls** served at Rinconcito del Sol (top countries: Guatemala - 472, Honduras - 179, Mexico - 62)

## Refugee Programs

USCRI and its national affiliates assist newcomers in achieving self-sufficiency.

Reception and Placement: **9,094 resettled** Employment Program: **3,503 clients** Intensive Case Management: **5,986 clients** 

# Trafficking Services

USCRI serves foreign national adult and child victims of human trafficking, providing comprehensive case management to these populations through a nationwide network of service providers.

1,094 adult and 458 minor survivors served

## Legal Services

USCRI provides low-cost and pro bono legal services to low-income refugees and immigrants across the U.S., including programs for Afghans, Ukrainians, unaccompanied children, and trafficking survivors.

4,392 cases entered into representation

## **Refugee Health** Services

USCRI supports and develops health and wellness initiatives for refugees.

#### 27,478 clients served

(23,992 were Cuban or Haitian Entrants)

## **Policy** and Advocacy

USCRI assesses federal laws and international instruments, develops policy positions, and advocates for humanitarian practices to protect the rights of refugees and immigrants both nationally and globally.

- Field visits to: Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh; migrant shelters in Tijuana, Mexico; the U.S.-Mexico border in El Paso, TX; Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps and Kalobeyei Settlement in Kenya; and asylum processing centers in Greece
- Released two in-depth policy reports and 23 standalone statements, published 25 Policy and Advocacy Reports, submitted multiple comments on federal regulations
- Unaccompanied Children Retrospective final report released in April 2023

## International

USCRI has offices in El Salvador, Honduras, Kenya, and Mexico.

- **Mexico:** 2,836 Title 42 crossings facilitated, 358 clients given legal orientation, 18 Know Your Rights presentations, 9 clients represented before Mexican immigration authorities
- **El Salvador:** 116 youth assisted through the Livelihoods Program (professional training, labor market insertion, case referrals for complementary reintegration services)





**Rinconcito del Sol** 

Rinconcito del Sol is one of USCRI's residential shelters that provides a safe and welcoming temporary home to girls who have arrived in the U.S. unaccompanied by their parents and without immigration status.

Stephany\* arrived at Rinconcito del Sol with the hope of reuniting with a family member. Over the span of four months, she embarked on a profound journey of self-discovery and personal growth, under the compassionate guidance of the staff and her peers, other unaccompanied girls.

Upon Stephany's arrival, staff at Rinconcito del Sol became aware of her vision difficulties. Following several medical assessments, including consultations with a low vision specialist, she was diagnosed with Best Maculopathy, an inherited form of macular dystrophy. To enhance her quality of life and ensure clear vision, Stephany required a specialized type of eyewear known as a Bioptic telescopic system. These special glasses, which are added to regular eyeglasses, work like small binoculars.

However, obtaining these glasses proved to be a process, requiring an extended stay for Stephany at Rinconcito del Sol while she awaited their arrival. After a two-month wait, Stephany finally received her glasses. The moment was filled with joy and anticipation as she prepared to view the world how she had never seen it before.

Throughout her stay, Stephany encountered numerous challenges, yet with unwavering determination and resilience, she conquered each obstacle that crossed her path. With the aid of counseling, support and assistance from our dedicated medical coordinator department, educational resources, personalized case management, and a range of therapeutic activities offered at Rinconcito del Sol, she acquired invaluable life skills and emotional resiliency.

#### Stephany's journey demonstrates the transformative impact of Rinconcito del Sol, where dedication and compassion converge to empower girls to overcome obstacles and realize their full potential.

\*Name has been changed for anonymity



### Legal

USCRI's Legal Services program offers low-cost and pro bono professional legal representation to low-income refugees and immigrants and their families with family- and humanitarian-based immigration matters, offering a variety of legal services across the U.S.

There were only two staff in the Dallas office when the first local client was welcomed in November 2022. The furniture was assembled, the printer installed, and business cards had been delivered, but the Dallas office didn't feel official until Mohammad stepped off the elevator and greeted the staff with a smile.

## Mohammad was led to a conference room and began to tell his story:

I worked with the U.S. military for 11 years. When I got the job, I was very happy because about 200 people had applied, and only about 60 of us were chosen. At that time, I had no money, and all my family's responsibility was on me, so when I got that job, I was very happy.

Because I worked with the U.S. military, the Taliban targeted me and my family. In the village where I lived, I was the only one who worked for the U.S. government, so I knew I was the target of all the attacks.

Many times, I nearly got hit by an exploding IED. The last explosion was when I was returning home from work. Another time, the Taliban appeared on motorcycles and started shooting at me. I stayed in my car, and that is how I stayed safe.

The day that the [Afghan] government fell, I was exhausted. I was working nonstop and hadn't slept for seven days. We were wondering what was going to happen, and no one could think well. We didn't know if the Taliban was going to take over Afghanistan, and we had many jobs to do. When one job was finished there was always more to do. Our supervisor told us that the next morning we would be transported to the Kabul Airport and then to America. We did not even have time to call our family to tell them we were leaving. About a week after we left Afghanistan, I was able to call my family and tell them that I was safe in Abu Dhabi.

After I left, the Taliban harassed my family asking them where I was. The Taliban even kidnapped my brother and tortured him. He ended up in the hospital, and he still has not fully recovered. He isn't safe even now and has to move around from house to house of various relatives to hide.

Mohammad's harrowing tale amounted to a compelling case for asylum. Approximately one year after USCRI filed an asylum application, Mohammad received notice that the U.S. had granted him asylum. His wife and young daughter are still in Afghanistan, and USCRI continues to assist him until they can be reunited. Mohammad's daughter was born after he was evacuated, and he has never met her. All of us at USCRI look forward to the time when we can see our clients reunited with their families. **Major Programs** 

Expenses

**Refugee Health** \$111,379,289

- **Refugee Programs** \$70,862,126
- Children's Services \$59,813,665
- US Field Offices \$21,645,442
- Legal Services \$16,236,012

**Other** \$410,695

Total Program Services \$280,347,229

Supporting

Services

Management and general \$9,819,997

**Fundraising** \$895,512

**Total Supporting Services** \$10,715,509





Total Expenses: \$291,062,738

## **Revenue** and Support

Federal and State Grants and Contracts \$283,885,942

Foundations and Individual Contributions \$2,195,643

In-kind Goods and Services \$594,014

**Investments** \$530,758

**Other Income** \$5,193,833

**Total Revenue** \$292,400,190

#### **Net** Assets

Net assets in FY22 \$24,328,913

**Net assets in FY23** \$25,666,365

> Net Change in Net Assets \$1,337,452



#### Donors

#### \$100,000+

Oak Foundation Ohio Access to Justice Foundation Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc. Rosewood Foundation

#### \$50,000+

Latter-day Saints Charities The Williams Family Foundation

#### \$10,000+

Building Hope in the City **Capital District Transportation Authority Community West Foundation** Luca Conte Natalie and Paul Cooper Paul Deaton Exxon Mobil Corporation - Max Schulz Floris United Methodist Church **Global Cleveland** Hannaford Supermarket Paul Janicke Phyllis and Larry Lepke Christian H. Pfister Kathryn and Keith Pomeroy Bernard F. and Mary A. Powell Foundation Elaina and Matthew Roberts Philip and Elizabeth Rosenberry Robert and Lauren Sinacore Sunflower Fund **Rachel Theilheimer** Vermont Community Foundation Pamela Will Wormser Giving Fund

#### \$5,000+

#### Arab American & Chaldean Council

(ACC) John Barker Douglas and Samara Braunstein Vikram and Vandana Chalana Katharine Crost Dee Zee Inc. Elliqua Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation **Erie Community Foundation Erie Philharmonic** Diane and Warren Farr Heidrun L. Friendrich Sharon and Timothy Glenn Danita Hanson Charles and Kathleen Heidsieck Joseph D. and Karen I. Lambert The Elinor and Maynard Marks Family Fund

#### **MENTOR Vermont**

George W. Mergens Foundation **Michael Foods** Celeste Na North Raleigh Presbyterian Church Paychex Community Foundation Inc. Price Chopper - Market 32 ReSOURCE Allen and Mary Riordan Lori Rosenblum Rotary Club of West Raleigh Serena Foundation Ramesh Shah Albert and Candace Staton Erna and Isaac Stern St. Paul Episcopal Church Carol P. Tresolini Kathy Yoakum

#### \$2,000+

Andersen Windows and Doors Shalini Bafna Leonard and Joy Baxt Anne Howsare Boyens Cathedral Preparatory High School Catherine Cavanaugh The Catholic Church of St. Peter The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi Causey and Ye Law Group PLLC Church of St. Peter **Christopher Crofts Community West Foundation Connecting Hands** Barbara Dangman Nancy Davis Dentons Davis Brown PC Susan DuBois Alexander Durtka Jr. Sandra Enman Fairview Elementary **First Christian Church** Zelko Francic Hana Franco Michael and Jessamyn Herbert Ryan Allan Garcia

GreenState Credit Union Growald Climate Fund Jeffrey and Ellen Kelley Paul Kendall Alice Klagge **Robert Kloos** Denise Laux Aida and Robert Luce Mascoma Bank **Regis McDonald** Patricia McLaughlin Sarah and Robert Meredith Jeffrey Metzger and Stephanie Stahr Debra and Thomas Milinovich Gerrish Milliken National Christian Foundation Orlando Ngun Bik Family Marian Schulz Johanna Steper Remy Sukhija Steven J. Sutker Mary Paul Thomas Matt Trumbull Stephen Warnke Albert Wilhelm Mark Wright

# There are several ways to get involved with USCRI



#### Visit us at Refugees.org

#### Donate

#### Follow us on Social Media

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(in) @U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)



Arlington VA HQ • Albany NY • Atlanta GA • Austin TX • Cleveland OH Colchester VT • Dallas TX • Denver CO • Des Moines IA • Detroit MI • Erie PA Nashville TN • Raleigh NC • Rayo de Luz CA • Richmond VA • Rinconcito del Sol FL Rutland VT • San Diego CA • St. Louis MO • Twin Falls ID • Washington DC

El Salvador • Honduras • Kenya • Mexico



Refugees.org