

CACHE
REFUGEE &
IMMIGRANT
CONNECTION



EMERGENCY

CRIC | 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



ANNUAL REPORT
2022

Letter from the Executive Director

This year has been an time of remarkable growth for us at CRIC. On January 4th, we kicked off an amazing year with our very first trip to the Salt Lake City airport for a resettlement pickup – a family who had arrived through the Afghan Placement and Assistance (APA) Program. Since that initial trip, we have helped over 50 Afghans begin a new life in Cache Valley.

Just a few short months later, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, we were again asked to help address an urgent need. Ukrainians who arrived in the valley through community sponsorships have flowed through our offices, and we've been able to help connect them to resources and opportunities in their new home.

Mid-year, we were approached by a national organization, Church World Services, to explore making Logan a formal resettlement location for refugees fleeing many other conflicts around the world. After a truly moving outpouring of support from the community, we were approved by the State of Utah to begin that important work as well.

During this time, we hired many new staff, increasing our capacity to reach out to more New Americans. In addition, our office space has expanded, our budget has grown, our programs and partnerships have thrived, and our valley has shown tremendous enthusiasm for welcoming those in need by creating a community for everyone.

So thank you. Because of your support, a little organization that started eight years ago around a kitchen table is thriving and growing more than ever before. 2022 was a very big year for CRIC. We have new friends, new programs, and new partnerships throughout the community. I can't wait to see what we do and who we meet in 2023.



Danny Beus- Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to promote integration, economic self-sufficiency, and positive connections among refugees, immigrants, and the wider community through two-way education, improved access to existing services, and development of new services.





Our Vision COMMUNITY FOR EVERYONE



2022 AT A GLANCE

HOURS ASSISTING
REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT
COMMUNITIES

12,919

AFGHANS AND
UKRAINIANS ASSISTED

67

GARDENING HOUSEHOLDS

29

MONEY MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

99





OUR STORY

2013

A community coalition focused on meeting the needs of refugees in our community began taking their first steps

2014

Incorporated as Cache Refugee and Immigrant Connection (CRIC)

2015

Received federal 501(c)3 nonprofit status

2016

Community Garden established

2017

First office location and first employee

Citizenship and Driver's License programs expanded

2018

Second part-time employee hired

Walk-In Hours Expanded

2019

Expansion to new immigrant communities

First Executive Director hired

2020

Money Management Program launched

Part of a multi-partner community response team for COVID-19

2021

Case Management Services began

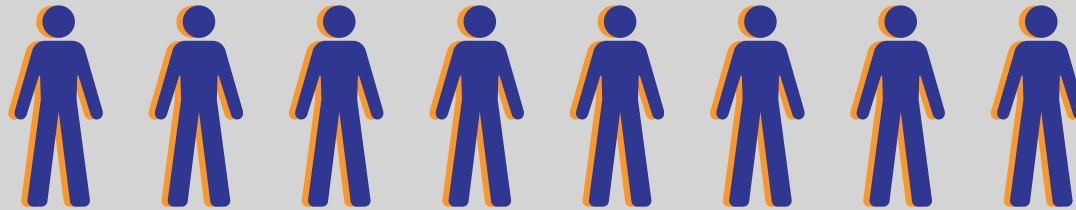
Significant staffing increase and a new office location

2022

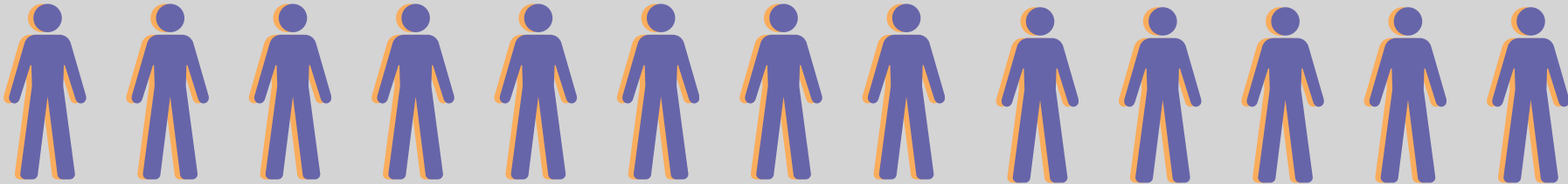
Our biggest year yet! With new staff, new Afghans and new Ukrainians, we've had an unforgettable year

OUR TEAM

Staff 2021



Staff 2022



Our new positions include:

Money Management Instructor

Development and Outreach Manager

Additional Case Managers

Deputy Director of Resettlement Services

Business Programs Manager

We will see even more growth in 2023!



RESETTLEMENT WORK

In a world constantly faced with new hardships, CRIC tries to help however we can. In 2022, we saw a dramatic change in our clientele following new conflicts in Afghanistan and Ukraine. As those affected by these situations came to our valley, CRIC responded by helping our new community members in many ways, including finding jobs and housing, and helping with official paperwork.

Afghans Assisted

50

Ukrainians Assisted

17

The individuals and families we have assisted add richness to Cache Valley. They are artists, small business owners, and much more. We are honored to be able to help them, and include them in our vision of a community for everyone.



OUR PROGRAMS





PROGRAMS

Case Work

Hours of Case Work

5463

Number of Case Workers

4

"At CRIC, we work with a wide variety of clients, and my caseload as a case manager reflects that. I meet with clients one-on-one to assist them in building their independence. This can include securing jobs, finding suitable housing, working on bills or filling out forms, and understanding U.S. culture. Every person who comes through our doors has a unique perspective on life, and it is a wonderful opportunity and responsibility to be trusted by them and learn about their story."

- Rachel Madsen
Case Manager



PROGRAMS

Walk-In Hours

Walk-In Hours available to clients each week

12

The Walk-In Hours program epitomizes CRIC's mission and vision. Four times a week, for three hours a day, refugee and immigrant community members can simply walk through our doors and receive help. Years ago, Walk-in Hours was CRIC's first program, run by dedicated volunteers. Since then, it has grown in attendance and capacity. Now, several case managers as well as volunteers dedicate their time to assist everyone who walks through our doors.

What makes Walk-In Hours so special is the one-on-one assistance that is provided. This creates a friendly familiarity. Walk-In Hours is not only a place to receive help, but to participate in **community**.





PROGRAMS

Money Management

Courses Held	Participants	Graduates
7	99	73

"As an instructor for CRIC's Money Management course, I hope to give our clients the education, skills, and resources to establish healthy money management habits to reach and maintain financial peace."

- Mary Perez
Instructor

Special thanks to Sorenson Legacy Foundation for funding the program, and to Comcast Mountain West Region and Cache Valley Bank for providing valuable participation incentives for the graduates.



PROGRAMS

Driver's License Tutoring

Hours of Tutoring

60

"I help in the driver's license program by teaching Spanish-speaking students basic vocabulary related to driving, vehicles and state laws. We study the rules regarding public safety, and practice taking the written driver's license exam.

This program is empowering as it provides a sense of great accomplishment once someone obtains their driver's license and are able to move around freely and safely.

Hearing their stories, and watching them succeed in this endeavor has been one of the most rewarding things I've ever done. To help someone feel supported and cared for as they fight for greater independence is truly priceless!"

- Romina Leguizamon
Volunteer





PROGRAMS

Citizenship Tutoring

Students

2

Volunteers study US history and civics with refugees and immigrants to prepare them to take the US citizenship exam. Together, they study the four major parts of the naturalization test, which includes English reading, writing, speaking, and US History and Civics.

"The people who are studying for citizenship are sincere and dedicated to learning about the USA and doing their best here. They are eager and kind, and our interactions with them are positive and enlightening to us as we study and learn together."

- Brent and Kevon Miller
Volunteers



PROGRAMS

Community Garden

Gardening Households

29

"I'm so grateful for my time as Garden Manager! It is wonderful to have such a beautiful community enjoying their time at the garden. I have enjoyed seeing the fulfillment these families find in the work they give to the soil and to their plants. This summer, those who had been talented gardeners in their own countries taught those who had never gardened before. It was beautiful to see them working together and to hear their gratitude for the opportunity to learn from each other. I love the Cache Refugee Garden!"

- Mahayla Bassett
Garden Manager

in partnership with Tony & Taya Flores and USU





PROGRAMS

Small Business Advising

Small Business Owners Involved

32

Hours Spent Building Program

1000

Businesses Granted Small Business Loans

3

Businesses referred to the Suazo Business Center

10

Via a partnership with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and funding from the U.S. Small Business Administration, CRIC offered free support, education and training to small businesses owned by refugees and immigrants. The program makes referrals to resources such as technical assistance and loan programs, as well as facilitating connections to partners such as Bridgerland Technical College Entrepreneur Center, USU's Center of Entrepreneurship, the Suazo Business Center, and Women In Business.



PROGRAMS

Assistance Navigating The U.S. Immigration System

Many of our clients have questions about immigration and the legal system that goes beyond the scope of what we can provide. Therefore, our caseworkers assist with navigating the system and providing referrals to appropriate specialists and lawyers.

Our board member Mary Connin volunteers regularly with CRIC to assist in a variety of ways. This includes assistance with scheduling USCIS appointments, follow-up calls to USCIS, answering general immigration questions, and providing general immigration information and referrals.



"In 2022 we helped many members of the community with Ukrainian connections to navigate the immigration system to assist friends and family to escape the

war. 2022 was also filled with assisting our newly arrived Afghan community to determine what immigration resources were available to them, what their needs were, and determining the best path forward.

It is always gratifying to see citizenship approvals, work cards renewed and travel documents arriving. Being able to help others travel to visit family unseen for many years is very satisfying to help with. And U.S. citizenship is a dream come true for our clients who obtain it.

- Mary Connin
Board Member

Clients Helped

85

Hours donated by Mary

510





FINANCIALS

CRIC's Annual Operating Budget



2022 Donation Total:

Including in-kind donations, individual donations and grants

\$486,614

CRIC's growth can be attributed to a wonderful community who continues to support our mission. This allows for more partnerships and program opportunities.

In 2022, we saw a **132%** increase in our operating budget.

As CRIC continues to grow to meet the needs of the New Americans in the Cache Valley community, we anticipate another substantial increase in the coming year.

VOLUNTEERS AND BOARD

When CRIC first started, it was run entirely by volunteers. We will always be immensely grateful to all those who join our work to help make Cache Valley a community for everyone. We have fantastic volunteers and amazing board members who donate their time, talents and skills to support and learn from the refugee and immigrant communities. CRIC would not be the organization it is without them!

THANK YOU!



Active Volunteers

43

Volunteered Hours

2,524

Received the Volunteer Programming for Maximum Impact **GOLD** designation from UServeUtah



The work donated by volunteers provided to \$75,593 of value



WORLD REFUGEE DAY

World Refugee Day is an international day to honor refugees around the globe. Each year on June 20th, the world celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their homes to escape conflict or persecution.

Our community gathered together to celebrate the refugees in Cache Valley. The event was full of dancing, playing soccer, eating food, and simply being with friends and family.

Different groups showcased music and dance styles from around the world. Even when the event was over, people wanted to continue dancing and celebrating.

The day brought us together in community as we celebrated the different cultures that strengthen and enrich Cache Valley. It encapsulated our vision of "**community for everyone.**"





WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Scan this QR code to watch highlights from our celebration.





HARVEST DINNER

HARVEST DINNER

This year's Harvest Dinner was unforgettable. Tickets sold out weeks in advance, and the barn was packed with CRIC supporters as we enjoyed the night with good food, great company, and a generous auction. That night, we were once again amazed by Cache Valley's generosity as almost **\$66,000** was raised. We are so appreciative of all the support we received from our supporters and donors.

SABOOR SAHELY

This year, the CRIC Community Champion award was given to Saboor Sahely for all the service he provides to the refugee and immigrant community. It was also announced that **October 21** would be recognized as the Saboor Sahely Day of Service in Cache County. And on that day, we saw how people purposefully celebrated through serving those around them.



More to Come in 2023

We spent 2022 learning, growing, and preparing for even more growth in the future. We are grateful for all the support we receive from the community.

Join us in our work as we make Cache Valley a **community for everyone** by donating today.

You can donate by visiting our website:
cacherefugees.org.





Thank You

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