

DORCAS INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RHODE ISLAND
Annual Report 2022

Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island strives to create a welcoming environment for all, working to empower the most vulnerable among us for more than 100 years.

We meet our clients where they are by providing integrated, wraparound programs and services helping those seeking to overcome educational, cultural, economic, and language barriers.



From the Executive Director

This past year has been a time of crisis around the world with ramifications felt right here in our Ocean State; and once again, **Dorcas International proved we are nimble, deft and ever ready to meet the challenges that face us:** learning to effectively assist in a virtual environment, adjusting to immigration policy changes, and doing our part to assist with the unprecedented resettlement of more than 70,000 displaced Afghans, 100,000 Ukrainians and 65,000 other refugees to the United States.

Even as we proudly celebrated our centennial milestone, we remained steadfast to our guiding mission by welcoming, supporting, assisting, feeding and housing an unparalleled number of newcomers from around the globe, all within a span of just a few short months. Meanwhile, our incredible team of professionals served thousands of Rhode Islanders — teaching adults, counseling immigrants, guiding, training and clothing job seekers, and so much more.

This past year also showed us the value of community. We experienced the **largest increase in volunteers in the organization's history.** Rhode Islanders stepped up in droves, volunteering, donating, and organizing, while our community partners worked by our side — all to help those looking for an opportunity to succeed.

Now, as we move forward, we look to ask our clients, our supporters and other stakeholders how we can best meet the community's emerging needs, such as sustainably addressing the issue of affordable housing for newly arriving refugees.

Together we continue to welcome, share, guide and give; every day we open our arms and offer hope to the most vulnerable among us. We at Dorcas International are ever grateful for this community to which we belong, the compassionate community without which we could not thrive.

Together, we are changing lives. Thank you.

Kathleen Cloutier
Executive Director

North Campus: 220 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907 • South Campus: 645 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907 401.784.8600 | diiri.org | info@diiri.org

Refugee Resettlement

In 2022, Dorcas International resettled 212 Afghan humanitarian parolees and 106 refugees from Burundi, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Jordan, Guatemala, Rwanda, Syria, Tanzania and Uganda.

Global crises created an unprecedented year for resettlement services. Fairly soon after welcoming those fleeing Afghanistan, and while still resettling another hundred from around the globe, we began to prepare for the arrival of Ukrainians escaping war in their homeland. Housing; accessing schools; medical care; social services; guidance with legal processes; understanding U.S. culture and customs; transportation — these are just some of the issues our resettlement team works on, and this year the team went non-stop to ensure all who seek to call Rhode Island home have what they need to begin a peaceful and sustainable new life.

"Greeting evacuees/refugees upon arrival is a profound moment of human connection and trust.

When I think of all the people who touch each of these cases — families donating household goods, restaurants preparing welcome meals, volunteers cleaning and preparing apartments for new homes, and the incredible Dorcas International staff pulling it all together — it is overwhelming and truly humanity at its best."

— Cecily



Reunited 27

unaccompanied youth from Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras & Guatemala with their U.S. sponsors





Adult Education

Learning English, gaining valuable work skills, earning high school credentials — whatever it is our students need, our teachers, staff and curriculum engage them at their level of the learning process in order to help them find success and achieve their goals.

"When I first came to the U.S. I only knew how to say hello in English. **Taking English classes at Dorcas changed everything for me.**

Now when I meet other immigrants who feel like I felt, I tell them, 'You can do it. Just believe in yourself and work hard. It's not easy, but it's possible.' "—Angel

Duarte immigrated from the Azores, Portugal nearly 30 years ago. Having completed our Citizenship Prep Course and becoming a U.S. citizen, Duarte wished to pay it forward. Despite working two jobs to support his family, he generously donated payments for the next cohort of students so they too could complete Citizenship Prep classes and move closer to also becoming a citizen.

"I paid attention that some of the students didn't have the financials to go through the classes. I decided to help." — Duarte



Enrolled

1,228

students in our various adult education classes and job trainings





Employment Services

Jobseekers come to us from all over Rhode Island. This past year we helped hundreds of people learn and develop the skills they need to succeed. Clients learn to find and apply for jobs, and many embark on new careers. Beyond that, our Clothing Collaborative clothed more than 1,000 people in need of appropriate attire for the workplace, regardless of the industry. And, we remain proud of our community partnerships with local employers and organizations, helping our clients, their businesses and the community overall.

"Without Dorcas International I wouldn't have the job I have now, and I wouldn't be able to pay my rent, feed my kids and have the medical care my son needs. Thank you."

— Louis



Provided clothing for nearly

2,000

people preparing to enter the workforce and/or resettling from other countries

Worked with 4.07

people to secure jobs
with an average
hourly wage
of \$16.05/hour



DORCAS INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RHODE ISLAND



Citizenship and Immigration

"Words cannot express my gratitude and our gratitude as a family for holding our hand through this journey. You took on our case, with all its challenges, and gave us hope that all would be OK. Our abuser had diminished all the hope we had left in the opportunities that America could offer. We made it, thanks to your understanding, persistence and help in seeing our case through." — Malia

2,766 individuals received immigration advice and referrals



applications were filed on behalf of victims of crime



total cases were filed



permanent residency

applications were filed

321
naturalization
applications
were filed

296
employment
authorization
applications were filed

applications
were filed on behalf of
Afghan evacuees resettled
in Rhode Island

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Celebrating our Centennial

Thanks to Amica Insurance, our generous Centennial Sponsor, hundreds gathered for events celebrating our roots, history and enduring impact on the Rhode Island community. All enjoyed lively entertainment, delicious food, and incredibly inspiring words while joyfully reuniting with old friends and colleagues from long ago. We were grateful to have the opportunity to pay tribute to Sister Mary Reilly and the late Deborah Thompson, the visionary founders of Dorcas Place Adult & Family Learning Center: one of the two renowned organizations that make up what is now Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island. The legacy of both of these organizations, Dorcas Place and the International Institute of Rhode Island, remains at the core of our mission and daily work.









Celebrating our Centennial

Thank you to our Centennial Sponsor

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"I've learned that people want to be a part of something good. Something that is life-giving."

— Sister Mary Reilly

Growing to Reduce Cultural, Educational, Economic, and Language Barriers

by Alli-Michelle Conti

A daughter of Irish immigrants, Sister Mary Reilly grew up in South Providence and credits much of her inspiration for becoming an activist to the six years she spent as a teacher in Belize and as a school principal in Honduras. "I admired my students in Central America. You learn so much about the simplicity of life. Life was hard particularly for the women, and that's where I become a feminist."

In 1980, she returned to Providence, co-founding with Deborah Thompson a literacy program for single mothers known as Dorcas Place. In 2013, Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island was born from the union of two great organizations: the International Institute of Rhode Island and the Dorcas Place Adult and Family Literacy Center.

"We found a whole group of young, poor mothers who had dropped out of the school system. They were functionally illiterate, reading at a 2nd grade reading level," she said. Sister Mary and Deborah recognized the direct link between illiteracy and problems of long-term welfare dependency, children growing up in poverty, teenage pregnancy, child abuse, neglect, crime, and chronic unemployment — and they aimed to fix it.

While the tutors were all volunteers, they earned funding to develop their own reading materials. No textbook would do. In the beginning days of the organization, "We would meet in the person's home. We called it 'Kitchen Education."

"What is that you want to read? Your bills? A note from school? A song from church?" they'd ask. Eventually Dorcas Place transitioned to also serve the literacy needs of men. However, their core mission was adult literacy for young women. "I've learned that people want to be a part of something good. Something that is life-giving. We had people come and offer their services," says Sister Mary. She estimates that Dorcas Place has served thousands within the greater Providence community, and many more if you "understand how it also affects their children."

The first words they would utter: "I can now help my child."

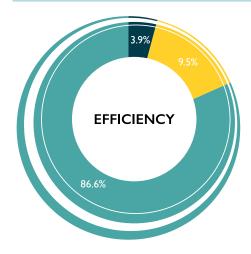
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Statement of Activities

Years ending June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021

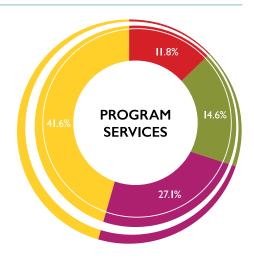
SUPPORT, REVENUES AND INVESTMENT RETURN WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	FY 2022	FY 2021
Contributions	1,199,445	498,260
Tuition and Earned Income	2,216,170	2,039,444
Public Grants and Contracts	5,535,119	4,006,887
Foundation and Private Grants	632,121	514,242
Other Income	85,282	13,436
Investment Return	140,737	295,724
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	1,062,469	4,834,046
Total Operating Revenues	10,589,869	12,202,039
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Employment and Training	2,377,002	2,401,274
Refugee/Social Services	5,109,821	5,381,936
Translation Services	1,282,861	1,231,346
Supporting Services		
Management and General	959,526	1,434,346
Fundraising	393,634	183,795
Total Operating Expenses	10,122,844	10,632,697
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	467,025	1,569,342
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions	386,025	633,048
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	5,670,724	4,734,430
Net Assets, End of Year	6,523,774	5,670,724



EFFICIENCY

Fundraising	3.9%
Management and General	9.5%
Program Services	86.6%
Total	100.0%



PROGRAM SERVICES

Education	27.1%
Citizenship and Immigration	11.8%
Refugee/Social Services	41.6%
Interpretation and Translation	14.6%
Total	95.1%

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