### ANNUAL REPORT 2023



# RESPECT INTEGRITY AGILITY INCLUSIVITY

These foundational principles influence our day-to-day operations as well as shape the direction in which we aspire to lead our community.

### Mission

We cultivate an inclusive community for immigrants and those seeking refuge by providing integrated services, fostering crosscultural understanding, and nurturing strong partnerships.

### Vision

We envision a future where everyone is welcome and has the opportunity to thrive and prosper.



### FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Because of our team's dedication, along with generous support from our partners and benefactors, our journey this past year has been one of remarkable growth and adaptation. Rooted firmly in our mission, we have responded effectively to the evolving needs of Rhode Island immigrants.

We've recently completed a largescale strategic planning project, in which we actively engaged with the voices of our stakeholders to craft a roadmap that steers our future. This collaborative endeavor has ensured that future decisions are aligned with our organization's goals, and also resonate deeply with the diverse perspectives and needs of our community.

Our resolve to enhance our efforts and ensure a thriving, more welcoming Rhode Island remains steadfast. We will continue to move forward together, amplifying our impact, and striving for a brighter future for those immigrants who now call Rhode Island home.

Thank you for the meaningful role that you play at Dorcas International.

With Gratitude,

Kathleen Cloutier Executive Director

We will continue to move forward together, amplifying our impact, and **striving for a brighter future** for those immigrants who now call Rhode Island home.



# RESETTLEMENT

Our dedicated resettlement team works tirelessly to help with a wide range of essential needs in order to facilitate a smooth transition for those seeking refuge in Rhode Island. These needs encompass housing, enrollment in schools, access to medical care, navigating social services, guidance with legal processes, fostering an understanding of American culture and customs, as well as ensuring convenient transportation. Throughout the year, the team displayed unwavering commitment, leaving no stone unturned to ensure that individuals embarking on their journey are equipped with all necessary resources for a sustainable fresh start.





Helped people from countries who speak different languages

Reunited **48** unaccompanied youth from El Salvador, Honduras, Ghana, Nepal, Venezuela and Guatemala with their U.S. sponsors. Provided resettlement and case management services to **22** Afghan Humanitarian Parolees, **3** Afghan Special Immigrant Visa holders, 78 Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees, and 245 refugees from Afghanistan, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guatemala, Iraq, Jordan, Liberia, Somalia, Syria & Tanzania.

ما به شما خون

WELCOMING

I get great satisfaction when I see my clients learn English; when I see the look on their happy faces when they obtain their first pay check, find their own housing, become citizens, etc. It is very rewarding. — Myrna, Case Manager

**TE DOY LA** 

WELCOMING WEEK

DORCAS INTERNATIONAL

WELCOMING

WELCOMES

# ADULT EDUCATION

Our educators and support staff design curricula and programs to connect with our students at their individual stages of learning, equipping them with the necessary tools to achieve their objectives and reach their goals. Whether it's improving their English language proficiency, acquiring valuable job skills, or obtaining high school qualifications, we are committed to engaging our students in a manner that caters to their unique needs.





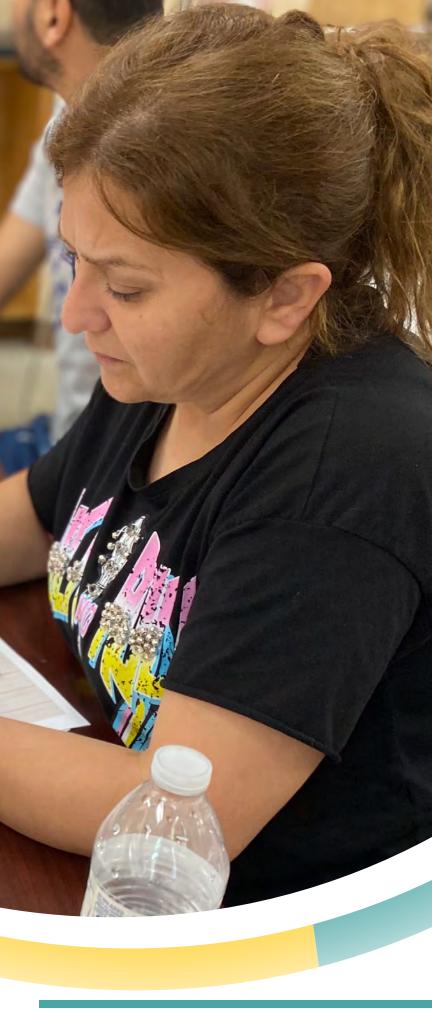
Enrolled



in our various adult education classes and job training programs (1,044 enrolled in on-site English classes)

This is an organization with a good team of hard-working people. The teachers are excellent, top of their class; and the social workers are really good at their job. Their humanity transcends kindness, consideration, understanding, sympathy and tolerance. This is an excellent place to learn and to find help.

— Bianka





**Ocean State** 

Over the past year, hundreds of individuals came to us for guidance, learning and help in achieving their employment goals. Our clients received assistance with job searches and applications, while many also pursued different careers and acquired new skills through our job training programs. Moreover, our Clothing Collaborative has provided appropriate attire for more than 1,000 individuals who lacked clothing for the workplace, regardless of their industry. Our valuable community partnerships with local employers and organizations have been a source of great pride. These partnerships are an important part of our support for our clients, their businesses, and the community as a whole.

Dorcas International to everyone that needs their help. — Adelino

> 8,000 hours of face-to-face casework with clients

> > 572

Logged



Worked

with **548** 

people for employment preparation, training, and job placement, with **447** clients placed in jobs

STAFFING SO

# The services at Dorcas International are outstanding. I would recommend



Provided clothing for over

1,000 88

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



# CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION

Our citizenship & immigration services continue to be in high demand. This past year the team, once again, changed many lives providing legal guidance and assistance, as well as legal representation for cases before the Immigration Court. With expertise spanning a broad range of legal matters—including naturalization, permanent residence applications, family petitions, temporary protected status, deferred action, unlawful presence waivers, asylum, deportation defense, and legal assistance for victims of crime—our team of professionals helped nearly 4,500 individuals this past year alone.

# 4,430

individuals received immigration advice and referrals



applications were filed on behalf of victims of crime







permanent residency applications were filed aturalization

applications were filed

**392** employment authorization applications were filed (including for Afghan evacuees)

**3332** applications were filed on behalf of Afghan evacuees resettled in Rhode Island





I'm glad we had chosen them to go ahead with my permanent residence application. They were always so cordial and really did a great job. Everything went faster than we expected—thank you!

— Petterson



## United States

# WELCOMING THOSE **IN CRISIS**

When global crises unfold, we are ready; when the U.S. resettlement programs change, we are ready.

This past year, we pivoted to a different type of resettlement program to help welcome Ukrainians fleeing war which meant mobilizing community groups, faith-based groups, and residents in a wide-reaching community outreach effort to find the nearly 300 Ukrainians seeking refuge in the Ocean State.

Our multi-faceted team continues to help with a myriad of issues including applying for employment authorizations and health care coverage, connecting individuals and families with medical providers and specialists, and helping families understand the expectations and available resources when enrolling in the local school systems. Our other services include ESL and work readiness instruction, navigation of sponsorship breakdowns, assistance in searching for and transitioning to independent housing or locating emergency housing, translation and interpretation, and more.

In response to the rising number of humanitarian parolees coming for help, we also created the Newcomer Welcome Center-a comprehensive hub of information and support that reflects our commitment to newcomers' success. In its first year alone, we served over 500 clients.





### A NOORI FAMILY UPDATE: Two Years After the Afghan Evacuation and Resettlement

Read the full Boston Globe story HERE.



America's withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021 sparked the largest airlift in US history. Now, two years later, we revisit the ongoing efforts to support resettling one Afghan refugee family in Rhode Island.

The Nooris arrived in the small village of Wickford in 2001. Met by Dorcas International staff and volunteers at the airport, they were greeted with an outpouring of support.

They stepped into their new home, where a warm and traditional meal had been prepared to make them feel comfortable and safe.

As Dorcas International extended our support in many different areas such as English language education, assistance navigating schools and services, and legal and essential services, the family also discovered a welcoming community of neighbors who embraced them wholeheartedly – offering more than they could have imagined.

The Nooris are still adjusting to American life, which involves tackling everyday challenges such as taxes, a complex healthcare system, and mastering the English language. This journey is marked by both challenges and opportunities for growth.

The family just obtained asylum and will be eligible for green cards after one year in the United States as asylees. This process typically takes 2-3 years, followed by a 5-year wait before they can apply for U.S. citizenship.

While it's a long road, Dorcas International's legal team will assist every step of the way!

This family is very humble and kind. One of my proudest moments was when Naseer obtained his license—he was so happy and proud! It's been a great joy be part of this family's resettlement process and to see all the great changes and accomplishments in their life.

— Myrna, Case Manager



### Their progress has been and continues to be remarkable:

- The children are thriving in school, enjoying swim lessons, and are fluent in English.
- Mom recently obtained her driver's permit and is rapidly improving her English.
- Dad now has his driver's license, and is working full-time as an auto mechanic.
- The family has settled into sustainable housing.

swim lessons, and are fluent in English. and is rapidly improving her English. king full-time as an auto mechanic. ng.



# WE OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We are grateful to all our community partners whose support and commitment to a welcoming community allows us to provide what is needed, when and where it is needed most.







### **Statement of Activities**

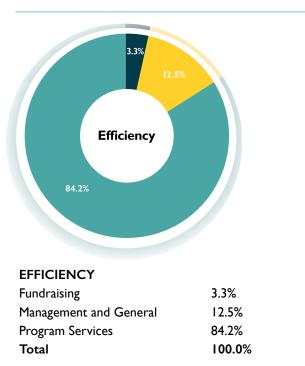
Years ending June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022

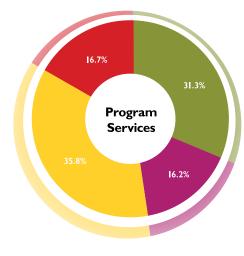
#### SUPPORT, REVENUES AND INVESTMENT RETURN WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	FY 2023	FY 2022
Contributions	6,596,805	5,593,451
Tuition and Earned Income	275,042	595,648
Public Grants and Contracts	2,047,406	2,298,906
Foundation and Private Grants	766,889	1,215,378
Other Income		41,666
Investment Return	48,064	(75,348)
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	299,366	1,525,385
Total Operating Revenues	\$10,033,572	\$11,195,087

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Program Services			
Employment and Training	2,350,618	1,943,819	
Refugee/Social Services	3,903,620	4,679,315	
Translation Services	1,253,070	1,391,999	
Supporting Services			
Management and General	1,118,078	1,404,992	
Fundraising	293,229	426,012	
Total Operating Expenses	\$8,918,614	\$9,846,137	
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	1,114,959	1,348,949	
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions	663,924	580,928	
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	7,600,601	5,670,724	
Net Assets, End of Year	\$9,379,484	\$7,600,601	





#### PROGRAM SERVICES Education

Citizenship and Immigration	16.2%
Refugee/Social Services	35.8%
Interpretation and Translation	16.7%
Total	100%

31.3%

We thank all of the generous donors, supporters, and in-kind donors who helped to make a collective impact this past fiscal year. We are also incredibly grateful for our ever-passionate staff and community partners, with whom our work would not be possible. Additionally, we are incredibly appreciative of our dedicated volunteers who **collectively** donated nearly ten thousand hours of their time to help us help others when and where it was needed most. Your commitment and support are beyond meaningful. Thank you!

#### \$100.000-\$500.000

The Champlin Foundation Papitto Opportunity Connection Rhode Island Foundation Rhode Island Bar Foundation – IOLTA

#### \$50.000 to \$99.999 Island Foundation

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#### Honorary Gifts

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In Honor of Eric Anderson lames Roehm

In Honor of Tom & Barbara Hall Charles and Jane Shaw

In Honor of Emily Bernstein Luann and David Keizer

In Honor of Patrick Burns Anthony and Paula Milano

In Honor of Allan and Cathi Stebinger Peter Stebinger In Honor of Kathleen Cloutier Sandra and James Rosenberg

In Honor of Kathleen Cloutier and Julie Cofone Elizabeth and Charlie Bakst

In Honor of The Brown University Co-Curricular team **Betsy Schimberg** 

In Honor of Lo Crossgrove Kirsten Crossgrove

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In Honor of James Estey Jeremy Estey Michelle Enos and Jonathan Estey Judy Estey

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In Honor of Elizabeth Nestor

In Honor of Rhode Island Resilience Project

In Honor of Michael | White

In Honor of Ukrainian families being settled by Dorcas Amitabh Sheth

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