

2025 Impact Report

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

holding fast to
a shared vision:
*a world where everyone
has food, voice and a
safe place to call home*

Message from the Director

Dear friends,

This year has felt like a two-part story, full of both highs and lows. Through it all, your support has kept our mission alive: welcoming refugees and immigrants to North Carolina.

Between July and December 2024, our CWS offices in Burlington, Durham, Greensboro, and Wilmington worked with the U.S. State Department and partners across the country to rebuild the refugee resettlement program. Because of these efforts, the United States welcomed 100,000 refugees between October 2023 and September 2024. Many were family members of people already here, Afghan allies, and others who had waited for decades for their chance to arrive. **In November and December alone, our staff and volunteers welcomed almost 400 refugees to North Carolina, working day and night knowing that the door might soon close.**

Then everything changed in January. In my 11 years at CWS, I have never seen such strong actions taken against refugees, the non-profits that serve them, and the communities that welcome them. Federal funding was frozen. The United States Refugee Admissions Program was stopped. Contracts were canceled. In early February, these policies together created a cash flow crisis that forced us to furlough two-thirds of our team. [Because government funding works on a reimbursement model, CWS and other non-profits front a lot of money to administer those programs, with the assumption that we'll be reimbursed in a timely manner. It wasn't until May that we finally received funds for work we had done as far back as December.]

Your quick and generous gifts to our emergency appeal made sure families stayed fed, housed, and able to work. **You helped us keep going right here in Greensboro.**

The cash flow crisis has passed, but big changes remain that impact funding and the larger social service sector. Refugees who once qualified for food stamps are no longer eligible—with a loss of Medicaid to follow. Funding for legal help has been cut. And increased immigration enforcement activities in North Carolina have created real fear across immigrant communities. For the first time, refugees are calling our office and asking, "Is it safe to leave my house?"

These months have been heavy. But I am inspired—by the courage of immigrants and by the kindness of neighbors like you. Your everyday acts of endurance, advocacy, hospitality, and generosity hold fast to a shared vision: a world where every person has food, voice and a safe place to call home.

With gratitude and hope,



Megan Shepard
CWS North Carolina State Director &
Greensboro Office Director

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What did good neighbors do this year?

\$700,000+

private contributions

126

volunteers

24

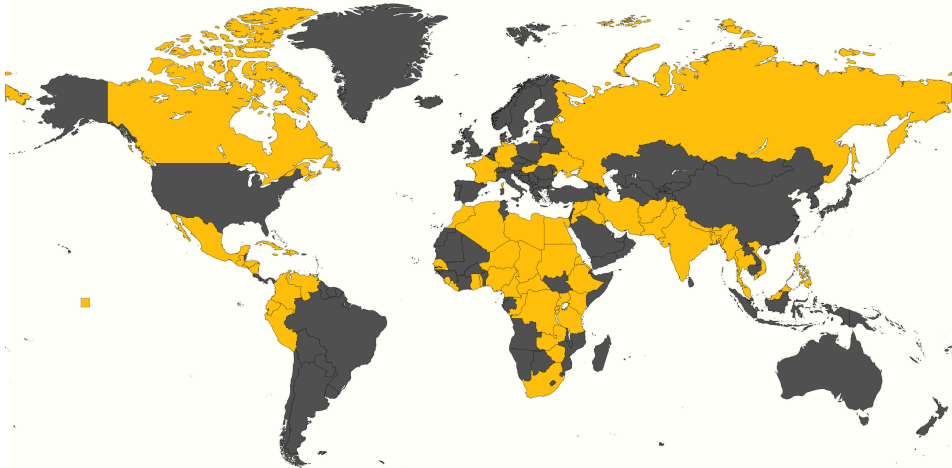
home set-ups

\$415,000+

in-kind donations

...and so much more.

Who are our new neighbors?



63

countries of origin

1,700+

total immigrants served

195

resettled refugees

78%

women & children

\$45,912

granted through the Triad Immigrant Solidarity Fund



provided immigration legal services to **1,164 individuals**, including green card, citizenship, asylum, & family reunification applications



served **134 children & youth** through legal representation in immigration court & **114 unaccompanied minors** through Know Your Rights trainings & legal screenings



provided individual & group therapy and healthcare navigation to **170 individuals**



assisted with **215** job placements

\$15.49

avg starting wage



provided intensive case management to **254** refugees



provided comprehensive career development support for **78** refugees, including assisting **31** individuals to enroll in vocational training programs

✓

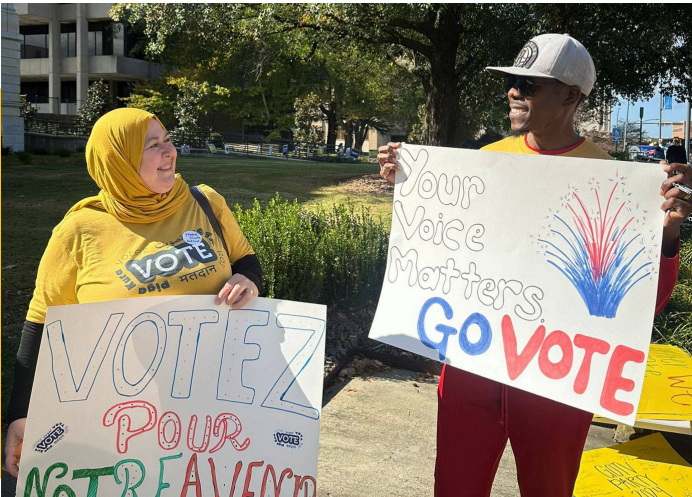
mobilized **2,188** new **American citizens** in North Carolina through tabling, canvassing, & phone banking to exercise their voice and vote

✓

hosted 9 community-based Know Your Rights trainings in **8 languages**

✓

organized **23** meetings between refugee leaders and local, state, and federal elected officials to advocate for pro-immigrant policies



Thank you for helping to create a more welcoming North Carolina!

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