

2017

Executive Summary

world relief®

SEATTLE



This past Thanksgiving, my family's home was full of food and joy. People from all corners of the earth joined our table. One of our guests was Srinivasan, a refugee from Sri Lanka. His journey to the United States lasted more than two years and spanned four continents. After spending over 9 months in the Northwest Immigration Detention Center, he was released and joined us for his first ever Thanksgiving.

Because of your generous partnership, Srinivasan was warmly welcomed to the Seattle area. He has been rooted in his new community through our English Language Learning program and recently found his first job with the help of our Employment Team.

2017 was one of the most challenging years for refugee resettlement and for World Relief Seattle. Executive orders threatened our ability to welcome refugees and left tens of thousands of the world's most vulnerable stranded. But the unprecedented response of friends like you has allowed us not only to continue welcoming newcomers, but also to see them rooted and empowered in new ways. Read through the following pages for a glimpse of your impact in the lives of your refugee and immigrant neighbors!



Chitra, right, and Taghreed, a former Iraqi refugee, volunteered together at a community garden work day last fall.

2018 will certainly have its challenges. We will not be daunted by these challenges, but will continue to boldly confront injustice and to walk steadily with newcomers. We cannot do this work without you. We are so grateful for your partnership this past year and I look forward to seeing your joyful smiles at our office, your notes of encouragement in the mail, and your continued financial partnership

Chitra Hanstad,

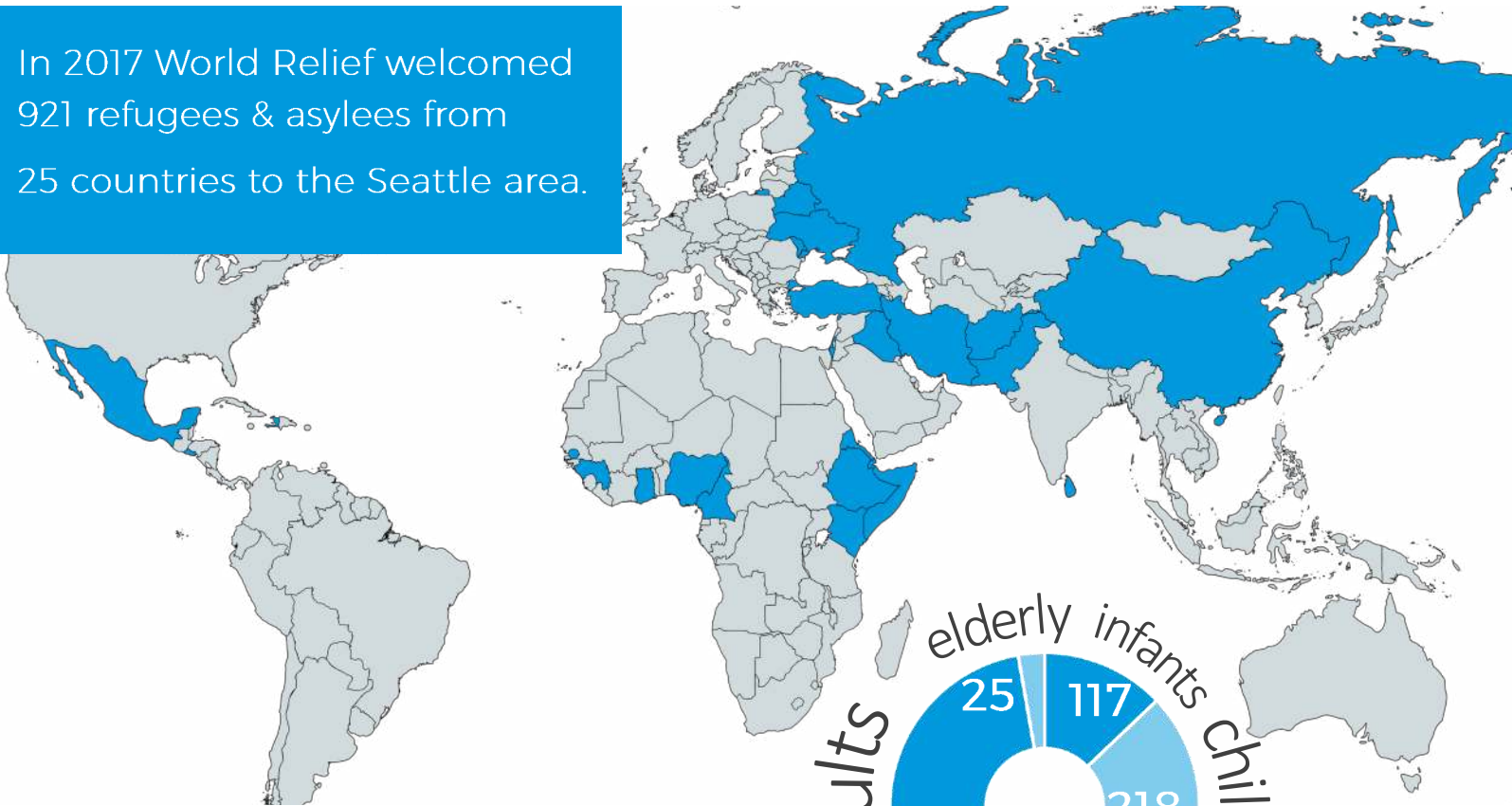
Executive Director

We envision every refugee & vulnerable immigrant welcomed by community, rooted in community, and empowered for community.

In 2017 you helped us build on our longstanding tradition of welcoming refugees to reach more foreign-born neighbors with a broader scope of services. This expansion is the result of prayerful and prudent discernment, and is reflected in our new vision statement.

Welcomed by Community

In 2017 World Relief welcomed 921 refugees & asylees from 25 countries to the Seattle area.



476 people arrived from Ukraine

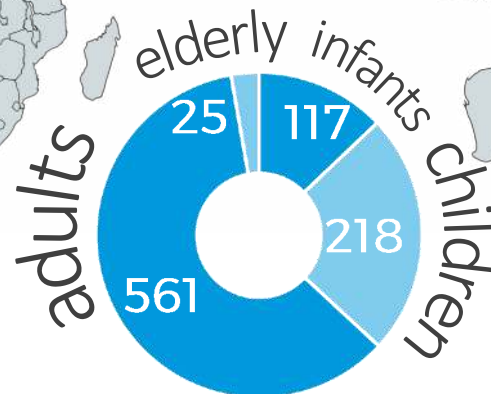
Folks from the former Soviet Union represent religious minorities and are often Evangelical or Pentacostal Christians.

225 people arrived from Afghanistan

Afghans in the resettlement program became targets at home due to their alliance with the U.S.

We welcomed 63 asylees in 2017

Asylees must prove to the Department of Justice that their own country is unable or unwilling to protect them from persecution.



4 local churches launched *Good Neighbor Teams*, each taking responsibility for the details of a family's resettlement, including housing, community orientation, help with the job search, and much more.

12 donated cars were provided to families with special transportation needs.

Rooted in Community



- 320 people got jobs with 188 companies
- 34 kids participated in Summer Camp
- 66% of English learners achieved a full level gain within 6 weeks of English class
- 86 families were paired with volunteers

World Relief's Summer Camp focuses on English, cultural orientation, social skills and school-readiness for refugee and immigrant kids



Empowered for Community



We are thrilled to pour into the inherent resiliency of newcomers through the Women's Sewing Class, the Paradise Plots Community Garden, and expanded Legal Services.

Stay tuned for more in 2018!

Mursal (pictured) arrived to Washington in January 2017 with her husband and 3-year old twin daughters. With little English, no experience driving, and limited work experience, she faced an uphill climb.

Because of your support, Mursal was able to join the first ever cohort of WRS's Refugee Women's Sewing Class, hosted in partnership with Hillside Church in Kent.

After graduating the 6-week course, she moved on to an industrial sewing program in Seattle. Mursal's husband changed his work schedule and drove her to and from her program every day. Alongside World Relief's employment team, Mursal quickly secured a job at Kotis Design, a local apparel design company.

Today, Mursal is working full-time and has helped two other Afghan women find employment at Kotis. And what's more, she now has her driver's license and is teaching another Afghan woman to drive! Your investment in WRS's work is empowering women like Mursal to continue the important work of welcoming other newcomers into the community.

"I found a lot of friends here and now we are very close friends.

***Every day I come [to sewing class], I love it."* -Mursal**

Fiscal Recap

*Thank you for
supporting
local refugees!*

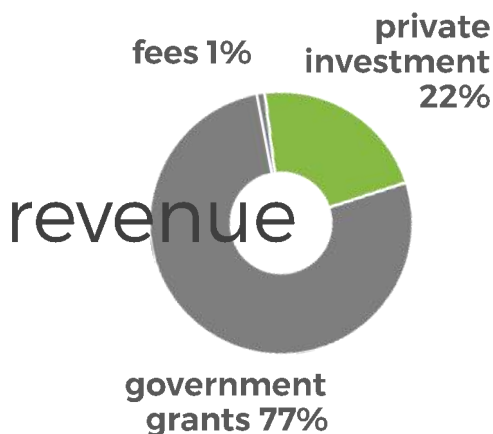
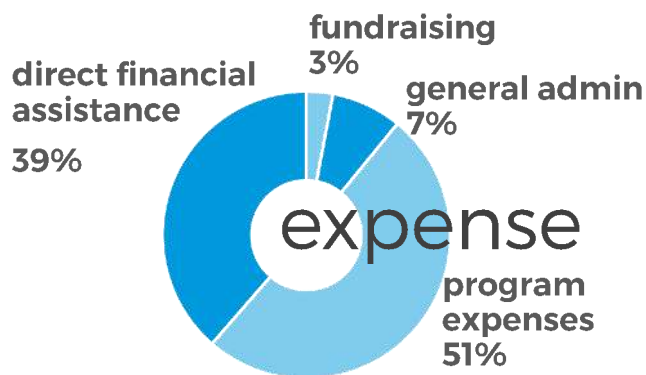
revenue \$5,013,275

expense \$4,561,409

\$1M \$2M \$3M \$4M \$5M

We're deeply grateful for friends like you who helped double our income from private sources from 2016 to 2017.

Your unprecedented generosity helps diversify our funding streams and better equips us to absorb anticipated drops in government funding in 2018.



private investment

FY 2017 \$1,095,362

FY 2016 \$507,553

\$200K \$400K \$600K \$800K \$1M

World Relief's fiscal year runs from October through September.



I'd like to continue to support the work of World Relief Seattle with a gift of \$_____

Name: _____

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Billing address

☐

☐

☐

☐


Card number _____

exp: ____/____ CVV _____ signature: _____

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or give online at worldreliefseattle.org