



Executive Summary 2021

world relief 
SEATTLE

Friends,

When we were forced by the pandemic in March of 2020 to close our office and move to remote services, we did not anticipate it to last for years.

Throughout 2021, many of our services remained remote, but our commitment to serving refugee and immigrant program participants did not waver. Rather, with your support, we expanded our efforts to see every refugee and immigrant welcomed by, rooted in, and empowered for community.

In 2021, as our operations grew, our dedicated and committed staff sought better ways to bring services to our participants. Our entrepreneurship academy launched and helped many immigrant businesses thrive. Our legal and immigration services grew threefold and grew in direct client representation.

Thanks to the accessibility of an online format, English students participated more fully in classes - even after finding work or while caring for kids at home.

Our resettlement department responded to Afghan Operation Allies and welcomed twice the number of arrivals in the last quarter of 2021 than we received in all of 2020. We also opened an additional location in Whatcom County that is already welcoming Afghan arrivals.

At World Relief Seattle, we believe that to change and fix our broken world, collaboration through meaningful relationships is essential. And in 2021, you all stepped into the gap to show that we are a welcoming community.

You have answered the call to volunteer, donate household items, and become financial supporters. You have advocated, prayed, and stood with us through this year. We could not have asked for better community support - thank you!

As we move into 2022 and as I step into the Executive Director role, I want to express my gratitude for the incredible leadership of Chitra, my predecessor. We reflect on all that we have accomplished as a community in 2021, and invite you with renewed commitment and dedication, to join us in seeing every refugee and immigrant welcomed by, rooted in, and empowered for community.

Peace,



Medard Ngueita
Executive Director



[We] welcomed twice the number of arrivals in the last quarter of 2021 than we received in all of 2020



We had the pleasure of working with people from 87 countries around the world. Here's a look at who came through our doors in 2021!

● **Resettlement:** we resettled 608 refugees and asylees from 12 countries.

● **Employment:** 427 people from 33 countries accessed employment services such as help finding a job or accessing unemployment benefits during the pandemic.

● **ESL:** 276 individuals from 26 countries expanded their language skills through English classes

● **Legal Services:** 826 people from 72 countries accessed immigration legal services.

○ **Post-Release Services:** Alongside AIDNW, we served 312 formerly detained immigrants from 38 countries outside of the ICE processing facility in Tacoma.

● **Youth:** 268 children from 12 countries participated in youth programming, such as Refugee Youth Summer Academy, Family Literacy Class, and a new family support program.



Refugee youth engaged in creative, academic, and athletic activities at the Summer Academy and also strengthened their English skills.



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

Our vision is accomplished through five strategic pillars that are inspired and informed by the refugees, immigrants, and partners in our community. Individuals and families often engage with multiple pillars through their journey of resettlement in Western Washington. What does this look like for Afghan refugees, who made up 86% of World Relief Seattle's arrivals in 2021?

I - Welcome & Community Integration

In 2021, World Relief resettled 532 individuals who fled persecution in Afghanistan. Many accessed integration services such as English classes, interpretation for appointments, and transportation assistance. But many still await permanent housing due to increased costs of living and limited available units.

II - Next Generation

For all Afghan arrivals, our team has offered family literacy classes, in-home early learning support, and a youth summer academy. For those with permanent housing, World Relief has assisted with school enrollment. For many families, school is a top priority, reiterating the need for quicker placement in housing.



III - Immigration Legal Services & Justice

As the crisis in Afghanistan unfolded, World Relief offered legal services that helped many families reunite with loved ones. Additionally, 312 Afghans that we resettled in 2021 only had a temporary status under the APA program. Legal services will continue to support them as they pursue a route to permanent residence.

IV - Economic Empowerment

World Relief offers Afghans employment support including initial connections to sustainable employment, resume and application support, and English skills for the work place. We also support alternative income streams through garden plots, specialized job training, and support for refugee-owned businesses.

V - Spiritual Care

Our case management team aims to provide holistic care and resources, including helping connect Afghans to their own faith communities in their new cities. We also invite you to pray with us for our new Afghan neighbors and for the situation in Afghanistan - for safety, justice, and peace.

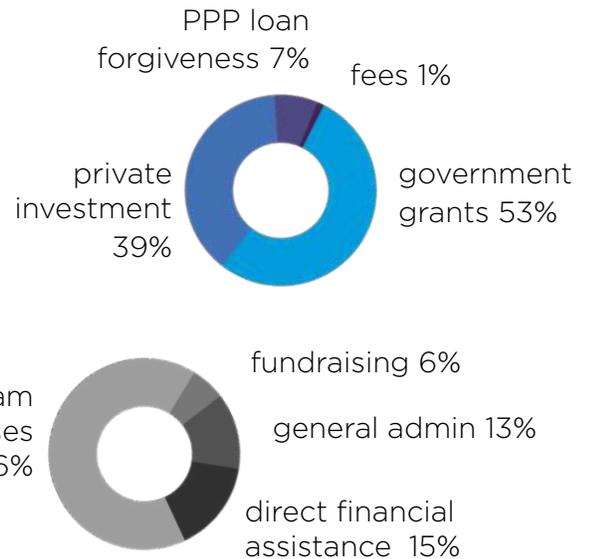


Fiscal Recap

World Relief's fiscal year runs from October through September

revenue	\$5,963,904
expense	\$4,793,280

We have seen a steady increase in the percentage of our funding from private sources - from 10% in 2015 to nearly 40% in 2021. This diversification of funding provides financial stability and strengthens our programmatic goals, and it would not be possible without partners like you! Thank you for your commitment to welcoming refugees and immigrants in Western Washington.

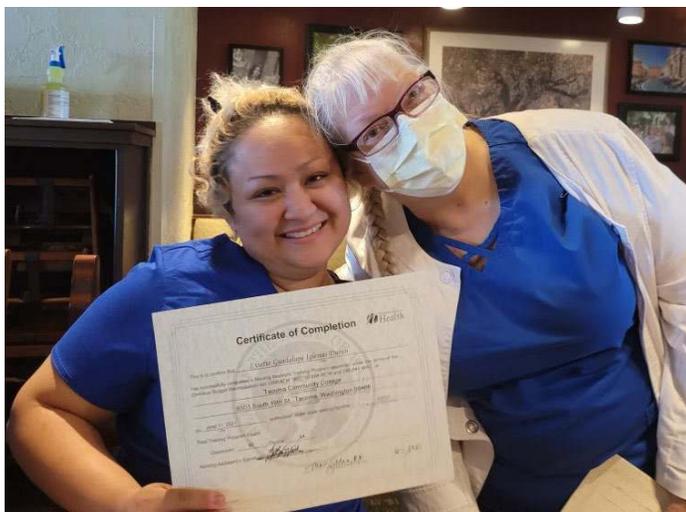


Lyssette's Story

When Lyssette was first referred to World Relief in 2020, she was in the midst of a years-long journey of fleeing violence. With each attempt to reach a safe home and community, she only found a temporary welcome that soon turned into exploitation, abuse, and even trafficking. *"I was running away; I was pregnant; I didn't have money; I didn't have any safe place. It was awful."*

Despite having barriers at every turn, Lyssette kept seeking new opportunities for her two sons to have the safety and security that she was robbed of. *"The hope inside me said 'look forward',"* she shared.

So, when Lyssette was granted asylum and connected to World Relief's extended casework program, she had an ambitious goal: complete a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program and get a job.



Lyssette became a Certified Nursing Assistant in June 2021

As an unemployed adult with two children to care for in the middle of the pandemic, achieving this goal seemed near impossible while maintaining basic needs. But through supplemental support from World Relief, Lyssette maintained housing payments during her 6-month CNA program and provided for her children.

In June 2021, Lyssette completed her CNA program and quickly secured employment in her field; *"I found a job. I found a place to live with my kids - safe without any danger... I have the opportunity to start in the workforce in a competitive career. I can tell you with confidence: I feel my life's purpose because of what I do. I enjoy being with my patients. I enjoy helping others."*

Lyssette received a warm welcome from our community and now she has rooted herself in our community with a safe home, and is empowered for community as she works alongside her neighbors.

Your donation helps build a safe, welcoming community in Western Washington. Set up a monthly donation or make a one-time gift at worldrelief.org/seattle.

"I found a job. I found a place to live with my kids - safe without any violence, without any danger"