

Friends of Refugees

2024
ANNUAL
REPORT



OUR MISSION:
TO HELP REFUGEES
BUILD ABUNDANT NEW
LIVES IN AMERICA

OUR VISION:
NEW AMERICANS
FLOURISHING AS OUR
NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS

WHO WE *Are*

A faith-based non-profit in Clarkston, Georgia, we serve as a trusted and caring navigator for refugee families on their journey to abundant new life in America as our neighbors and friends.

WHO WE *Serve*

We work with legally resettled refugees fleeing war, violence or persecution in their home countries. After unspeakable hardships, years in refugee camps, and more years of U.S. government vetting, these families are building a whole new life in an unfamiliar place.

HOW WE *Help*

After government-sponsored resettlement services end, the real challenges of building a new life often begin. Our unique "wrap-around" approach embraces each refugee family on the path to long-term success as American citizens.

LEARN MORE



LANGUAGE & LITERACY

English proficiency opens educational, social, and economic opportunities that are key to healthy cultural integration into American life.

1,293 HOURS

of Family Support Services

**83%
RETENTION RATE**

387 INDIVIDUALS

served in calendar year 2024

On average, women improved their English comprehension scores by

MORE THAN 30%

"Mommy and Me has helped me a lot. We learn English and my children learn and also change a lot. My children read books together now. Now when I go to my children's school I can write my name and my children's names and address. **I can solve some of these big problems better by myself.**"

HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS

Jolly Avenue Garden enriches the lives of refugee families by providing a safe space to grow nutritious food and build genuine community.

OVER 1,000 LBS

of fresh produce distributed to families at the Winter Festival

**157
GARDENERS**

in 2024



**COMPLETED 3
MAJOR PROJECTS:**

1
INSTALLED RAINWATER
COLLECTION CISTERNS

2
PROVIDED ELECTRICITY
TO THE GARDENERS' SHED

3
IMPROVED WATER ACCESS
WITH SPOUTS, LINES, AND A SINK

CHILDBIRTH & MATERNAL HEALTH

Embrace guides refugee women before, during and after childbirth through maternal health education, wrap-around support, and a caring community.

76 POSTPARTUM HOME VISITS

by staff to mothers and babies

759 DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS

supported

207 WOMEN

attended peer support groups

132 GRADUATES

from our Healthy Moms Course



"[Embrace's] programs helped me to come out of a long-term depression that I was suffering from. I am so humbled that now I am a certified community health worker because of Embrace!

Oh, what a blessing!"

– Elizabeth

EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We empower refugees through employment opportunities and provide career-relevant certifications, continued education, professional development, and connect local entrepreneurs with community partners to help them flourish.

Fareshta dreamed of launching her own catering business. Through career coaching and involvement in Start:ME—an entrepreneurship program in partnership with Emory University—she brought her vision to life with Baran Kabab and won the Community Impact Award!

"All this progress has been possible through my work with Friends of Refugees."



17 HEALTH INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

earned by New American staff

27 MEN

completed a 6-month Financial Literacy Course

53% OF OUR STAFF

are New Americans

**Friends
of Refugees**

2024
Funding

2%
OTHER SOURCES

3%
DONATED GOODS

53% FOUNDATIONS

**\$2.5
MILLION**
TOTAL REVENUE

29%
INDIVIDUALS

9%
FAITH
COMMUNITIES

4% BUSINESSES

OVER
3200
PEOPLE IMPACTED



OVER
850
VOLUNTEERS

*Thank
You*

**WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO THE PARTNERS,
SPONSORS, AND DONORS WHO MADE OUR
WORK POSSIBLE IN 2024. YOUR GENEROSITY
EMPOWERS REFUGEES TO FLOURISH! WE ARE
PROUD TO HIGHLIGHT OUR TOP 50 SUPPORTERS!**



ABA
All Souls Fellowship
Anonymous
Apostolic Christian Harvest Call
Atlanta Botanical Garden
Bacon's Castle Baptist Church
Bill Hoyt
CDC Foundation
Chet and Lee Beth Burge
Daniel and Lauren Allman
David and Jaime Jones
Decatur City Church:
Be Rich Campaign
EZ Agape Foundation
Georgia Power Foundation, Inc.
Greg and Whitney Skowronski
Helen and Mark Shuford
Intown Community Church

Jason and Jessica Gaby
Jeffrey and Juli Able
Jeffrey and Patricia Pukatch
Jesse Parker Williams Foundation
Jim and Susan Spratt
John and Pam Pitt
Joni and John Per-Lee
Kairos Church
Kelly Ribes
Margaret Graff and Richard Higgins
Martha and Kelly Bissell
Mary Allen Lindsey Branan
Foundation
MASCO Corporation
McMaster-Carr Supply Company
Mindy Zatto
Nalini Prema
North Avenue Presbyterian Church

Pamela and Louis Battey
Passion City Church
Price Gilbert, Jr. Charitable Fund
Purisolve
Rita Sislen
Sartain Lanier Family Foundation
Scott Hudgens Family
Foundation, Inc.
Suzanne and Lawrence Morris
The AEC Trust
The Chestnut Family Foundation
The Community Foundation for
Greater Atlanta, Inc.
The Ghanta Family Foundation
The Hawkins Foundation
Tiffany and Matt Alley
Waterfall Foundation, Inc.
William and Carolyn Baker