Ukrainian refugees arrived at the Lviv train station in Ukraine. (Paula Bronstein for HIAS)

Cover: Oleg Razvadovsky poses with his partner Victoria Gura and their daughter Aryna, 9, inside the university shelter where they have lived since April 2022 after their home was destroyed in Ukraine’s Donetsk district. (Paula Bronstein for HIAS)

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Dear Friends,

We began last year’s letter by saying that the need for HIAS’ work has never been greater. Unfortunately, in 2022, the need has become greater still. According to the UNHCR, forced displacement worldwide grew 21% last year, and, as of this writing, exceeds 110 million people — a record.

2022 will forever be remembered as the year the war in Ukraine began. The still-ongoing conflict displaced a third of the country’s population and triggered the worst refugee crisis in Europe in generations, as more than eight million Ukrainians sought refuge in other countries. As an organization with deep roots in the country, HIAS was able to respond to the crisis with speed and effectiveness. Right to Protection (R2P), a Ukrainian organization founded by HIAS in 2014, grew nearly tenfold in 2022, providing essential services to displaced populations throughout the country.

To help those fleeing Ukraine, HIAS established offices in Poland, Romania, and Moldova and set up programs with local partners to assist the influx of refugees arriving in those countries. And after the successful launch of Welcome Circles, a program which has opened opportunities throughout the country for congregations and other groups to welcome a refugee family into the local community in the United States, HIAS introduced the program to Europe in partnership with our sister organization, HIAS Europe. More than 10 countries across the continent have participated in the program.

The war in Ukraine added to an already daunting set of displacement crises around the world. HIAS, for its part, has never been better equipped to respond. Our deeply experienced emergency team has reacted to crises around the world, particularly in Chad, whose population of refugees swelled following civil conflict in neighboring Sudan. HIAS has also responded in the aftermath of a flooding disaster in Chad and an earthquake in Ecuador.

Across the Americas, HIAS works with refugees and displaced populations in eleven countries, helping transform lives through innovative programs in economic assistance, legal services, psychological support, and the prevention of gender-based violence. We have also positioned ourselves as an effective advocate for more humane treatment of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers along the U.S.-Mexico border and have worked to achieve legal status for Afghans brought to the United States following Kabul’s fall to the Taliban in 2021. Our work has benefited from activating networks of rabbis and other Jewish community leaders across the country who have devoted significant time and energy to assist in our cause.

In the pages that follow, you’ll be able to access more details about our remarkable work across the world. At a time when the needs of refugees and displaced people continue to grow, HIAS’ work is testament to the Jewish tradition of welcoming the stranger. We are most grateful for your support and hope that together, we can continue to work to improve the lives of the many displaced persons around the world who need our help.

Mark Hetfield
President & CEO

Jeff Blattner
Chairman of the Board
Introduction

HIAS stands for a world in which refugees find welcome, safety, and opportunity.

Drawing on our Jewish values and history, as well as on humanitarian principles, HIAS provides vital services to refugees and asylum seekers around the world and advocates for their fundamental rights so they can rebuild their lives.
HIAS Impact in 2022

Global Humanitarian Assistance to Refugees

- People reached through services including legal counseling, economic inclusion, protection from gender-based violence, community-based mental health, and psychosocial support: **1,348,700**

- Refugees resettled across the U.S. through HIAS’ resettlement network: **4,744**

- The number of individuals to whom food was distributed globally: **500,000**

- The number of service providers and officials trained: **31,000**

Ukraine Crisis Response

- People reached through emergency response activities in Ukraine, Poland, Moldova, and Romania: **281,400**

- Ukrainians relocated from Poland and Moldova to Europe, Canada, and the U.S.: **324**

- Ukrainian refugees in Europe integrated with the assistance of 112 Jewish volunteers: **251**

Humanitarian Programming Reach

- Humanitarian programs support in operational countries around the world: Aruba, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, Moldova, Panama, Poland, Peru, Romania, Ukraine, United States, and Venezuela: **20 operational countries with 182 locations**

- Refugees resettled across the U.S. through HIAS’ resettlement network: **4,744**

- The number of individuals to whom food was distributed globally: **500,000**

- The number of service providers and officials trained: **31,000**
No event in 2022 had more of an impact on the global refugee situation than the war in Ukraine. HIAS responded to the crisis on an unprecedented scale, launching new country offices and sending funding to our long-term partner in the region, Right to Protection (R2P). Our work in response to the war supported thousands of displaced people both in and out of Ukraine.
Large-Scale Action

No single event in 2022 proved more consequential for refugees worldwide than the full-scale war in Ukraine. The ongoing crisis that began on February 24 has forced one third of Ukraine’s population from their homes and driven more than seven million out of the country. Millions more have required assistance and protection amid a protracted, violent conflict that has left the entire population of Ukraine uncertain about its future.

For HIAS, the war in Ukraine required large-scale, coordinated action. HIAS re-established a country office in Ukraine and sent emergency funding to Right to Protection (R2P), its longtime partner in the country. Staff members, many of whom were themselves displaced by the conflict, provided legal assistance, distributed cash, essential food and equipment, and operated a hotline to offer information about services, evacuation, and refugee status.

R2P has experienced intense growth, from 140 members of staff in early 2022 to over 1,200 in 2023, with its budget expanding seventy-fold. It’s an expansion fueled by HIAS’ commitment to investing in local organizations and local staff who are best positioned to address problems in their own communities. HIAS Ukraine, meanwhile, quickly assembled a team of 82 people to respond to the needs of displaced people in three locations in the western part of the country. In Ukraine’s east, HIAS launched a women and girls fund supporting 20 women-led organizations. Beyond Ukraine itself, HIAS established new offices in Poland, Romania, and Moldova, providing essential mental health services and meeting the ongoing needs of vulnerable Ukrainians — including women and girls, children separated from caregivers, LGBTQ individuals, and people with disabilities — who face additional risks and barriers to care.

A New Life Abroad

One such person is Marina Yaraliieva, who fled Kharkiv with her nine-year-old son, Varlaam, two weeks after the war broke out. They chose to resettle in Galati, a city in eastern Romania, near the border with Moldova and Ukraine, because it was not too far from home. One other thing made Galati attractive: it had a strong youth hockey team.

Yaraliieva was able to get the assistance she needed from Help Ukrainians, a HIAS partner. Help Ukrainians has provided relief for Ukrainian refugees in eastern Romania since the early days of the war, and together with HIAS, helps Ukrainian children integrate into the local community through sports.

Sports are often a natural way for newcomers to feel like they’re a part of a community and, for Varlaam, hockey has been a vital source of comfort for overcoming the trauma of war and displacement.

Thanks to the program, Varlaam, like other Ukrainian hockey players in Galati, is now fully integrated into the team and has made many friends.

A Home in Israel

In 2022, HIAS also provided vital services for over 10,000 Ukrainians seeking refuge in Israel. Many Ukrainians, even some with relatives in Israel, were initially denied entry. HIAS Israel’s legal team was flooded with calls for assistance, mostly from family members who were trying to reunite with their children who fled the war. For example, a brother and sister fled their home in Ukraine and took a 12-hour bus ride to Poland, to board a flight to Israel, where their mother lives. But they were refused entry because their mother is undocumented. The teens were nearly expelled from the country, but HIAS’ legal team worked through the night to file an appeal in district court.

“We did not have any hope,” their mother said. “Without HIAS’ help, my kids would be alone in the world. All my life I will pray to God for you, for bringing me back my kids, my life.”
Emergency Response

From severe flooding in Chad to the war in Ukraine to the migration crisis in Latin America, HIAS’ Emergency Response department has made a significant impact on our work around the world. Established in 2021, the department has swiftly become an essential component of our global presence.
Chad Flooding

In July 2022, torrential rains in Chad caused severe flooding that damaged houses, destroyed businesses, ravaged agricultural land, and left entire neighborhoods under water. Nearly 750,000 people were affected by the floods, and communities across the country became vulnerable to water-borne diseases, particularly cholera, due to a lack of sanitation. In the Koukou Angarana region of eastern Chad, where HIAS works in the Goz Amir refugee camp, more than 1,000 households were left reeling from the destruction. The flooding in Chad worsened when heavy rains in September caused the Chari and Logone rivers (which meet in Chad’s capital, N’Djamena) to overflow, forcing thousands more to seek shelter.

In the immediate aftermath of the flooding, HIAS distributed food, sandbags, tents, blankets, plastic sheeting, and mosquito nets. At two affected sites in Chad, Koundoul and Ngueili Pont, HIAS staff provided mental health services, referred cases for medical and legal services, conducted workshops about gender-based violence, and distributed food and vital equipment. The 2022 floods in Chad have left the headlines, yet the affected population continues to require assistance — help that HIAS remains committed to provide.

Emergency Department

Established in 2021, the Emergency Department works closely with HIAS’ executive leadership team and country and regional offices to determine when to declare an official emergency. Once declared, money from the Emergency Response Fund can be earmarked to quickly provide start-up funding to support HIAS’ operations in a crisis. In addition to providing humanitarian aid, the emergency response team designs programs that attract additional funding from donors.

HIAS’ Emergency Department proved instrumental during a number of crises in 2022, a year in which the number of refugees worldwide grew to 110 million, the highest total ever. At the beginning of the year, in Chad, the department provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) as well as gender-based violence (GBV) prevention services to over 10,000 Sudanese refugees. And when the Israeli government granted temporary residence status to 2,445 additional displaced Sudanese, HIAS emergency response funding allowed the organization to expand its legal services to this population.

From Ukraine to the Darién

No challenge tested HIAS’ capacity to respond to emergencies more than the war in Ukraine, which began in February 2022, triggering Europe’s largest refugee crisis in generations and displacing millions from their homes. HIAS’ Emergency Department provided immediate assistance, helping HIAS staff and partners provide the organization’s unique blend of services to those affected by the war. In addition to supporting displaced people within Ukraine, HIAS also supported those forced to flee to Poland, Moldova, and Romania, countries that took in large numbers of refugees.

HIAS’ emergency response to the migration crisis in Latin America, where hundreds of thousands pass through the perilous Darién Gap on uncertain journeys north, was no less impactful. In Honduras, HIAS worked with Funadeh, a local partner, to guarantee a safe return to communities affected by the floods generated by storms Ian and Julia.

A robust Emergency Department adds an entirely new dimension to HIAS, an organization steeped in over a century of history. It means that increased numbers of displaced people can obtain assistance from our core programs at the time of their greatest need, while ensuring that they continue to get help well after the emergency ends. The prevalence of war and natural disasters around the world means that demand for these services will remain high into the future.

In the Koukou Angarana region in eastern Chad, where HIAS works in the Goz Amir refugee camp, more than 1,000 households were affected by severe flooding at the end of July, 2022. (HIAS)

A HIAS staffer played with a migrant child during a group conversation inside the HIAS support tent in the migration reception center of Lajas Blancas, Darién province, Panama. (Tarina Rodriguez for HIAS)
Private Sponsorship

Established in 2021 to resettle Afghan evacuees in the U.S. following the Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan, HIAS’ Welcome Circles program grew in 2022 to assist those displaced by another crisis: the war in Ukraine. The program has attracted hundreds of volunteers across the United States and, more recently, expanded its footprint in Europe.

Arleen Zucker, left, and Tamila Kushnarova share a smile and embrace while saying goodbye following a Welcome Circle visit to Tamila’s home in Portland, Oregon, USA. Zucker was one of five Welcome Circle members visiting. (Katharine Kimball for HIAS)
Welcome Circles

Across the United States and Europe, volunteers are stepping up to support their new neighbors through HIAS Welcome Circles — groups of individuals who provide financial, resettlement, and emotional support to newly arrived refugees and other displaced people. Circles can be formed by a synagogue, organization, community center, or other faith or interfaith community, or they can be made up of private individuals. While the vast majority of HIAS’ resettlement work is carried out by our network of 29 resettlement partners across the U.S., Welcome Circles allow HIAS to expand our capacity and provide an avenue for communities to directly assist their new neighbors in successfully restarting their lives.

HIAS initially adopted Welcome Circles — our implementation of the national Sponsor Circle Program — in the United States in 2021 to bolster the country’s capacity to resettle Afghan evacuees following the Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan. In 2022, this program expanded to assist those fleeing the war in Ukraine. By the end of the year, HIAS had established 85 Welcome Circles across 20 states. These Welcome Circles are led by over 600 volunteers, each of whom took a firsthand role in the resettlement and integration of over 60 Afghan and Ukrainian families in their communities and set them on a course to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity.

In St. Louis, Mo., the Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle welcomed Anisa*, Samir*, and their four children in early 2022 after they fled Afghanistan. The circle, which draws its members from a local synagogue, church, and Turkish cultural group, has worked hard to help the family lay down roots in a new country. Anisa, who was a doctor in Afghanistan, is employed at a local hospital and is learning to drive — something she could not do in her home country. The children are in school and thriving, and the oldest child in the family has taken an active role in welcoming a new neighbor from Ukraine to his school.

“Everything that a person, a family [needs], they help us with,” said Anisa. “All of the team, they work with us very hard. We found a new family in St. Louis.”

2022 marked another major milestone for Welcome Circles: The model was adapted and launched in Europe to assist those fleeing Ukraine. By year’s end, 11 Welcome Circle communities across 10 European countries were hosting approximately 300 Ukrainian beneficiaries.

One refugee who has benefited from HIAS’ European Welcome Circles program is 37-year-old Ukrainian Anastasiia Ponomarenko. When the war began last February, she initially sought shelter from bombs and missiles in her mother’s tiny apartment in Kyiv, where the family did little but follow the news, too terrified to eat or sleep.

Around a month after the war began, Anastasia decided to flee Ukraine and make the arduous journey to Poland. Once she made it to Warsaw, Anastasia got in touch with HIAS, who helped her relocate to Brussels and connected her to a couple, Talia and Bernard Dan, Welcome Circle volunteers who soon became like family to Anastasia.

“They are the most beautiful people I have ever seen,” she said of them. “They are amazing. They helped me with everything.”

In a time when more than 110 million people have been forcibly displaced, it is the combined efforts of communities like these that have provided enormous relief to refugees across the U.S. and Europe. Welcome Circles helped plant a seed that has since grown to broader adoption of private sponsorship of refugees in the United States through the U.S. government’s Welcome Corps initiative, which is built off the direct learnings of the Sponsor Circle Program pilot. HIAS’ expertise in this field has been acknowledged by our invitation to co-chair the Private Sponsorship Organization Council in the new Welcome Corps.

*Pseudonyms used for clients’ protection.
Key Activities

In 2022, spurred by ongoing crises in Afghanistan and Ukraine, HIAS refugee resettlement in the U.S. grew 38%. The year also saw the resumption of in-person delegations of rabbis and other Jewish community leaders to the U.S.-Mexico border, and the continued activation of Jewish communities worldwide. HIAS focused its advocacy efforts on just asylum practices and the Afghan Adjustment Act and helped ensure an extension of the Lautenberg Amendment.
Resettling Refugees Across the U.S.

HIAS and our network of resettlement partners across the United States work with the federal government to help refugees start their lives in safety in the U.S. We help refugees settle into their new homes, learn English, access employment services, and become part of their new American communities.

Overall, HIAS’ resettlement network resettled 4,744 displaced people in 2022—a 38% increase from 2021—and provided intensive case management to 595 clients who struggle to support themselves. In October 2022, HIAS’ resettlement network grew to 25 metropolitan areas across the country with the addition of new affiliates in Denver, Colorado; and Greenwich, Connecticut.

HIAS’ resettlement work in 2022 was challenged by two major crises—the ongoing fallout from the 2021 collapse of Afghanistan’s government, and a full-scale war in Ukraine. HIAS and our resettlement partners rose to the occasion to meet the needs of Afghans and Ukrainians, in addition to resettling 2,166 refugees who continued to arrive from around the world through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.

In addition to supporting refugees’ basic needs during their initial resettlement period, HIAS and its network provides social integration and economic inclusion programming to help refugees grow strong roots in their new communities. 11 resettlement partner sites provided group mental health programming to 213 clients, and four participated in the Microenterprise Development (MED) program (now the HIAS Economic Advancement Fund), which provides loans and training to refugees looking to start their own businesses.

For Wali Khan Ahmadzai, an Afghan engineer whose family arrived in the U.S. “with zero dollars,” economic inclusion programs have made all the difference. After being resettled in Florida by HIAS partner Gulf Coast JFCS, Ahmadzai earned his Commercial Driver’s License—a pathway to a productive career as a truck driver—and received an MED loan to start his own construction business.

“I have no words to thank them,” Ahmadzai said of HIAS and Gulf Coast JFCS. “They helped us a lot.”

Activating Jewish Communities Around the World

Inspiring the American Jewish community to act in support of refugees and asylum seekers is at the heart of HIAS’ community engagement work. We activated and educated the American Jewish community in myriad ways in 2022, not least in the continued support for our Welcome Circles program.

In the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, more than 75,000 Afghans arrived in the United States under a two-year humanitarian parole and with no clear path to permanent status. In 2022, HIAS mobilized thousands of supporters to urge Congress to pass the Afghan Adjustment Act (AAA), which would create a streamlined process for evacuees to apply to adjust their status. Our network of congregations and grassroots advocates advocated for the AAA through meetings with congressional staff and email actions. The AAA was introduced in both houses of Congress with strong bipartisan support.

The pandemic brought in-person border delegations to a standstill, but in 2022 HIAS partnered with T’ruah to bring a delegation of 15 rabbis to El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico to learn firsthand about the humanitarian crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border and to recognize the humanity of those seeking safety. With our support, the clergy delegation produced more than a dozen op-eds and articles published in regional publications, and developed a new, robust strategy to engage congregations and clergy in the work of supporting refugees and asylum seekers.

On March 4-5, 2022, we hosted our fourth annual Refugee Shabbat, with nearly 350 congregations across the globe participating. Refugee Shabbat was a rallying moment for congregations, organizations, and individuals in the United States and around the world to take action for the millions of forcibly displaced persons, refugees, and people seeking asylum worldwide.

Advocating for the Rights of Forcibly Displaced People

HIAS advocates for the rights of refugees, asylum seekers, and other forcibly displaced people by advancing fair and humane refugee and asylum policies. Through this work, we seek to create a world in which all forcibly displaced people can rebuild their lives and find safety, welcome, and opportunity.

In 2022, our U.S. advocacy focused on just asylum policies and the Afghan Adjustment Act. HIAS took a leading role to defeat two “poison pill amendments” to the FY23 budget reconciliation bill that would have permanently extended Title 42—a public health order that blocked virtually all asylum seekers at the U.S.-Mexico border—and dramatically increased ICE detention. HIAS also helped ensure that the Lautenberg Amendment, which allows members of persecuted religious groups in former Soviet Union countries, including Ukraine, to join family members in the U.S., was extended for 2023. And when the governors of Arizona, Florida, and Texas began bussing thousands of asylum seekers to cities including Washington, D.C., HIAS co-led a national policy network to take action and mobilized D.C. area Jewish communities to donate items to those arriving.

In 2022, HIAS established a dedicated team to advance our international advocacy priorities in the U.S. and around the world, with an initial focus on congressional outreach to ensure adequate U.S. funding for international humanitarian crises, including caring for those displaced by the war in Ukraine.
The program “We girls are change” is an initiative from the GBV area to empower adolescent girls and teach them about their rights, gender, and sexuality, among others. The program consists of various sessions in which girls share and learn from others, building a spirit of community and sorority. Lima, Peru. (Solutions)

Core Programs

In 2022, HIAS provided legal information to those transiting through the Darién Gap, offering legal aid and representation to refugees in Kenya, and navigated shifting policies to assist over a thousand people in the United States. HIAS also collaborated with partners to produce studies, publications, and curricula in service to gender-based violence prevention, and assisted displaced people in Ukraine, Colombia, and many other countries, tackling poverty through a series of innovative programs. Finally, working with partners, HIAS’ mental health and psychosocial support teams implemented programs to meet the acute mental health needs of refugees worldwide.
Legal Support

HIAS provides vital legal support to people around the world who are seeking safety after fleeing violence, persecution, and torture.

In Latin America, HIAS staff in Colombia, Panama, and Costa Rica worked together to provide legal information to people in transit, particularly those crossing the Darién Gap. HIAS Peru helped over 7,500 clients gain legal status, and HIAS Venezuela provided legal assistance to almost 2,000 people seeking international protection and close to 500 Venezuelan returnees. HIAS Mexico provided over 15,000 people with legal information through group workshops and helped nearly 400 people request asylum or other legal status in Mexico.

In Africa, HIAS Kenya offered legal aid and representation to 120 refugees, facilitated legal information sessions for 240 refugees, and trained 20 community leaders on Alternative Dispute Resolution. Elsewhere, HIAS Israel’s legal team represented over 900 clients and submitted several petitions to Israel’s High Court of Justice on matters of significant importance to the country’s asylum seeker population. These included petitions against geographical restrictions for asylum seekers, protecting Congolese asylum seekers from deportation, regulating the status of Darfuri clients who have been awaiting application decisions for years after fleeing genocide, and promoting health insurance for older asylum seekers.

Despite ever-changing immigration policies and an increasingly anti-immigrant political landscape, HIAS’ U.S. legal team provided legal services to over 1,000 people, including securing 124 work visas, getting 36 clients out of removal proceedings, and gaining asylum for 16 clients. Our network of pro bono lawyers served an additional 800 clients, and the new social services team coordinated volunteers to respond to the bussing of asylum seekers to Washington, D.C. and provided wraparound support to 48 legal clients. After the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, our legal team leveraged their expertise and network to support HIAS resettlement partners and Welcome Circles as they helped Afghan evacuees navigate seeking asylum and other remedies.

Across the globe, HIAS works to protect the rights of forcibly displaced women, girls, and LGBTQ communities to access their full potential and live free from violence. Together with local leaders, we work with communities to reduce the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), increase support for survivors, and build partnerships with women-led organizations who work with marginalized groups in forcibly displaced populations.

In 2022, HIAS played a leading role in working to reduce GBV across the globe — from training faith leaders in Kenya to implementing peer support groups about health, sexuality, and self-esteem for displaced adolescent girls in Mexico.

HIAS also initiated an innovative multi-faceted partnership with VOICE, an international organization that amplifies the voices of women and girls and the organizations they lead in crises, to address GBV in Ukraine and surrounding countries. The partnership targeted localization and designed and implemented solutions to eradicate violence and advocate for greater protections for women and girls.

To influence global discourse and standards of practice related to ending GBV, we produced several studies, publications, and curricula in partnership with UNHCR; the GBV Case Management Guidelines for Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru; and created GBV prevention materials for men produced in both French and English. Every year HIAS promotes the “16 Days of Activism Against GBV” campaign that includes the participation of multiple HIAS country offices around the world.

Through these contributions, HIAS is pioneering new ways to deliver services to women and girls and prevent gender-based violence while adapting to new, emerging needs in the international landscape.

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence and as part of the #DaElPaso campaign, HIAS held an activity aimed at girls, women, and people from the community for a life free of violence and discrimination through various artistic expressions. (Laura Nieto/HIAS)
Fostering Economic Inclusion

HIAS’ economic inclusion (EI) programs ensure that forcibly displaced people have opportunities to earn a sustainable income and rebuild their lives. Our programs are market-oriented, protection-focused, and concentrate on the economic empowerment of forcibly displaced people, including LGBTQ refugees, young women, and survivors of gender-based violence.

Our programs help refugees and their host communities build self-reliance, improve their well-being, and regain dignity. Access to sustainable livelihoods is an important tool for meeting refugees’ long-term needs for protection, food security, housing, health, and other services. Our programs aim to alleviate poverty through training, building support networks, supporting entrepreneurship, facilitating wage employment, advocating with banks and micro-finance institutions to deliver literacy training, and responding to emergencies.

In 2022, the EI team supported HIAS Ukraine’s efforts to help clients prepare for winter using cash and voucher assistance, while delivering training sessions in Poland, Moldova, and Romania. In Latin America and the Caribbean, we assisted displaced women and LGBTQ community members across Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and Costa Rica through our Entrepreneurship School with a Gender Lens, funded by the State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM).

Throughout the year, HIAS focused on updating local labor market and capacity assessments for Aruba, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Kenya, Peru, and South Africa. These documents will guide EI interventions by helping teams to identify sustainable economic pathways for the integration of displaced people in those labor markets.

Economic Inclusion initiatives continue to attract the interest of new donors. For example, Peru has secured funding from GIZ, a German development organization, to implement wage and self-employment facilitation projects in the Peruvian cities of Tumbes, Chiclayo, and Trujillo. Ecuador has also secured UN Women funding to provide employment facilitation programs for vulnerable women in Quito and Guayaquil.

In addition, Venezuela is implementing a new project funded by OCHA, aimed at promoting sustainable livelihoods and resilience for indigenous populations in Machiques de Perijá and Gran Sabana.

Improving Mental Health

HIAS offers refugees access to free mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) to help them cope with the challenges of displacement and overcome adversity. Our faith-sensitive approach centers community and connection and focuses on the unique needs of refugees and other forcibly displaced people within their cultural and religious contexts. Through HIAS community-based groups, refugees find space to share their experiences with others who have had similar experiences, gaining a sense of understanding, belonging, and security.

In 2022, HIAS delivered high-quality MHPSS services to 105,000 people in need in 16 countries. In response to the war in Ukraine, we established new MHPSS programs in four countries — Ukraine, Poland, Romania, and Moldova — through both direct implementation and local partnerships. MHPSS programming across Latin America and the Caribbean grew in response to the acute mental health needs of migrants, especially those crossing through the Darién Gap. HIAS also launched a robust set of resources for mental health services, which were distributed to staff regionally, nationally, and globally through workshops and training sessions.

HIAS regularly partners with humanitarian organizations, civil societies, academic institutions, and public agencies to lead the way for scalable programs that help refugees survive and thrive. Through key partnerships with universities, including Columbia University, The New School for Social Research, the University of Copenhagen, and Universidad del Norte, HIAS has pioneered global efforts to expand MHPSS responses during emergencies.

One such research project, co-led by HIAS’ Director of Resilience Programs Annie Benz, addressed mental health needs among displaced Venezuelans in Colombia who are at risk of experiencing gender-based violence. HIAS staff also partnered with Columbia University’s School of Public Health on a research project to increase access to mental health and psychosocial support services in connection with programs that improve economic security for displaced populations in Ecuador.

A HIAS Mental Health and Psychological Support (MHPSS) session with refugees living in a shelter during a community gathering in Lviv, Ukraine. (Paula Bronstein for HIAS)
Regions

Amid an unprecedented displacement crisis, HIAS’ 70 field offices in 11 countries across Latin America provided services to refugees throughout the region, including those making the perilous journey across the Darién Gap. Meanwhile, HIAS expanded its presence in Europe to meet the extraordinary challenge presented by the war in Ukraine. And in Africa, HIAS’ robust presence in Chad sprang into action during one of the country’s worst flooding crises in decades.

HIAS Colombia staff visited Necoclí to carry out protection monitoring, sensitization, risk orientation, and psychoeducation on emotion management for migrants traveling along the Darién route. (Ángela García for HIAS)
Latin America and the Caribbean

Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) is experiencing the largest and most complex displacement crisis in recent history. An estimated 21 million people across the region have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, food insecurity, climate-related disasters, violence, or persecution.

Through our more than 70 field offices in 11 countries, HIAS’ LAC team successfully extended its services to remote and border communities in new field and country locations, Honduras and Guatemala, to ensure that our support reaches those who need it the most.

In 2022, an increasing number of Haitians, Venezuelans, and Ecuadorians attempted the perilous journey through the Darién Gap, a stretch of jungle between Colombia and Panama. Refugees and migrants risked their lives to traverse an area in which injury, illness, assault, sexual violence, and death have become commonplace. People who attempt the journey through the Darién Gap, particularly women and girls, often need urgent psychosocial support due to the traumatic events experienced en route.

In response, HIAS Panama, Colombia, and Costa Rica adapted programming to meet the immediate needs of survivors, strengthening front line support and referrals for people in transit.

By establishing partnerships with local organizations and leveraging our expertise in child protection, cash and voucher assistance, emergency response, and food security in targeted locations, we provided life-saving assistance and protection to a growing number of refugees, asylum seekers, and people in transit. Additionally, HIAS collaborated with the private sector to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for refugees in host countries.

Entrepreneurship support, fostering their integration into local economies.

In response to an increase in gender-based violence in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, HIAS launched cross-border interventions and mobilized local communities to build a more comprehensive and regional approach around this critical concern.

Europe’s Greatest Displacement Crisis in Decades

Soon after war in Ukraine sparked Europe’s largest displacement crisis in generations, HIAS opened offices in Poland, Romania, and Moldova to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection services to people displaced by the conflict — particularly women and children. In addition, we established partnerships with numerous local organizations and mobilized HIAS’ expertise from around the world to assist over 280,000 displaced Ukrainians.

In the early moments of the war, we responded to immediate needs by offering mental health counseling and gender-based protection services for refugees in Poland and helped more than 30,000 people in Moldova get hot meals. At the same time, we piloted long-term programs including HIAS’ Graduation Model — first launched in Constanta and Bucharest, Romania — to enable refugees there to receive the financial support and coaching they need to transition into permanent employment.

By the end of 2022, the European Welcome Circles initiative had helped 324 Ukrainian refugees in 10 different countries find accommodations, enroll in language classes, and access health care, education, and other benefits. These Welcome Circles were featured as a best practice in the European Commission’s Safe Homes Guidance that focused on responses to challenges in accommodations and employment for refugees.

Canoes with migrants reached the shore of the Chucunaque River at the Migration Reception Center in Lajas Blancas, Darién province, Panama. (Tarina Rodriguez for HIAS)
In December 2022, HIAS Europe was awarded the Share the Light prize by the European Jewish Community Centre in recognition of HIAS Europe’s work responding to the humanitarian emergency in Ukraine, especially for its resettlement of displaced people.

In Israel, HIAS’ petitions to the High Court of Justice had significant impact on the asylum seeker population. These include a petition protecting Congolese asylum seekers from deportation, a petition to regulate the status of Darfuri clients who fled genocide in their homeland and have been awaiting application decisions for years, and a petition to ensure health insurance for older asylum seekers.

New Challenges in Africa

2022 was an eventful year for HIAS’ country offices in Chad and Kenya, which provided services to individuals displaced across the African continent. In Chad, flooding in the capital N’Djamena displaced thousands and caused widespread damage to infrastructure. In response, HIAS’ Emergency Response Fund allocated $122,000 to our Chad country office to provide and distribute tarpaulins, blankets, and mosquito nets to those affected by the flooding both in Koukou and N’Djamena. In total, HIAS Chad either directly or indirectly reached over 350,000 people in 2022.

On September 27, 2022, HIAS organized a UNHCR-supported peace forum that brought together refugee and indigenous leaders, local administrative authorities, and humanitarian partners. And last December, in collaboration with UNHCR and the World Food Program, HIAS distributed food to more than 16,000 refugees in the East region of the country.

In 2022, HIAS Kenya celebrated its 20th anniversary. With its main office located in Nairobi and field offices in Eastleigh, Kayole, and Kawangware, HIAS Kenya works to advocate and promote durable solutions for refugees, including local integration, safe and voluntary repatriation, and third-country resettlement. In 2022, HIAS Kenya directly served more than 15,568 clients.
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<td>Vice President, Communications</td>
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<td>Vice President, Community Engagement</td>
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Vice President, U.S. Policy and Advocacy

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Senior Director, Global Brand Strategy and Engagement

Alicia Wrenn  
Vice President, Resettlement and Integration

Merrill Zack  
Vice President, Community Engagement
## Financial Report

### Operating Revenues
- Contributions 53,143,332
- Contributions of nonfinancial assets 1,243,587
- Operating grants 35,796,240
- Bequests 10,262
- Governmental agencies
  - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 23,284,450
  - U.S. Department of State 59,508,348
  - U.S. Department of Homeland Security 10,596
- Migrant loan processing fees and repayments 229,898
- Investment income designated for current operations 2,335,770
- Service fee revenues and other revenues 470,347

**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES** 176,032,830

### Operating Expenses
- Program Services
  - U.S. operations 44,520,888
  - International operations 94,647,855
- Total Program Services 139,168,743
- Supporting Services
  - Management and General 19,093,350
  - Fundraising 4,260,127
- Total Supporting Services 23,353,477

**Total Operating Expenses** 162,522,220

**Excess of Operating Revenues Over Operating Expenses** 13,510,610

**Excess (deficiency) without donor restriction** (9,527,827)

**Excess funds with donor restriction**

**Non-operating activities (net)** (6,220,366)

**Increase in net assets** 7,290,244

**Net assets at beginning of year** 83,057,587

**NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR** 90,347,831

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All figures are in US $ Dollars

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**HIAS Efficiency**
- Programs 85.6%
- Management 11.8%
- Fundraising 2.6%
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Your support drives change in the struggle for justice and freedom for displaced persons around the world. Thank you for your partnership.

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